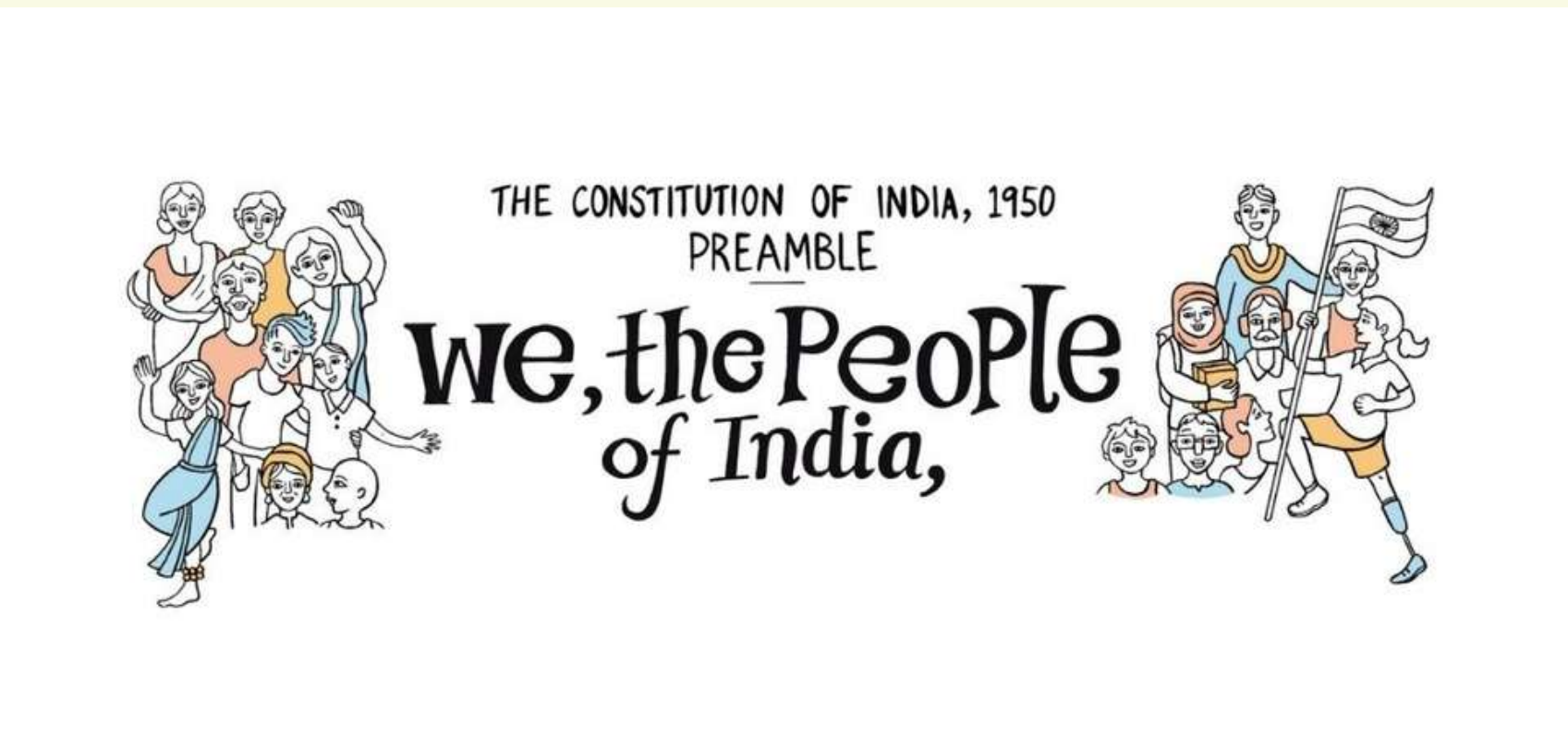
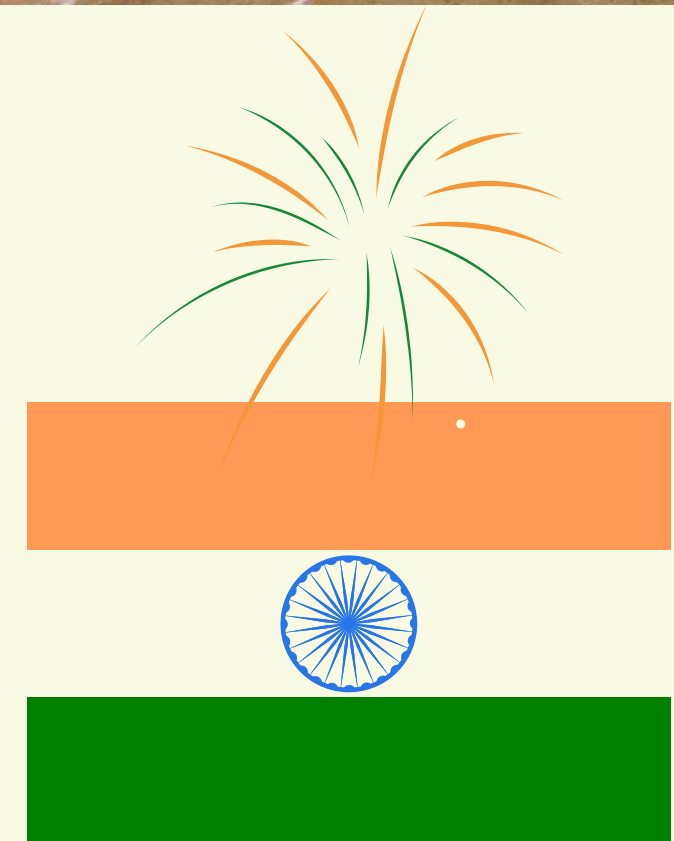


JUST NEWS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE JUSTICE NEWS DESK



SCS celebrates India's 74th Republic Day

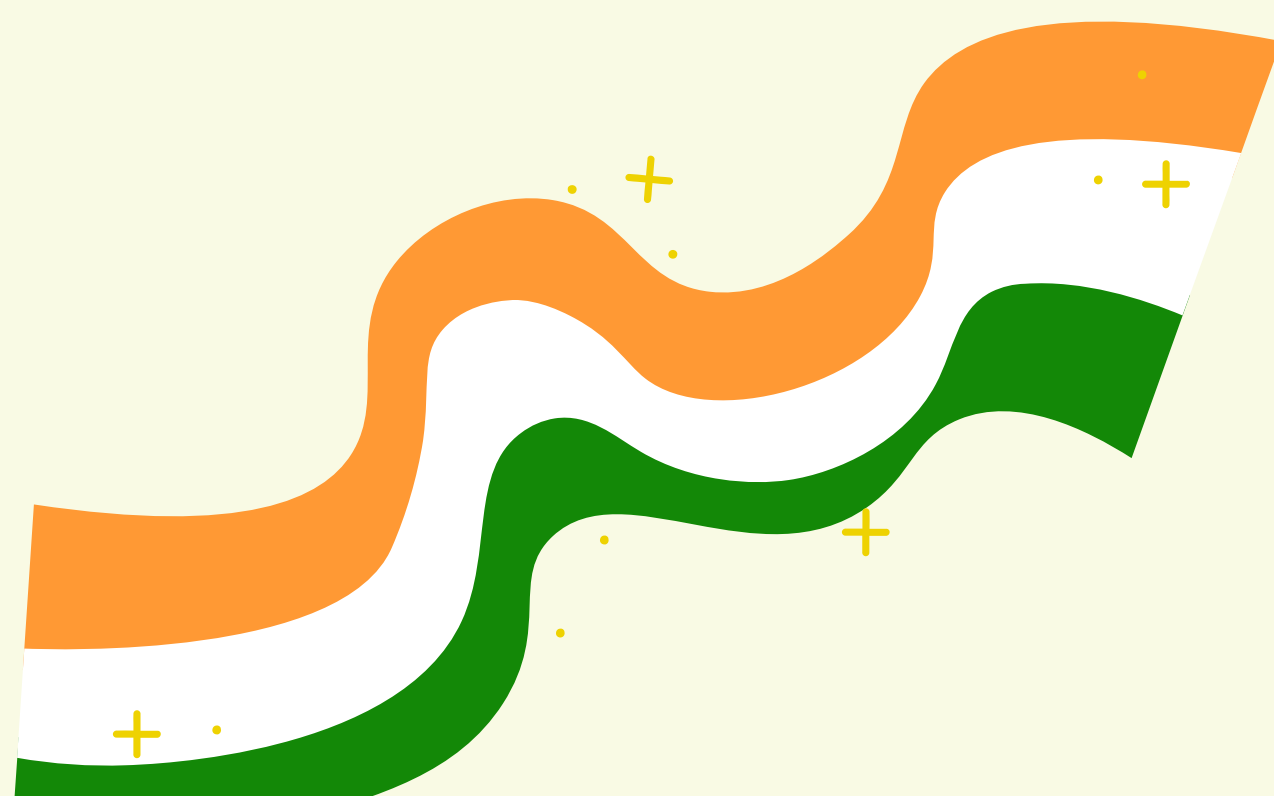


The Vision of The Indian Republic

A Reflection by Mr. Gregory John



When we think about the history of the Indian republic, we assume that it is 74 years old, but we hardly know that ancient India is contemporary with ancient Greece. Mahajanapadas, called as Ganas or Sanghas, had a system where the king was elected, and he ruled with the help of a council. Now fast forward to the modern republic of India is a parliamentary democracy with a constitutional head of the state with the longest written constitution making India the largest democracy on the planet. The Republic of India is based on the values of Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, which gives us a message of mutual understanding for each other's sentiments. We have to realize that India is a huge and diverse country both Geographically (Landscape, Climate, Vegetation) & Socially (Religion, Race, Ethnicity, Language, Cuisine, Fashion, Music & Dance forms) the same time, because of the lack of awareness people can develop misunderstandings about one another that is why being open-minded is very important to acknowledge that our strength lies in pluralism and diversity. We are not a small isolated island state but a subcontinent. In today's geopolitical climate world views us as a rising star and bastion of human rights and democracy in Asia to counterweight authoritarian, communist China both in the economy, population, and military might. To be a true leader and a global player, we must overcome our internal sectarianism and cement our progressive ideas as a building block for this great civilization and country. We have to create an India that was dreamed of by our forefathers, freedom fighters, writers, intellectuals, and the constituent assembly. Jai Hind! Vande Matram!





INTERNATIONAL DAY IN FOCUS

Reflection by Ojas Khanna 11 A

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

International Youth Day is celebrated on August 12th every year to recognize the world's youth's potential and raise awareness about the issues they face. The United Nations established this day in 1999, and its purpose is to draw attention to various global issues such as poverty, education, health, and employment.

Young people are the future of the world, and it's essential that their voices are heard. This day is dedicated to the young people of the world and the issues they face, such as access to quality education and healthcare, youth unemployment, and the impacts of climate change. It is also a day to celebrate the successes of young people and the positive change they are creating in their communities.

In addition to raising awareness, International Youth Day is also a day to recognize the potential of young people and to invest in their development. Investing in young people is essential for the advancement of society and for the development of a healthier, more sustainable world. International Youth Day is an opportunity for young people to come together and share their stories and experiences. It is also a chance to build solidarity and to create meaningful connections with other youth around the world. On this day, we must recognize the power of youth and their ability to create positive change.



THE ROYAL BENGAL TIGER OF INDIA

A Reflection by Ojas Khanna 11A

It is an honour to pay homage to the great freedom fighter of India, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, on the occasion of his 126th birth anniversary. Netaji was an Indian nationalist and leader of the Indian National Army who devoted his life to the freedom of India from British rule. On the 126th birth anniversary of India's most celebrated revolutionary leader, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, is a day to celebrate his immense courage and commitment towards his country. He was a trailblazer and a symbol of revolution, who gave his life for his country's independence.

The Royal Bengal Tiger of India, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, is an iconic figure in Indian history. He was an ardent leader of the Indian independence movement and is remembered for his fiery and inspiring speeches that would stir the masses. Netaji was born in 1897 in Cuttack, Odisha, and was educated in several universities, including Calcutta and Cambridge. He would go on to become one of the most influential figures in Indian politics, advocating for India's independence from British rule.

Netaji was a firm believer in the philosophy of direct action, and he established the Indian National Army (INA) in 1942 to fight against the British. His famous slogan, "Give me Blood and I will give you Freedom" galvanized the Indian people and inspired them to fight for independence. Netaji's leadership was a major factor in India's eventual victory over British rule. Netaji was also a proponent of Indian culture and values. He believed in the power of Indian unity, and he actively promoted the idea of Hindu-Muslim unity in the face of British rule. He was a staunch advocate for the preservation of Indian culture and traditions, and he famously said, "India must be a nation in the truest sense of the word – a nation of diverse cultures and religions united in a common cause."

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's legacy lives on in the hearts of Indians today. His courage, conviction and commitment to India's cause has made him an iconic figure in Indian history, and he is fondly remembered as the Royal Bengal Tiger of India. Netaji's 126th birth anniversary is a reminder of his immense contribution to India's independence and the countless lives he touched in his lifetime. He will always be remembered for his extraordinary courage and dedication for his country. Netaji's life is a testament to the power of the human spirit and a reminder of the importance of patriotism and selfless service. This was Mantra of Netaji "Unity, faith and discipline"



A Rendezvous with Br. Wilfred D'Souza

An Interview conducted by The Just Ed Society



Q.1. Good morning, Bro. Wilfred. Would you like to share some of your school time memories with us?

Ans: Oh yes! We spent a couple of years studying in tents because we didn't have buildings. I remember doing a couple of years of my schooling in the tents there and then one year in the school garage. That was my classroom for one year. So it was a nice small school, everything fit into this one building. It was very family-like, with few students in the class. Cycling to and from school was for us the most wonderful exercise of the day. We loved happenings in school so much that at 1:30 in the afternoon when school finished, we'd cycle home and then come back then at 3:00 in the hot sun because we just wanted to enjoy life out here. Another memory that I have is that in every game that the class played, one teacher played with the class - it could be your class teacher or any other teacher. So it was always great fun to have a teacher playing with us; we even had many brothers playing with us. For us, life was all different. We didn't have TV and we didn't have any other distractions or tuition, so we had all the time to enjoy ourselves after working hard. We had wonderful teachers or we can say super-teachers who were very strict with us, but we all acknowledge that what we are today is because of the type of teachers we had.

Q. 2. Brother, why did you join the Christian Brothers?

Ans: I was exposed to some fantastic brothers who fully enjoyed life. They worked very hard, they were very interested in us, and in what we did. Their full time was with us. They had no other interest but us. So, I suppose I was attracted to that kind of a life.

A Rendezvous with Br. Wilfred D'Souza

An Interview conducted by The Just Ed Society



Q. 3. Brother, what was it like to come back to the school you studied in as the Principal? What was your tenure as the Principal at St. Columba's?

Ans: It was an honor to come back to the school. I also went back to the college where I studied as the Principal - St. Edmund's College. I was the Principal from 1990 to 1996.

Q. 4. Brother, you served as the Principal of different institutions and taught the rest of the time. How was it?

Ans: Oh, yeah, I enjoyed teaching, but I also did two terms in national bodies. I was sent to the Biblical Center in Bangalore on the staff, and then to the Brothers Training Institute in Bangalore also, so I enjoyed those terms as well.

Q. 5. Brother, who according to you, is a true Columban? What would you want to say to the community of Columba's?

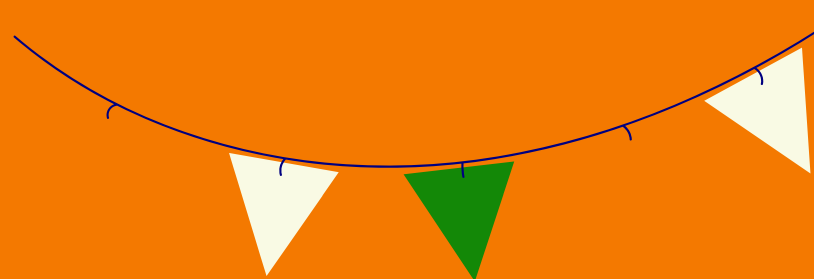
Ans: Someone who knows what the school stands for, and who lives by the values come what may. I also remember in my time as Principal, we were the ones that brought out the school anthem. So, a Columban is someone who understands the words of our school anthem and believes in the values of the school, no matter what anyone else says. I would like to tell the present students that they are really very fortunate, though they may not see this now and as yet. Also if the SCS community loses touch with the less fortunate students in the school, they have missed it. Then they have only knowledge and not education.

Q. 6. What is your most prominent feeling after celebrating 60 years with your batch?

Ans: A great feeling of thanksgiving. I was given a life where I could look back with a great feeling of satisfaction, of living life fully.

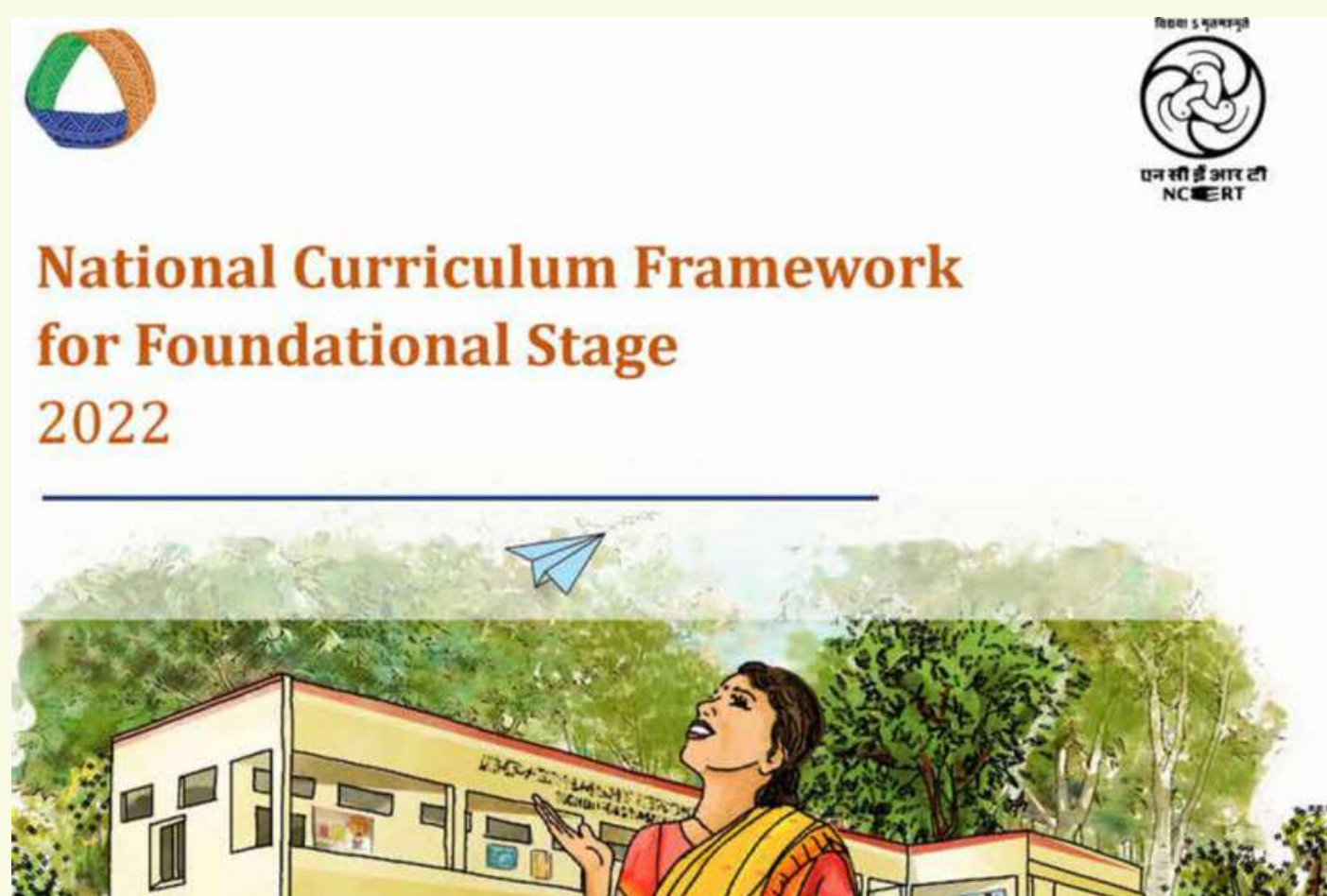


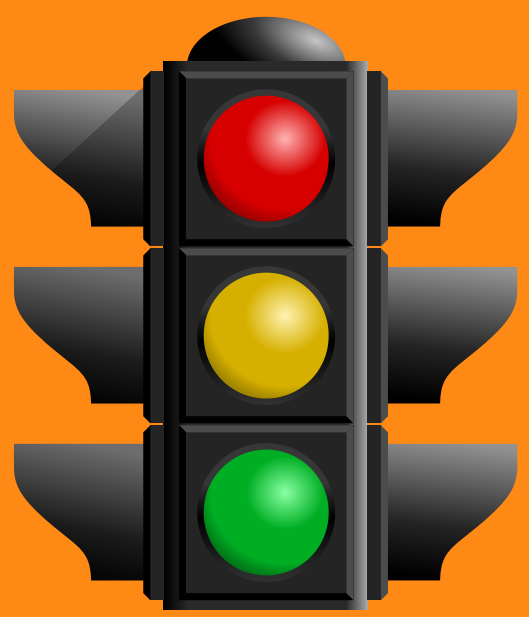
SCHOOL NEWS



Teachers' Discuss the National Curriculum Framework

The Junior Wing had an in-house training session on the National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage on 7th Jan 2023. This was a platform to read, discuss and discover the various aspects of the NCF and to set the stage for further academic planning for the upcoming session. The NCF for Foundational Stage is all about an integrated approach to Early Childhood Care and Education, especially for children aged between 3-8 years. Teachers from their individual groups came forward to share their views with the staff, which helped other teachers to take note of the same. The educators explored various ways and methods to plan lessons and conduct the same. This section of the framework gave a detailed view of the components of teaching plans like competencies, content and material to be used in the activities and methods of assessment. Various aspects of syllabus design and format for the Holistic Progress Card, based on the competencies and learning outcomes were further discussed. The teachers also spoke about additional critical areas addressing developmental delay and disability and creating a supportive ecosystem. There was also a talk about empowering teachers through pre-service, in-service training and professional development opportunities.





ROAD SAFETY WEEK

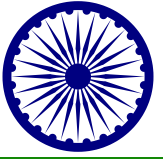


As per the directives of the CBSE, Swatchchata Pakhwada from 11th to 17th January'23 was organized by the school. It is an endeavour to create awareness among the general public and students to improve safety on road. The students of classes KG to IX participated in various activities organized by the school in this entire week. The students participated in activities like Drawing (traffic signals and traffic signs etc.), Poster making, Slogan writing, and also Calendar making on the topic of Road Safety.

The Junior School organized an extensive Traffic and Road Safety Awareness Program for the students of Classes 2 and 3 in the school on the 23rd & 24th of January 2023. The school had also set up an Artificial Traffic Park with the help of BMW in collaboration with ASSOCHAM for KG classes.

These students attended a talk on Road Safety followed by an interactive learning session through experiential stimulation. The subject teachers and the Value Education teachers also conducted session on Road Safety in their respective classes. A talk on Road Safety was also given during the Morning Assembly. The students positively benefitted by participating in the various activities conducted by the school. It will go a long way in creating awareness amongst the students and make roads a safer place.





India's Presidency G20

ASSEMBLY - 6D

On 22nd December, 2022, class 6D hosted an intercom assembly on India taking over the G20 presidency from Indonesia. The assembly was a thoughtful and informative affair with the students also putting together an insightful board on India at the G20. The assembly provided students with basic information about the Group of 20, nations that are a part of the G20, and India's theme and logo for the G20. The importance of India's G20 Presidency and how India planned to bring together the world under One Earth, One Family, One Future while keeping a human-centric approach at its core was stressed upon by the students of class 6D.



G20 ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION WINNERS

1st - Gracious Benny 11-F

2nd - Srijan Panja 8-E

3rd - Advait Mohanty 11-C

Congratulations to the winners and we thank all the participants for taking part in this event and appreciate their efforts.

ORGANIZED BY THE JUST ED SOCIETY



CLIMATE ACTION!



CARING FOR THE PLANET GROUND-UPWARDS!

The Water and Soil club of the Middle school organized an inter-class Soil Painting Competition on the 31st of January to discover the talents of young Columbans in the creation of sustainable art and craft. It was organized not only to celebrate the beauty of the soil, but also to think about the soil as an essential natural resource – as important to our quality of life as clean air and water. The participating students created wonderful art works displaying beautiful shades of brown using the soil. They showcased their creativity in depicting how soil is indispensable for sustainable development. This fun-filled competition witnessed an enthusiastic and exhilarating participation by all the students.



Class 10 Graduation Prayer Service



Graduation marks a milestone in the lives of students. It is a serious yet joyful event. As our Class 10 batch 2022-2023 is all set to begin the new chapter of their lives in the Senior Section of the school, a solemn Prayer Service was organized for them. Seeking the choicest blessings of our admirable Principal Bro. Robert, headmistresses Mrs. Pal and administrator Mr. Chopra, the ceremony began with the kindling of the lamp. Aditya (9A) and Steve (9A) lead us into a solemn prayer, thus realizing the divine presence of our founder Blessed Edmund Rice. The divine prayers were followed by the valedictorian speeches by Voluble Ekaksh Mathur from class 10A and Eloquent Ronal Jacob Mathew from class 10B. Both the Columbans shared their experiences and gratitude on behalf of their batch mates. Mrs. Himani Jain shared a short inspirational story, giving our graduating class a way forward in their further journey to become global citizens. Rishul Kumar from 10C with his calm and pleasant countenance shared the memorable journey of his classmates through his valedictory speech. Ojas Sabharwal from class 10D coherently shared his valedictorian speech and last but not the least, Shaun Steni from class 10E made a dynamic finale to the series of class 10 valedictorian speeches. Our Principal Brother Robert Fernandes shared his wisdom with the graduating class. He urged them to go the extra mile to be the better version of themselves and carry the heritage of this great institution. Brother also invited the students to express their gratitude to their parents without whose presence and sacrifices in their lives, they would not have been able to live this fulfilling life. Our Headmistress, Mrs. Aparajita Pal, motivated our class 10 students and challenged them to live their lives vibrantly. The graduation prayer service culminated gracefully by singing our school anthem.



Pariksha Pe Charcha

Pariksha Pe Charcha is an annual event in which the Prime Minister addresses questions related to time management, board exam stress, and anxiety. The sixth edition of this event was conducted by the Ministry of Education and held in a town hall format at the Talkatora Stadium of New Delhi on 27th January. More than 2500 students of classes 9 to 12 along with the selected teachers and parents participated in this discussion. Before the arrival of Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi, there were beautiful cultural performances by students from various states and union territories. PM Modi discussed and gave some valuable tips to cope up with the exam stress and manage time to perform better in examinations. After the event was over all students were distributed food boxes and a little book written by the P.M called 'exam warriors'. A total of 20 students, 10 each, from class 9th and 11th attended the event and they were accompanied by Mrs. Manju Rawat and Mr. Sumit Yadav.





FARE-THEE-WELL (THE BATCH OF 2023)

A day that comes once in a lifetime was here for the graduating batch of 2023. It was their farewell. A special assembly was organized by the school under the able guidance of Mrs. Anita Joseph. As a special gesture, lighting of the lamp was done by the student representative from all the six sections. The assembly took a great start with the musical tribute to the graduating students. This was followed by special valedictorians from each section delivering their speeches. There was a lot of fun element as well added with some games being played. It was enjoyed thoroughly by the students. Then the much-awaited BRUH AWARDS were announced in five different categories namely The Smart Boy Award, People's Choice Award, The Outstanding Student Award, The Sit-Down Comedian and The Rizzler. A scintillating dance performance was presented by the students of grade 11. The assembly culminated with the wise words of the principal Bro. Robert and administrator Dr. Chopra who emphasised students on being humble in life & encouraged them to provide their services to the society.



GOOD
LUCK



GOOD
LUCK



STUDENT'S CORNER

**Mental Wellness is a journey
That all of us can take
We need to stay mindful
And mindful decisions are made.**

**We need to practice self-care
And do an activity each day
That will make us feel good
And foster a better way.**

**Mental Wellness is a must
To help us all cope
It's the foundation of health
And will help us to stay in hope.**

**Mental Wellness is the key
To a life that's happy and free
It's not just what we think
But how we feel and believe.**

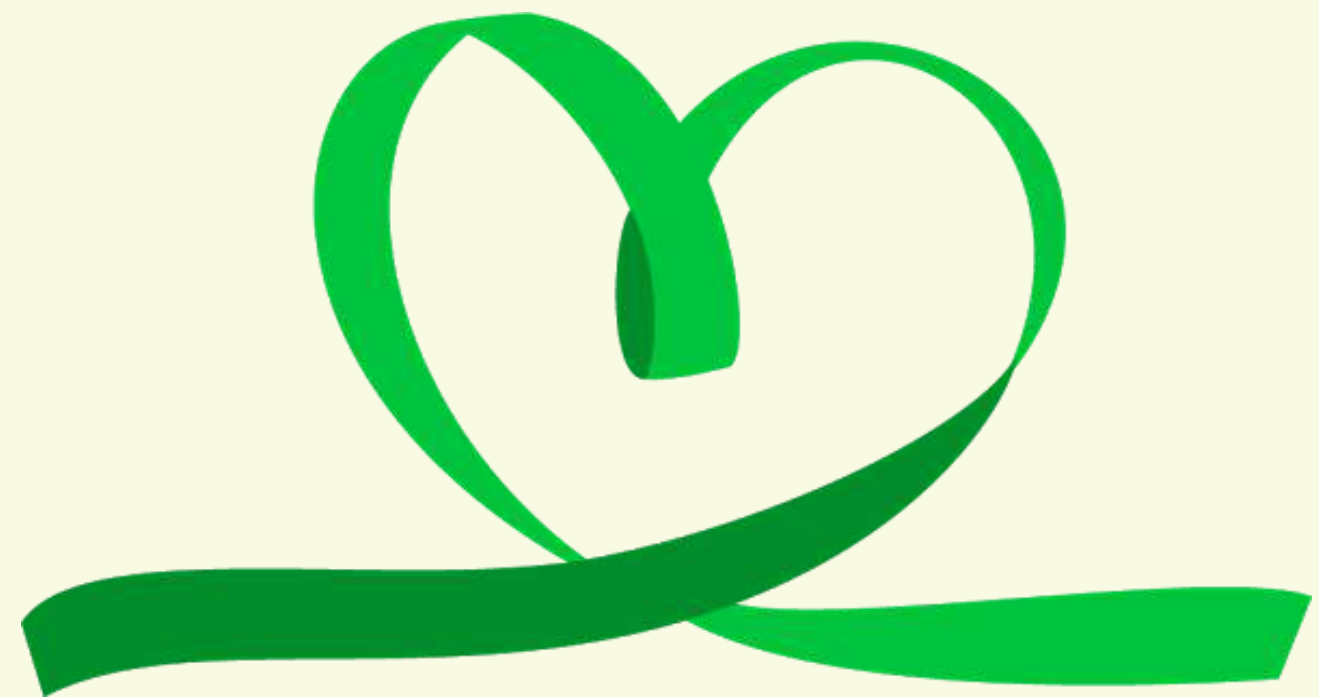
**We need to take care of our minds
And learn to be kind
To our thoughts and our worries
And leave the stress behind.**

**We need to find a balance
And recognize our worth
We need to stay connected
And be open to the earth.**



A POEM

BY OJAS KHANNA 11A



**Aryan Gupta (Class 9)
Selected among 25 winners of
Project Veergatha 2.0,
organized by
The Ministry of Defence
in coordination with the CBSE.**

NEWSMAKERS



Dr. Naresh Chopra
Congratulations!

Recipient of the Honorary Doctorate Degree
The George Washington University of Peace
Florida, U.S.A.

Socials 2023



A promenade dance, commonly called Socials, is a fun gathering and dance party for the 12th Graders. This year St. Columba's hosted the girls of the Convent of Jesus and Mary. It was organized on 18th January 2023. With the support of Sr. Gracy, the principal of CJM, the team was able to pull off an amazing event for the batch of 2022-2023 where not a single soul was left unhappy! The Socials was headed by Mrs. Vijayta Chauhan. The event started with the grand entrance of St. Columba's Music team followed by CJM's Music team. The event was followed by declaring the rules and procedures and announcing the first game "Cinderella's Shoe". A wonderful sight to witness as the winners jumped in joy and won the "Best Sporty Couple" award. The St. Columba's Dance team also took the stage by storm and put up a spectacular performance! Afterwards the awards for "Well-dressed Man and Woman", "Most Charming Couple" and the most awaited "Prom King and Prom Queen" were declared. The dance floor was the centre of the evening as all the students had a memorable evening and made memories to cherish.



**FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE IN
ST. COLUMBA'S SCHOOL**

**Dear Mohan ji,
Wishing you a
retirement
full of
good health,
happiness and
prosperity.**



Applications Invited



The Newsletter team is looking for Journalists!!

These would be students who have a knack for writing, reporting, photography, editing, and Canva (designing). Write a mail stating your field of interest and also a sample of your work to:

**Ms. Grace David@
gdd@stcolumbas.edu.in**

