



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL ESPECTRO



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL

Inspiring Spiritual
&
Academic Growth

Half Yearly Newsletter
Volume 5 | Issue 02
October'20 - March'21

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Gandhi Jayanti

Gandhi Jayanti marks the birth anniversary of a great leader, Mahatma Gandhi popularly known as the "Father of the Nation". A special virtual assembly was organized on the zoom platform on 1st October, 2020. The special assembly started with an opening speech by Mr. Rahul Mojumder on the great man who lived on the principles of ahimsa and non-violence. The students also delivered speeches and paid homage to Gandhiji by making thoughtful posters and charts. The assembly finally concluded with our school song followed by the National Anthem.

Sanchaita Saha (Assistant Teacher)



Christmas Celebration



Report on Puja Craft Making

Puja Craft Making Activity was organised virtually on Friday, 16th October, 2020 for the students of St Francis Xavier School. The students of the Primary Section engaged themselves in making a card and sketching a portrait of Goddess Durga on it. The students and the teachers took an active part and were filled with enthusiasm. The students enjoyed themselves as this activity boosted their young creative minds. The cooperation and discipline shown by students and teachers made this workshop a great success.

Sadaf Salim (Assistant Teacher)

Christmas Celebration

The teachers and staff of St Francis Xavier School assembled in the Basketball Court on 23rd December, 2020 to hold a special Assembly on the occasion of Christmas. The programme started with the prayer by our Officiating Principal Mr Anil Srivastava, followed by the wonderful narration about Christmas and its celebration by Mr. Nikhil Biswas. Our very own Rahul Sir dressed up as Santa Claus and distributed chocolates. The programme ended with Christmas carols that exuded a spirit of warmth, generosity, goodwill and merriment.





From the desk of Secretary and Administrator

Dear Readers,

Somehow, we have now come to the close of the Academic Year (AY) 2020-21 – an unprecedented year in many ways. It was unimaginable that the whole academic session would be wiped out and we would not be even able to hold a day of physical classes. Due to God's grace, things had stabilized in the month of February 2021 but again from mid-March, the number of corona virus cases have kept increasing at the rate of 10-20% per day, an alarming rate. At the time of writing this piece, the daily increase in cases is 10 times that in the month of March. However, due to passage of time and understanding of the disease, things are more in control now than last year. But this has also made people complacent, and many have given up on constant masking and social distancing norms.

Despite this grim situation, our class XII board examinations have commenced. The school is leaving no stone unturned to keep the examinees and the examiners safe. We constantly take feedback from the students and feel reassured when they convey that they feel safe and well looked after in the school premises. May God always protect them and keep them in good health throughout the duration of their examinations and beyond.

It was our hope and prayer that we could start the new session on the school premises – may be in a limited way – but it could not be. We will start the new session with online classes from the 12th of April. The good news is that both the students and the teachers are now comfortable with this medium and have adapted well. It may not be the perfect solution, but it helps keep the process of teaching and learning going. I again request all parents to give their full cooperation to the school and ensure that their children are given the ideal setting to join classes, i.e., a stable connection, a reliable gadget, earphones and a clean and quiet room. Please do ensure that students regularly turn up for their classes and are

regular to school. This year we shall also be notifying a process to check the classwork and homework copies which will ensure students are following their classes attentively.

We hope for a better future ahead and there are many reasons to be hopeful. The vaccines are here although vaccinating such a big country in quick time is an arduous task. Vaccine for children are also in late stages of trial and close to being approved. Although most of AY 2021-22 will be spent teaching and learning on the online platforms but good days are not very far beyond.

May God bless you always.

Ajay Chopra,
Secretary & Administrator

From the desk of Officiating Principal



Dear Readers,

We at St. Francis Xavier School continuously try to evolve techniques and find ways to ensure that the students get the best education as far as possible. Covid-19 and its aftermath has

changed the mode of our conduct and it has thrown a big challenge before us to teach online for a long time to come. Nevertheless, we are prepared for a longer haul and we shall carry on with our endeavours to make the students feel comfortable while studying online. I have seen how well our students have adapted to the online environment and now they are quite adept at handling the pressure and stress that is caused by shifting from physical classroom to virtual classroom. This shift has been quite tiring not only for children but for parents as well and the clear signs of raised anxiety levels and stress symptoms are visible. Though a certain level of stress may help students to adapt to new environments, learn, and grow. But a long time exposure to such stress can become an emotionally difficult situation.

Our teachers will always try to help the students to cope up with all the situations with the parents' whole hearted support in this regard. I would like to share some tips with the parents which might come handy in the wake of the ongoing pandemic and online classes.

Parents must encourage their children to have conversations regularly, discuss their feelings, and be patient while speaking with them. This will help them to share their fears and concerns with you. Encourage them to talk about their daily routines and their study progress.

Create an environment which is quite similar to the classroom. Parents should engage their children in a disciplined regimen much like the classroom at school. Children must be asked to ensure that they spend their

classroom-time doing school work only.

Be attentive to children. Parents should be emphatic while helping their children learn to adjust to this new learning schedule. It has to be understood that virtual classes do not always go well. Therefore, they must be prepared for their child's needs and assist them by giving them backup support. The need of the hour is to be attentive and help children with their study schedules.

It has been recommended by the doctors that the children must at least practise one hour of exercise every day to strengthen their body and also to keep the stress at bay. Parents should encourage their young kids to do some exercise and ensure reduction of screen time. Practising some yoga will be of great help.

Increase social interaction. Children get a lot of opportunity at school for interacting with classmates, teachers and friends while performing normal activities. Online classes have minimised such chances and the negative effect of isolation shall surely be visible on your child. Children should be allowed to interact with their friends over phone by using video conferencing apps like zoom, google meet etc.

Adequate sleep is as essential as a balanced diet. It is required for improved physical and emotional health and reduces inattention, aiding to their memory skills. Lack of sleep causes depression, irritability, and mood swings and the child might show these signs if proper care is not taken in this regard.

Parents must regularly monitor the progress of their child and interact with the teachers whenever they feel that the stress signs are visible and their ward need some specific help to reduce the same.

I hope the children and parents shall work in sync and together they will sail through these difficult times with the constant support of the school authorities.

Anil Srivastava

From the desk of Headmistress



Dear Readers,

Last year when we were abiding by the restrictions of the lock down, none of us had thought in our wildest of dreams that the pandemic would turn out to be even more detrimental for us in the second wave. With each passing day, the cases are rising

by leaps and bounds.

Last session, when we had decided to hold online classes for all students, little did we imagine that the situation will worsen this year, let alone any chance of improvement. The online class, despite having many drawbacks, is the only way to keep in touch with the students. Besides we had to conduct online exams as well.

In the previous year, we were more scared of the pandemic as we were afraid of the unknown. Therefore, even when the number of cases was not a mere quarter of the present daily number, we were dead scared of the deadly virus.

The Corona pandemic has led to unprecedented panic among students and parents. It is very easy to get demotivated amidst the current global crisis which could further lead to stress and anxiety but hope and positivity is what will help us sail through these difficult times. Keeping oneself, each other, family and friends positive during these hard times is very important.

We understand the challenges faced by the students, parents and teachers to keep the ball of academics rolling through the virtual medium, adapting to it and sympathise with them.

Though the numbers are much higher now, we know that there is a vaccine for it. Something that brings a lot more relief and hope. The Central government has instructed that from 1st May 2021, all adults can avail the facility of getting vaccinated. So, we now at least have hope that we are far better equipped to fight against COVID 19 but we are waiting for some sort of vaccine for children to be discovered soon. With this positive attitude let us all hope that the vaccine along

with the other precautionary measures will help us to eradicate this ailment from our society.

“Fear never Builds the future , but Hope does.”
Stay healthy and safe! God bless you all!

Bipasha Das
Headmistress

Annual School Exhibition 2020

St. Francis Xavier School organized its Annual School Exhibition on 2nd December, 2020 and the programme was telecast live via Facebook and YouTube since no students were allowed to come to school due to pandemic situation. The primary students made beautiful charts and models on the topics provided by the teachers and those were submitted in school. These charts and models were displayed in the school hall and videographed. Every class was given topics by the class teachers; Class 1 - Art and Craft, Class 2 - Houses, Class 3 - Germination of seeds , Parts of Plants and Organs of the body, Class 4 - Adaptation in Plants, Home - made Sanitizers and Air Pollution, Class 5 - Corona virus. The entire video graphy was compiled by Mrs Chandni Chatterjee and Mr Reli P.Bhat. The opening speech was delivered by Mr Rahul Clement Mojumder. Many experiments were done by the students under the guidance of the able teachers. The programme was a grand success.

Rahul C. Mojumder and Sanchaita Saha



Report on Handwriting Competition (I-V)

Inter - House Handwriting Competition was held on 5th November, 2020 with the students of the primary department of St Francis Xavier School taking part in it. Owing to the prevalent scenario this competition was held virtually on the Zoom platform.

The students were given a selected paragraph from their English reader book and were allotted a time limit of forty minutes to complete the task.

Ms Soma Acharyya and Ms Sanchaita Saha were in charge of this Competition to select the best ones. Three winners were selected from each section of the primary department.

All the students participated in this Competition enthusiastically and did quite well.



Result of Handwriting Competition (I-V)

| CLASS / SECTION | NAME / SECTION | POSITION |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| IA | SAMAKSH SHAW (NETAJI) | FIRST |
| IA | SNEHANSHU DAS (NETAJI) | SECOND |
| IA | ANUSHKANAG (TAGORE) | THIRD |
| IB | SADIA PARVEEN (NETAJI) | FIRST |
| IB | AVANI ROY (TAGORE) | SECOND |
| IB | ANOKHI SHARMA (GANDHI) | THIRD |
| IIA | VIDHI AGARWAL (GANDHI) | FIRST |
| IIA | SREYANSH JAISWAL (GANDHI) | SECOND |
| IIA | DIPANSHU DE (TERESA) | THIRD |
| IIB | SAHISNUTA MONDAL (GANDHI) | FIRST |
| IIB | SHIKSHA PRASAD (GANDHI) | SECOND |
| IIB | INDRADEEP DAS (TERESA) | THIRD |
| IIIA | SPANDAN DE (TERESA) | FIRST |
| IIIA | MEGADITYA DAS (TERESA) | SECOND |
| IIIA | ARPIT KALUNDIA (GANDHI) | THIRD |
| IIIB | MD. HUZAIFA SHAMIM (GANDHI) | FIRST |
| IIIB | DEBOSMITA SAHA (TAGORE) | SECOND |
| IIIB | SRIJANNA BOSE (GANDHI) | THIRD |
| IIIC | DEBANJANA SAHA (TAGORE) | FIRST |
| IIIC | SARANSH BALUNI (TAGORE) | SECOND |
| IIIC | BANI BISWAS (TERESA) | THIRD |
| IVA | PRITISHA (NETAJI) | FIRST |
| IVA | RISHEEN SHARMA (GANDHI) | SECOND |
| IVA | SREEJANI DUTTA (TAGORE) | THIRD |
| IVB | SWARNALI DE (TERESA) | FIRST |
| IVB | BIDYANSHU JENA (GANDHI) | SECOND |
| IVB | MD FAIJAN ALAM (GANDHI) | THIRD |
| VA | AZARA AZAD (TERESA) | FIRST |
| VA | RASHIKA DHAR (TERESA) | SECOND |
| VA | ADRIJA DAS (TAGORE) | THIRD |
| VB | ANSHUMAN DAS (TERESA) | FIRST |
| VB | TANAY JAISWAL (TAGORE) | SECOND |
| VB | | THIRD |

Virtual Children's Day Celebration

COVID-19 has impacted the lives of billions of children worldwide and has created a massive disruption in education. Keeping in mind the present condition of the pandemic St. Francis Xavier School celebrated Children's Day online which was streamed live on the school's official YouTube channel. The link for the programme was provided to the students beforehand and the programme started at 11am.

Mr. Nikhil Biswas Sir was the emcee of the show. He welcomed all virtually with his warm greetings and told us about the importance of Children's Day which was followed by the virtual lighting of the lamp by the school dignitaries.

The programme was inaugurated by our Administrator Sir, Mr. Ajay Chopra's speech who motivated us to stay strong both mentally and physically as the coronavirus is taking a toll on human life. He also wished us good luck for the upcoming days. This was followed by a very enlightening speech by our Officiating Principal Sir Mr. Anil Srivastava. He asked us to keep ourselves engaged in other activities during our leisure time rather than surfing the internet which most of the time acts as a stair to land us into the world of negativity. Soon after the speeches were over, we thanked them virtually through the comment section in YouTube.

Nikhil Sir delivered a brief speech on the life of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. After that the Children's Day cultural programme was initiated by Chandni Madam and Suman Chakraborty Sir with the song 'Rukk Jana Nahin' and 'Pagla Hawa'. Then Atreyee Madam performed a beautiful dance on the song 'Kanha Maane Nah'. Both of these performances were appreciated by the students virtually. This was followed by a dance performance by the teachers of classes XI and XII on 'Itni Si Hasi' by Indrani Madam, Kshama Madam and Sneha Madam. After the dance performance was over, Mr. Sunil Kumar Bhattacharya sang a song of the Afghani origin. Then Camellia Madam and Atreyee Madam performed a duet dance on 'Rabindra Sangeet'. Then the song 'Thodi Jagha' was sung by Purnendu Sir followed by a dance performance by the teachers of classes I-V on 'Bristle'. After this a duet dance was performed by Purnendu Sir and Suoborno Sir on the song 'Ghungroo' and 'Muqabla'. All the performances received love and praise by the students virtually. The Children's Day Programme ended with the display of the collage of students and teachers followed by the 'School Song' sung by the teachers.

'Though we are celebrating virtual Children's Day it seems to be same as the normal Children's Day, making us elated' wrote a student of secondary section during you tube line broadcast.

"The programme was a huge success and also our last year in school ended up in a very upgraded manner by celebrating the Children's Day online" wrote a class XII student.

Majority of the comments in the comment section proved that the programme was a great success and it is also a testimony of the fact that St. Francis Xavier will always shine in every aspect with the excellent coordination of the teachers and the students.

Kumari Bhargavi (XIIS1)



Online Orientation for the freshers.

This year the orientation for new admission students was held online on 27th February, 2021. The agenda for the program was the brief introduction of STFX School and to acquaint the students with the school rules & regulations. The first half of the meeting was conducted by the Headmistress Madam, Mrs. Bipasha Das. She spoke all about the primary school, the system of online and offline education and the system of examination held in the school. The second half of the program was conducted by our Officiating Principal Mr Anil Srivastava where he spoke about the facility the school offers and all about the senior department.

Rahul C. Mojumder (Assistant Teacher)

Guru Nanak's Birthday



Guru Nanak was the first one of the ten Sikh gurus. Guru Nanak Jayanti, also known as Gurupurab, is the most important festival for the followers of Sikhism. This year the students of St. Francis Xavier School celebrated Guru Nanak Jayanti on 1st December, 2020. The virtual special assembly started with an introductory speech by respective Class teachers. Students from all classes delivered speeches on his life & contributions as to how he travelled across the Nation to spread the message of unity and compassion. The students were enlightened about Guru Nanak's life through a Power Point Presentation. Students from all classes made charts and posters on Guru Nanak depicting his teachings and achievements.

Sanchaita Saha (Assistant Teacher)



Report on St. Francis Feast Day

St. Francis Feast Day is celebrated on 3rd December every year. The school celebrated its patron St. Francis' Feast Day on 2nd of December, 2020. A special assembly was conducted for the teachers and students online. Rohan Das of Class XIIS delivered the speech on the life of the Saint. Students sang the Saint's song - 'Make me a channel of your Peace'. The teachers spoke passionately about the Saint. Students made charts and Power Point presentations on St. Francis Xavier. A short video was shown by Riti Madam in the zoom platform. Aditya Choudhury of Class X S and Ruhit Banik of Class X S1 delivered speeches about the importance of the day. Charts were displayed by Akshat Jaiswal of Class X S and many other students from Class VI to X. Power Point Presentation was shown by Ayush Sur of Class X S. Our music teacher, Niladri Sir, sang a song on this occasion. The special assembly ended with a short speech by our very own Headmistress Madam, Mrs. Bipasha Das followed by our School song.

Rahul C. Mojumder & Sanchaita Saha (Assistant Teachers)

World Human Rights Day

Human Rights is something that we are all born with. The main reason behind celebrating this day is to sensitise all and to improve the physical, social, cultural, and spiritual well being and welfare of all groups of people globally. Students of St. Francis Xavier School celebrated World Human Rights Day on 9th December'2020. Online Special Assembly was held classwise. D. Tanusree of Class XIS1 delivered a speech on the importance and significance of the day. Students made charts and posters to raise the awareness about people's rights.

Indrani Banerjee (Assistant Teacher)

Book Donation Campaign

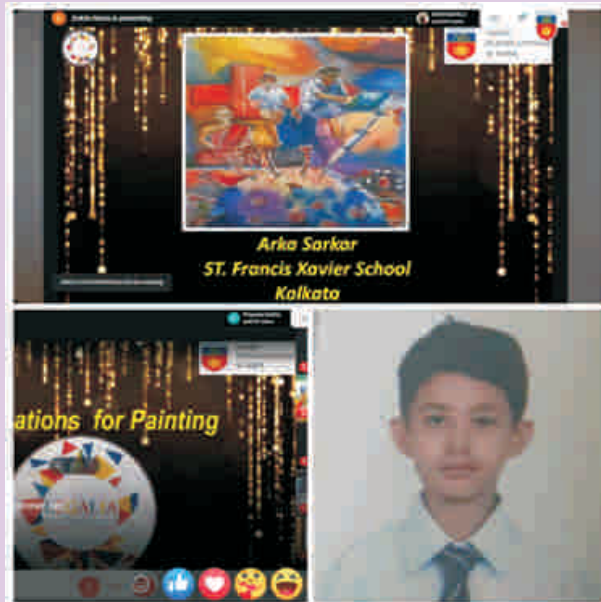


Books give a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.' In keeping with the spirit, authorities of St. Francis Xavier School took up a noble initiative to donate around 1200 text books to the officials of www.mypustak.com on 10th March 2021. These books will be made available free online, to the students belonging to the underprivileged sections.

Rameesha Dey Sarkar (Assistant Teacher)



Regalia



St Francis Xavier School participated in the Fest Regalia- 2020, organised by Asian International School, where the theme was - Education amidst Pandemic. Arkadev Sarkar of Class VI A showed his creativity with the brush and bagged the second prize.



Rohan Das-XII S1 secured the 1st position at UDAAN VRIKSHA organised by South Point High School.

Webinar on Exam related tips and stress busting

The students of St. Francis Xavier School attended a webinar on 8th January 2021 through the Zoom app. Our Administrator Sir, Officiating Principal Sir and Headmistress Ma'am were also present. The speaker for the webinar was Mr. Abhirup Banerjee who is an entrepreneur and a trainer. His speech filled me with enthusiasm.

Mr. Abhirup Banerjee spoke mainly about time management, motivation and how to do away with the habit of procrastination. It was a very interesting webinar and Mr. Banerjee gave us many valuable tips useful for the preparation for examination. Mr. Banerjee seemed to be a very joyous, lively, energetic and a dynamic speaker. He talked to us like a friend. He started his speech by asking us about how the previous year, 2020 was, what we learned from it and asked whether we liked studying, exams and marks. He then shared a picture of a ship sailing on the sea which he named 'the ship of life' and asked us "Who is the captain of your ship?" Everyone replied with 'me', 'myself' etcetra. This moment made me introspect and I said to myself that I can always control my mind whatever the outward circumstances may be and that I can overcome any unfavorable situation and be successful.

He told us that a day only has 1440 minutes and we must not waste our time. By utilising our time we can be successful and acquire wealth but time cannot be bought or saved. He gave us very interesting examples about how organising our daily routine will cause less confusion and all our tasks will be completed without any wastage of time. He talked about sorting out our priorities. He also emphasised on the idea that we must prioritise our tasks and perform them without delaying or procrastinating. He also explained at length how the human mind tends to behave like a monkey. Just like a monkey moves from one branch of a tree to another, our mind tends to move from one thought to another and thus we cannot concentrate on one thing. We are unable to desist from the wrong thing because it is pleasurable. So, we must train our minds to do the right thing even though it is painful.

The webinar was very interesting, informative and enriching. I am looking forward to attend more such webinars in the future.

Swagato Banerjee, XII C1



Swami Vivekananda's Birthday

"You have to grow from the inside out. None can teach you, none can make you spiritual. There is no other teacher but your own soul."

-Swami Vivekananda

Like every other year, all sections, Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary, of St. Francis Xavier School commemorated the birthday of Swami Vivekananda on January 11, 2021 on Zoom Platform. Our Officiating Principal Sir initiated the assembly with a Prayer at the beginning of the programme. Vivek Das of Class IIIA was dressed up as Swamiji and Anshuman Das of Class VA delivered a speech on Swamiji's life and achievements. Snigdha Bhattacharjee of Class XIIS and D. Tanusree of Class XIS also enlightened us about Swamiji's works.

For the Day section, the programme started with the opening prayer by the emcee of the programme, Joyita Madam. This was followed by the students' speeches, namely Ishita Anant (IXS) and Swastika Ghosh (XS), remembering Swamiji and all the valuable lessons learnt from his teachings and stories from his life. All students displayed beautifully decorated posters, placards and cards with beautiful quotes and sketches. The students made Power Point presentations and video on Swami Vivekananda's life. The programme ended with the Vote of Thanks by our respected Headmistress Madam. During the ongoing pandemic, the programme symbolised the fact that physical assemblage is not a compulsion if we are determined enough.

Arkadev Pandey, IXS



Online Art Competition organised by Rotary Club

On 23rd January, 2021, Bidyut Paul of Class XI S1 participated in an Art Competition organised by Rotary Interact Committee 3291 and won accolades.



An Online Art Competition, organised by
Dist. Interact Committee
Dist. (Thalassuria) Committee
Dist. Act for a Cause Committee
Zone 14, Rotary International District 3291

1. POULAMI MISTRY—DPS NEWTOWN
2. AYUSH GHOSH—DPS NEWTOWN
3. XVEDANG CHAKRABORTY—ASSEMBLY OF ANGELS

CONSOLATION PRIZES

1. AASTHA HALDER—ASSEMBLY OF ANGELS
2. ABHINA CHAKRABORTY—WVA COSSIPORE ENGLISH SCHOO
3. AJITESH GUERAJ—MCKV
4. BIDYUT PAUL—ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL
5. SOHANYA THOTA BOY—ASSEMBLY OF ANGELS
6. TANDHA GUPTA—M. JOHN'S DIOCESAN
7. VASISH CHANDAK—MCKV

PANEL OF JUDGES:

1. SRI SAMIR AKHI (Parent)
2. RTN. TRANA BANERJEE (Chairman—Act for a Cause Committee, B.H. 151)
3. RTN. SANMOY GUHA (Advisor—Act for a Cause Committee, B.H. 151)




Webinar on Company Secretaries Course - REPORT

On 20th January 2021, St. Francis Xavier School organized a Webinar for the Commerce students of class XII which focused on preparing and informing students about the Company Secretaries course. The speaker Mr. S Sreejesh spoke about the Institute of Company Secretary and explained the course. He divided the webinar into three parts, first being about the Institute, second, being the definition and role of a CS and third, how to become a part of it. Mr. S Sreejesh spoke about the organization where he informed that ICSI functions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and has been set up to develop the profession of Corporate secretary. It is an autonomous body and provides education in its premises. There are no colleges associated with the course. The webinar highlighted the career options available to a student. These were –

- Key managerial personnel
- Compliance officer
- Advisory to board of directors
- Secretarial auditor
- Corporate planning and strategic manager
- Registered valuer
- Insolvency professional
- GST professional

The speaker Mr. S. Sreejesh highlighted that there is a high demand of secretaries in India as every company with a capital of 10 crore needs a CS and the pay scale is commensurate. This was followed by a structured process of brain storming and information exchange. The speaker further explained about the course and said that the course has been divided into three parts. Firstly, the foundation second the Executive and third the Finals. A student has to score an aggregate of 50% and a minimum of 40% in each subject individually to qualify the exam. The speaker informed the students about the fee structure of the course and the eligibility criteria. Any student who has passed class XII is eligible to apply for the foundation examination which is followed by the executive and the final examinations. The webinar was very interactive and the students learnt a lot about the course and by the end of the webinar they had clear idea about the course.

Report on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Republic Day

St Francis Xavier School organised Special Assembly on 25th January, 2021 on Zoom platform to celebrate Republic Day and Netaji's Birthday. Netaji's birth anniversary is celebrated every year with great honour by the members of the school fraternity. As he was one of the most well known Indian leaders during the independence movement, he has become a great legendary figure in the history of India. To commemorate his contribution to India's struggle for independence, every year Subhas Chandra Bose's birthday is celebrated across various parts of the country.

Republic day is a day of national rejoicing and a red-letter day in our country. The day was celebrated in our school with great eclat. It is a day set aside to celebrate our history. We observed this auspicious day digitally because of this pandemic Covid-19.

A special assembly was organized to observe this occasion. The opening speech was delivered by Rahul C. Mojumder followed by a prayer by our very own Officiating Principal Sir. A Bengali poem was recited by Rajnandini Dey of Class III B. Students namely, Snigdha Bhattacharjee of Class XIIS, Kathamrita Chatterjee of class VIII A, Tanisha Duggar of Class X S, Pratyasha Majumder of Class VIII B, , Preeti Saha of Class IV A delivered short inspiring speeches on the occasion. We were shown Power Point presentation by Ankit Jana of Class VIII B and Kaushiki Dutta of Class X S. Arjama Sanyal of class X S and Pranay Ganguly of Class X S recited short patriotic poems. A sweet song was sung by Debarchana Dutta of Class VI B. Instrumental musical tribute was paid by Anirudha Roy of Class VI A and Sarthak Paul of Class IVA. The programme concluded by the Vote of Thanks given by respected Headmistress Madam. It was then followed by the National Anthem.

Disha Mukherjee, IX S



Staff Picnic: 2021



Never did we imagine that in this year of the pandemic, the school Management would arrange for a staff picnic. On reading the notice for the same, we had doubts whether it would ultimately materialise? On the bright sunny morning of 29th January, 2021, the staff who were willing to go for the picnic reached school by half-past eight. We boarded the bus and started off for our destination: Country Roads Resort at Domjur. We had our Officiating Principal Sir in our bus and he seemed to be a completely different man altogether. We were so busy in our chit-chat that we were completely oblivious of the route that the bus was running through. We had to meander a bit before we reached the picnic spot.

It was a place where one can soothe one's eyes with the lush green field with plants as well as has all amenities of city life. It did not take much time for the people there to arrange for our mouth-watering breakfast of puri, aloo paratha, sabji and sweets. Thereafter we all started forming groups and started moving around in an attempt to discover every nook and corner of the resort. We started playing carrom and some teachers formed teams in order to play cricket. We also found our beloved Administrator Sir, Mr Ajay Chopra and Master Vansh Chopra joining us to play cricket. Mrs Priyanka Chopra, the director of St. Francis International school along with its staff was there to share the moments of joy with us.

The lunch was even better with a lot in store for both vegetarians as well as non-vegetarians. The preparation of chicken and mutton, the rice and the paneer are a few of the items worth mentioning along with rasgulla and ice cream as dessert. After this, we played housie which was conducted by Nikhil Sir. When it was time for us to leave after having the pakoda and tea, we only had enough time to come together (of course securing the safety of one another) for a group photograph. The physical distancing that we maintained throughout was no barrier to stop our hearts to come together. We were on our way back with the memories of a recently-ended extravaganza.

Amartya Pathak (Assistant Teacher)

REPORT ON SARASWATI PUJA'2020-21



This entire session, we all had probably passed through the most trying times of our life. The post-Covid phase, if I may call it so, brought about some relief for us. With students coming back to school after a long time on 12th February, 2021, Saraswati Puja found some meaning. The puja was observed in St. Francis Xavier School on 16th February, 2021. The room for the puja was decorated by the support staff and the idol was adorned by the teachers along with Mr. Ashok Kumar Mukherjee, ex Art Teacher who makes it a point to join us in all such events even after his retirement from school. The decorations created a perfect ambience with coloured papers, drawings and some potted plants. Apart from the decorations, something else that was also pleasing to the eyes was to find our teachers as well as students clad in traditional Indian attire. The teachers and the office staff had their duties divided among them for the smooth conduct of the Puja.

The puja started at around 11:45 a.m. with teachers and students offering pushpanjali to the Goddess. Our beloved Administrator and Secretary Sir Mr. Ajay Chopra offered puspanjali to the Goddess. The students who turned up for the Puja were mostly the ICSE and ISC examinees coming to school for a brief period of relaxation before their examinations. There were also some ex-students who had come to enjoy the day. Post completion of the Puja rituals, *prasad* was distributed among one and all. Despite the fact that every ritual of the puja was observed in details, all the staff maintained safe distance from one another and adhered to all the COVID-19 protocols.

Amartya Pathak (Assistant Teacher)

Report on Movie Day



Children of the Primary Section of Classes I - V enjoyed a movie session which was conducted virtually. Classes I and II were shown the 101 Dalmatian animated version and Classes III - V enjoyed themselves watching the upgraded version of Tom and Jerry. After the final examination, the movie session was a fun filled entertainment day for them. We are really thankful to our Headmistress Madam, Officiating Principal Sir and Administrator Sir for allowing us to organize a virtual movie day for the children.

Soma Acharya and Sanchaita Saha
(Assistant Teachers)



Next weekend you can be at.....

Machranga Dweep



An aura of mystery and smoky hues of obnoxious desolation has its mark felt upon this island called Machranga Dweep. This bleak island is roofed by trees and is measured as an ideal hub for a fun-filled day trip. The island is nice for a nature walk over the stretched green fields and in the distance where enchantment screams, one can also visit the villages of Bangladesh.

It is a petite island in the middle of Ichamati river that is still more or less a virgin spot and a secretive destination for bird lovers and photographers. Kingfisher Island touts of being a beautiful landscape surrounded by trees and flowing river. An amazing place only 75 km from Kolkata, one experiences great solace, while you visit Machranga Dweep or Kingfisher Island.

From Taki, Machranga Dweep is easily accessible by boat. The USP of this island is the isolation. The spectacular view of the setting sun over River Ichamati is a feast for the eyes.

Machranga Dweep has Bangladesh on one side and India on the other. This desolate island is covered with trees and considered ideal for a fun-filled day trip. This island is fully controlled by Border Security Force. It is an excellent picnic spot during the winter season. You can take a motorboat ride from Taki to go near the island and see the villages of Bangladesh.

Machranga Dweep is spread over 129 acres of land. From there you can see Taki, which is in the mainland. It is advisable to travel to Machranga Dweep in the evening, as it will present you with cool breeze. You can see the sunset which is mesmerising, while the dawn in Machranga Dweep is simply breath taking.

Pallas's and Brown-headed Gulls, Great-crested, Common, White-winged and Little Terns, Greater and Lesser Sand and Kentish Plovers, Curlews, Kingfisher, Whimbrels and a mix of other waders are found here. Coastal forest birds are found in the island itself and include Orange-headed and Tickell's Thrush.

It will take around 30 minutes to reach the island by a mechanized boat or vessel. Entry fee for Machranga Dweep is Rs 5 per head. Ferry service is available from the Jetty Ghat.



IN CANDID CONVERSATION WITH MRS. KSHAMA DAM

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

This is my seventeenth year in this school.

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

I was inspired by my school teachers at Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Girls' School, in Arunachal Pradesh. Their dedication and commitment in moulding and enriching the students was extraordinary. Above all their honesty was exemplary.

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

St. Francis Xavier School provides opportunities to the teachers to grow and develop their skills. It respects one's dignity and integrity.

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

During my interview, when our late Principal ma'am had said, "I think she is capable of doing her job." The faith she had in me was spoken in that sentence and was a moment of pride.

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

It was very difficult for me to accept the loss of our dear Principal Madam. She left too early. Whenever I had approached her regarding any of my problems, she always said one thing, "My blessings are with you. Everything will be fine." When I am giving this interview, her words are ringing in my ears. (Ma'am answered this with moist eyes)

Q.6) Why did you choose higher secondary section for teaching?

(smiles) I wanted to teach the higher secondary students, because along with teaching I can also counsel and motivate the students, as this is a very crucial period of their life. By talking to the students, I can understand their mind and guide them accordingly.

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

My relationship with my student is that of mutual respect and trust. This helps to understand and communicate better. I believe in - "What the teacher is, is more important than what he/she teaches."

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

I was bit apprehensive as earlier I had taught in girls school and this was a co- ed school. Moreover it was my first school in a city but the Late Founder Madam, Secretary & Admin Sir and my colleagues made it all smooth for me. I am thankful to all of them.

Q.9) How do you motivate your students?

I talk to them about my own experiences, interesting topics which I come across any book or newspaper or something motivating that I and my family share during tea time.

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

St. Francis Xavier School is going to shine even brighter in the days to come with the blessings of our late Founder Principal Madam.

Interviewed by Megha Sharma XII C & Nibedita Patnaik XII C

Reopening of the School

St Francis Xavier School resumed in-person practical classes for Classes X and XII from 12th February, 2021. The entire school building was sanitized thoroughly. Students were called in a staggered manner so that all safety guidelines of Covid 19 can be maintained. On arrival, students were made to stand in a queue maintaining proper social distancing. Temperature of the individual student was checked and after sanitization they entered the school premises. Students were told to put on double masks for their own safety. They were offered a grand welcome. Our Officiating Principal Sir explained all the safety rules to the students so that we all stay safe.

Indrani Banerjee (Assistant Teacher)



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

- 1) Recently, the 2021 Critics Choice awards were given, Pankaj Tripathi received a Best Supporting Actor award for which film?
- 2) Amazon changed its app icon logo situated above the company's signature smiling arrow logo. Why?
- 3) Which of these award ceremonies was first held in 2000- and venues have included London, Sun City, Amsterdam, Dubai, Macau etc. ?
- 4) Amitabh Bachchan has won the National Award for Black, Paa and Piku, but for which film did he win his first National Award?
- 5) What are : St. Andrew, Pratt, Kelvin, Nicky, Bow, Windsor, Four In Hand, among many other names?
- 6) 3rd March 1973 is the day of the signature of the CITES- the Convention on International Trade in
- 7) Which of these events, addressed by PM Narendra Modi, is celebrated every year from January 12 to 16?
- 8) Vishwa Hindi Divas is celebrated on January 10 to commemorate the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference held in which city?
- 9) The 2021 Republic Day tableau from which of these departments depicted the process of Vaccine development ?
- 10) In which year did the United Nations General Assembly in its 68th session designate 3rd March as UN World Wildlife Day?

QUIZ*

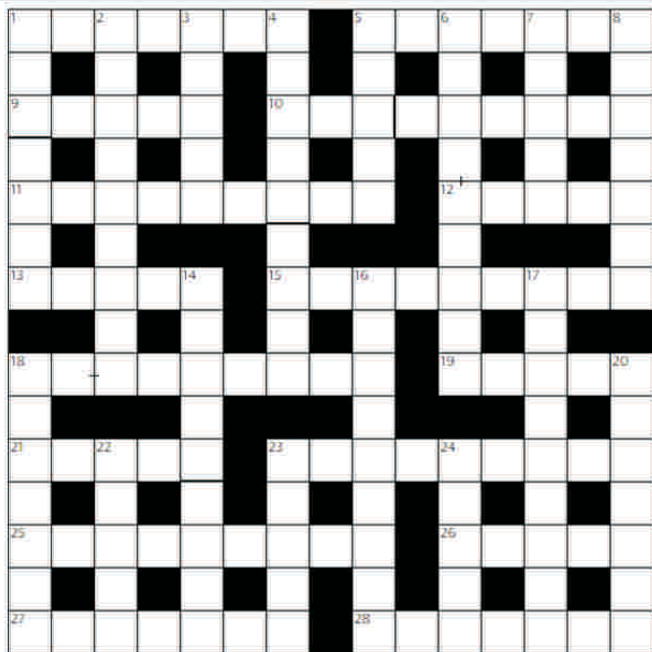


Sudoku

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

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.

CROSSWORDS



Across

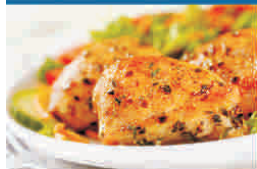
- 1
Fellow, having an edge, lost it(7)
- 5
Two males producing cloth(7)
- 9
The lowdown on class(5)
- 10
Commercial vehicle put in remote connections for rural housing(3,6)
- 11
Assent to treaty accompanied by noises off(9)
- 12
Vitamin helping blood to clot stops skin peeling(5)
- 13
Garment tenor's wearing split from behind(5)
- 15
Joiner employed in B&Q(9)
- 18
Beaten entertainer that is eliminated could be contestant again(2-7)
- 19
Shed containing old sink(5)
- 21
Outdoor seating area with 50% in occupation?(5)
- 23
Unorthodox types of bonsai spreading across border(9)
- 25

- Confusion as I turn right, going left, in limbo dancing(9)
- 26
Nick to get off the mark(5)
- 27
August report largely devoid of content(7)
- 28
Old Greek city king rejected urgent appeal by child (7)

Down

- 1
Lighting for short stay under canvas, deluxe style?(3,4)
- 2
Local church admitted to previous naivety(9)
- 3
Yankee invading force endlessly seeks victims(5)
- 4
Trouble dividing a mother and son upset spiritual leader(5,4)
- 5
Live piece started(5)
- 6
Officer casing area dismissed for taking unrefined coke?(4-5)
- 7
A seaman entertaining Nutmeg served up Indian dish(5)
- 8
Army medics checked out and took a stroll(7)
- 14
Whispering wino needs to articulate 'I must go'(5,4)
- 16
Implement used on farm to topple branch(9)
- 17
Eccentric soul madly pursuing an unclothed woman(9)
- 18
Stitches up army engineer mates(7)
- 20
Have control of backup groups carrying spades(7)
- 22
Iodine injected in rather twisted part of leg(5)
- 23
Stop knocking back drink in past(5)
- 24
Those starting modestly in speed event perform badly(5)

COVID-19: IMMUNE SYSTEM BOOSTERS



Zinc

Lean meats, seafood, milk, whole grains, beans, seeds, and nuts • **Important for wound healing**



Vitamin C

Broccoli, cantaloupe, kale, oranges, strawberries, tomatoes, guava, and lychee • **Protect cells from oxidative stress, a product of infection or chronic inflammation**



Iron

Lentils, spinach, tofu, and white beans • **Aids in non-specific immunity, the body's first line of defense**



Vitamin E

Nuts, seeds, wheat germ, green leafy vegetables, avocado, and shrimp • **Helps protect cells from oxidative stress**



Vitamin A

Sweet potatoes, carrots, red bell pepper, spinach, black-eye peas, and mango • **Helps regulate our immune response**



Vitamin B6

Green vegetables, chickpeas, cold-water fish such as tuna or salmon • **Supports more efficient reactions between different parts of our immune system**

Answers to Quiz* : Spot

- ANSWERS TO QUIZ
- 10) 2013
 - 9) The Department of Biotechnology
 - 8) Nagpur
 - 7) National Youth Parliament Festival
 - 6) Washington DC
 - 5) Different types of tie knots.
 - 4) Agneepath
 - 3) IIFA
 - 2) It had an uncanny resemblance to the infamous toothbrush moustache worn by Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler.
 - 1) Gunjan Saxena : The Kargil Girl

Answers to Crosswords

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|----|---|----|---|----|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|----|---|---|---|
| 1 | F | L | I | P | P | E | D | | 5 | B | U | C | K | R | A | 6 | M | | |
| | O | N | R | | A | | E | | O | A | | O | | | | | | | |
| 9 | G | E | N | R | E | | 10 | L | O | G | C | A | B | I | N | S | | | |
| | L | O | | Y | | A | U | | L | T | | E | | | | | | | |
| 11 | A | C | C | E | S | S | I | O | N | | 12 | F | L | A | K | Y | | | |
| | M | | E | | | L | | | | | I | | | | | | E | | |
| 13 | P | A | N | T | 14 | S | | 15 | A | M | 16 | P | E | R | S | 17 | A | N | D |
| | | | C | | O | | | | M | | I | | E | | N | | | | |
| 18 | R | E | E | N | T | R | A | N | T | | 19 | D | R | O | O | 20 | P | | |
| | E | | | | T | | | | | | C | | | | M | | O | | |
| 21 | P | A | 22 | T | I | O | | 23 | B | O | H | E | 24 | M | I | A | N | S | |
| | A | | I | V | | E | | F | | I | | L | | S | | | | | |
| 25 | I | M | B | R | O | G | L | I | O | | 26 | S | C | O | R | E | | | |
| | R | | I | C | | A | | R | | D | | U | | S | | | | | |
| 27 | S | T | A | T | E | L | Y | | 28 | K | N | O | S | S | O | S | | | |