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St. Patrick's Academy Bengaluru - Newsletter | Sept - Dec 2021 | Issue No. I

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear parents, staff and Patricians,

The year-end edition of our newsletter comes to you with a galore of interesting scholastic and co-scholastic activities that were being carried out even as we ventured into an online cum offline mode of schooling. Some of you might be au courant with the school's efforts in providing uninterrupted teaching-learning experience even amidst the challenges posed by the pandemic, the latest of them being The Omicron!

The pandemic has undoubtedly transformed the way we perceived things so far and it will surely emerge as an opportunity for a new world order. As per the survey conducted by the World Economic Forum the future belongs to AI (artificial intelligence) and an alarming 5 million jobs are at the risk of being extinct. In this scenario how can the schools prepare the students to face such challenges.

"Human intelligence is richer and more dynamic than we have been led to believe by formal academic education." Sir Ken Robinson. Vision building is a challenging exercise as it aims to construct future scenarios and link the present with the future. It is true that without vision, cultures, communities and civilisations perish. The exercise of vision building can neither be done by only re- structuring the

present realities nor by sheer dreaming. Vision, dreams and future expectations must merge into contemporary realities. In the last decade India (and world at large) has seen a revolution in knowledge and information sectors. It has gained a special position in the comity of information, communication and technology oriented nations. Time is ripe for educationists to break away from the comfort zones and engage in constructive and futuristic discussion to transform the way forward, a new world order!

With the imminent introduction of NEP, the education fraternity stands at the threshold of uncertainty, but at the same time, it offers a perfect platform to innovate and revolutionise the education sector. As the NEP lays down a new vision for education in India, there is very little choice for educationists but to adapt and innovate ways to take the noble cause of imparting quality

education to the youth, beyond the Covid era. We are preparing our students at a very different time for a different time. It is time to explore and expand our understanding of education as to equip the next generation to embrace new horizons.

Having said that, St. Patrick's Academy is surely emerging as a beacon of hope for the truly motivated students to embrace quality education through self-discipline and single minded devotion to character building. I believe, the primary objective of a school is character formation along with academic excellence. Schools should become a platform for every student to explore and identify their innate talents. SPA Bengaluru aspires to facilitate these objectives for every Patrician.

The first Semester Exams have been well conducted for the Board batches and I am hopeful of their satisfactory performance. I would exhort every student to leave no stone unturned

as you prepare for the second semester in March / April 2022.

I thank our dedicated staff for standing by every decision that I made thus far in the pursuit of realising the objectives set for the school. It gives me immense confidence to aim for stars. My experience with the middle and senior students for the past one and a half months has raised my hope as well. I am sure to be assisted by you dear Parents in setting high standards for our children and to realise them within the timeframe. Together let's march ahead.

We have much to be grateful for the past year and much more to look forward to in the New Year 2022. As you come back to school with renewed hope and refreshed mind and body, let's hope for the best. Let's count our blessings and be a blessing to others in 2022.

In love and confidence,  
**Bro. Tomy Varghese**  
Principal





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## MEMORIAL PRAYER SERVICE

### 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

God in His eternal wisdom and plan has called  
our dear teacher/friend/colleague  
Ms. Moumita Mandal Ghosh unto Himself  
on 8th October 2021; A tribute....

Wherever a beautiful soul has been- there is a trail of beautiful memories. With a lot of pain and a heavy heart the management and staff had to part with our beloved colleague Ms. Moumita. In loving memory of Ms. Moumita Mandal Ghosh, an official memorial ceremony was conducted to pay homage to the departed soul. A dedicated prayer service was meant to help the bereaved family walk through the tough time.

With plenty of heart-warming messages pouring out from the management, her colleagues, friends and parents showed the amount of love and warmth she had garnered in this institute. She has been a loving member of the Patrician family and has been a hardworking teacher.

Her contribution was cherished as we progressed through the prayer service. Readings from the holy books and Intercessory prayers were meant to give strength to the bereaved family. A sapling was planted in the school premises in her memory.

Though her smile is gone forever, and her hand we can't touch, still we have so many memories of the one we loved so much. Your memory is our keepsake with which we will never part. You are eternal in the abode of God and in our hearts.



## TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATED

### 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021



*"They inspire you, they entertain you, and you end up learning a ton even when you don't know it".*

A teacher is the eternal guru and guide, whose firm and loving grooming has shaped generations from time immemorial. To honour the hard work and determination towards the profession, the students of St. Patrick's Academy celebrated Teacher's Day virtually on 4th September 2021 with high spirits. The celebration began with a prayer song followed by a welcome dance by the little ones. The Principal, Rev. Bro. Tomy Varghese, shared an encouraging message on Teachers' Day. Students expressed their appreciation by complimenting their beloved teachers with adorable and exquisite words and eye-catching greeting cards.

Thereafter they surprised their teachers by putting on a dazzling show with zestful dance, drama, song, etc. to symbolize their love, respect, acknowledgment and gratitude. The staff had a fun-loving day at school where they flaunted their talents on stage in a stunning fashion show, a dynamic dance performance, a frisky musical skit and a lot of games that made the day a remarkable one. The programme was astounding with the efforts and the coordination of the students and teachers.

Kudos to the cultural committee !!!.



Captures from Teachers' day - Virtual Celebration



Fashion show winners with the Principal Rev. Bro. Tomy Varghese and Rev. Bro. George Xavier, Deputy Congregational Leader of Brothers of St. Patrick. Congratulations!!!!

Team SPAB on Stage Performance!!





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## BROTHERHOOD DAY CELEBRATION



All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle. The Feast of a great saint – St. Francis of Assisi is celebrated on 4th October and is marked as Brotherhood Day. He was a designated patron saint of Italy. He believed that nature itself was the mirror of God. He called all creatures his “brothers” and “sisters”, and even preached to the birds. The staff of St. Patrick’s Academy had a small gathering to wish our beloved and respected Brothers a Happy Brotherhood Day.



Merry  
CHRISTMAS



## OFFLINE ON



After a long turbulent period of uncertainties and apprehensions, St. Patrick’s Academy opened its gates for its students of grade VI to XII on November 2021, Monday. During the meetings arranged earlier with the parents, the Principal had listened to their concerns and revealed his plans for the re-opening of the school with their consent. The school had taken all possible precautionary measures for the safety of the students and Staff in the atmosphere of ongoing but slackening threat of the pandemic. RT PCR test was conducted for the students and staff to ensure their safety. The campus and classrooms were well decorated and the students were welcomed heartily by the management and staff. It was the aspiration of our young learners, cooperation of parents and teachers and above all the strong determination of our Principal, Rev. Brother Tomy Varghese that made the re-opening possible.



## FAREWELL DEAR BROTHER CHRISTOPHER!!



A great Mentor is hard to find and difficult to part with and impossible to forget. A special assembly was organised on 8th December 2021 for bidding farewell to our very own Rev. Bro. Christopher Dawes. Students from classes VI onwards crafted cards and bouquets to felicitate Brother. With Prayer we align ourselves with the purposes of God. Hence, a special prayer and a Prayer song were dedicated to the wellbeing of Bro. Christopher. His achievements and contribution to the institution were elaborately appreciated. His positive outlook and friendly attitude always inspired the staff and the students to work hard and pursue their dreams. Success and failure are part and parcel of everyday work-life’s highs and lows. But the memories of working with an inspirational mentor like Brother will never go. He guided us, supported us, and motivated us. He has been such a great asset to this institution. We will miss you Brother.

## KANNADA RAJYOTSAVA CELEBRATIONS

The 66th Kannada Rajyotsava, commemoration of the Karnataka formation day, was celebrated reverentially on 1st November by the St. Patrick’s family. The virtual celebration began with a prayer. The Principal Rev. Brother Tomy Varghese delivered the message of the day and reminded us of the importance of planting trees for preserving our environment for the future generations. On the occasion, the school paid its tribute to the great poets, scientists, educators and social and cultural reformers of the state. Speeches of students, reflecting the history of the state, and other cultural performances made the celebration a memorable one.



Patricians giving tribute to the great poets, scientists, educators and social and cultural reformers of the state on the occasion Kannada Rajyotsava Celebration





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## CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Children's day, a day to celebrate the bond between teachers and students, is celebrated on 14th November. Due to the present pandemic situation, a video encapsulating a plethora of events-songs, skits, and dance performances by teachers was released for students on 13th November, a day prior to Children's Day. Our Coordinators greeted the students with enthusiasm, thereafter



the Principal Rev. Bro. Tomy Varghese, shared an awe- inspiring message and greeted the children on this special day. Teachers manifested their admiration and love by wishing their precious buds with charming words. To Make this event a memorable one for our little ones, the SPAB team put together a Jaw dropping show with bubbly & amusing dances, a hilarious skit, and a few soulful renditions of songs to showcase their love and affection for our kids. Yet another program, which made the children sit up and enjoy thoroughly with loud laughter and broad smiles. The program was a grand success with the efforts and the coordination of our beloved teachers.

## JOY OF CHRISTMAS 2021 AT SPAB

Christmas is a season of celebration, joy and happiness. The students were eager and enthusiastic to celebrate Christmas in school after a one-and-a-half-year gap. The spark in the eyes of the students was like the bright shining star in the night sky when Jesus was born. The corridors and the classrooms were all decorated so beautifully. Though we celebrated Christmas following all the covid protocols and the participation was limited only to students of offline schooling, the full campus was vibrating with Christmas cheer on 08-12-21, Wednesday.

The mystery of a Friend at Christmas has its own magic. For two weeks every staff member of SPAB became Sherlock Holmes trying to figure out who their friend was. With every passing day, each Teacher was digging around the gift

boxes searching for their Secret Santa, yet it was a mystery. Finally, when it was revealed on 18th December 2021, everyone was overwhelmed to see their santas and were thankful for the love, prayers and gifts which they had been receiving from them. The day witnessed a live crib competition also.



The online celebration of Christmas was held on 22nd December 2021. A video was shared with the students as the pandemic prevented us from being together. The enactment of a skit showed us the importance of Christmas and taught us all that Christmas is a celebration of sharing, love, peace, joy and happiness.







## IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME!! ARE WE LOSING THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS?!!



**MS. NILOFER KASBEKAR**  
CLASS TEACHER, VIIIA & HEAD  
-CULTURAL COMMITTEE



“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life”. - John 3:16 Dwelling on the above words, I would like to draw your attention to the most important one, that is our Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas for us may be plum cakes, decorations, family gatherings and celebrations. But take a pause and think, is that all Christmas is about? Well, the answer is NO. I would like to illustrate with a story. In a well to do family, there lived a loving grandfather. He was soon going to turn 80. The family decided to throw a big party. Preparations began. The ladies in the house attacked all the shopping malls, the children bought lovely dresses for themselves to be worn on the day of the party. The men were busy arranging a lovely banquet. Grandfather sat in one corner of the house and watched everything silently. The day arrived, it was grandfather's birthday. The guests arrived, had a lot of fun at the party, they danced, enjoyed

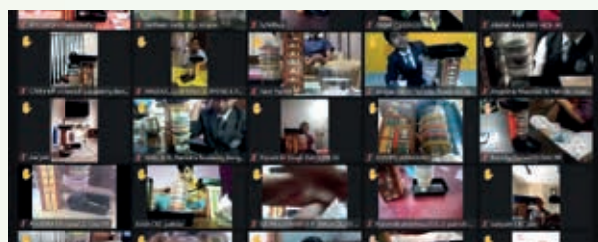
the sumptuous lunch, and wished grandpa with expensive gifts. It was time for grandpa to speak a few words. He stood up and thanked everyone for their wishes. He could not continue further as he was grieving in his heart. But his dear son realised and expressed himself. He told the others, all that was in his father's heart. He said, “Our dad is not interested in parties, celebrations and food. All he wants is your little time and your love. It was his birthday but he was kept aside and everyone got busy in their own ways.

Do the family members reflect us? Dear friends, let us not lose focus from the one who is the reason for Christmas. God our father loved us so much that He sent his son Jesus Christ to save the world from the punishment of sins. He, being the king of heaven, took birth in the manger, lived a very ordinary life, died for the sins of mankind but rose again to make a place for us in heaven.

Let us remember His birth with great respect and prepare ourselves for the paradise which he promised he will take us to. Unless Christ is born in our hearts, we cannot reach heaven.

## GUINNESS WORLD RECORD!! – WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITY

Congratulations to the 50 Patricians who participated in the 7th edition of India International Science Festival through an online platform on 12th December, 2021. The event was organised by the Ministry of Earth Science, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of Goa and Vijnana Bharati. The students of SPAB were invited to join the “Water Conservation Activity” -a Guinness World Record Attempt-. After the training session, the children assembled ‘the specially designed rain water harvesting kit’ sent by the Ministry. The hybrid event was witnessed by around 7500 students of class VI and VII from all over India and St. Patrick's Academy Bengaluru, became part of winning the Guinness World Record title of ‘the most people assembling the rain water harvesting kit online’. All the participants indeed celebrated the creativity in science. The effort of the teachers and the parents to prepare them for the event cannot go unnoticed. Once again Congratulations for the jubilant participation!!



## THE FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION - FOR CLASSES X AND XII – YEAR: 2021-2022



The Council's announcement about the first Semester Examination brought about the challenge of preparing students within a short time. The mode of examination was – they were to attempt multiple choice questions – an alien to the students and Council as well. The dark cloud hovering over the heads of the students and teachers were so dark and it was difficult to locate the silver lining. Solutions were plenty when the teachers and the students put their heads together, they were able to paraphrase and decode the phantom of MCQ's. At last they saw the lighting at the end of the tunnel and they prodded their way to the exit. The teachers worked hard with the students and gave them all the guidance they could lay their hands on to help prepare the students to the very end. The first day of the examination was confronted with trepidation both by the staff and the students; it was

as if both were giving the paper together. Thus the examination started on 29th November for ICSE and 22nd November 2021 for ISC. The teachers were in prayer as they wanted their students to perform well and kept their fingers crossed till they emerged from the examination hall. The only comfort and consolation was the smile on the faces of the students coming out of the exam hall; since then, the students have somehow mastered the art of MCQ's which once we thought as tough, proved to be a blessing as it helps the students to score well.

## NCC DAY CELEBRATED

On the occasion of the NCC Day Celebrations on 26th November 2021, Friday, the Navel Wing of NCC, St. Patrick's Academy planted a stand of 45 saplings in the Govt. Health care Center compound at Kodathi, Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru. A squadron of 47 cadets participated in the act and infused everyone to be responsible to Mother Nature. Praise and salute to you dear cadets.







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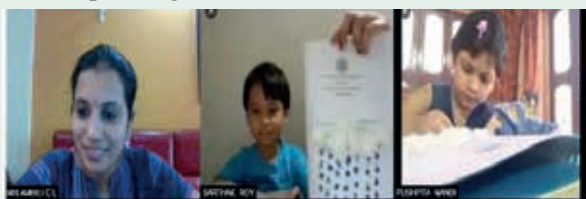
## COMPETITIONS AND ACTIVITIES

### KINDER JOY

Our Little patricians of KG school are provided with manifold opportunities to develop their IQ and EQ through competitions & other learning activities. Congratulations to all the participants. Here are few stills of Sept-November competitions and learning activities

#### BLUE COLOUR DAY:

Blue exudes feelings of tranquility, the teachers and students dressed up in blue attires executed thumb printing activities like cloud and rain.



#### SAFETY IN SCHOOL DAY:

Safety doesn't happen by accident. Hence, all kinds of safety measures need to be in place when it comes to school, which is the second home for children. An engaging PPT was shared to illustrate the rules that children must remember to be safe at all times.



#### TOUCH ME NOT DAY:

A sensitive topic -Good Touch and Bad Touch was discussed precisely to bring awareness of physical sensitivity. The idea was to inculcate in them the right to their bodies. The children have the absolute choice to deny anyone from touching them against their will.



#### RED FOR ED DAY (TEACHERS DAY)

Many children participated and showered their affection towards their teacher on the occasion of teacher's day. They elaborated on the reasons why they admire their teachers so much and proved again that the influence of a teacher is never-ending.



#### ORANGE DAY:

Orange is a vivacious colour and reflects courage, warmth and determination. The dynamic colour is present in various segments of our lifestyle which was explained with the help of a detailed PPT. A paper tearing activity to make pumpkins made the day even more engaging.



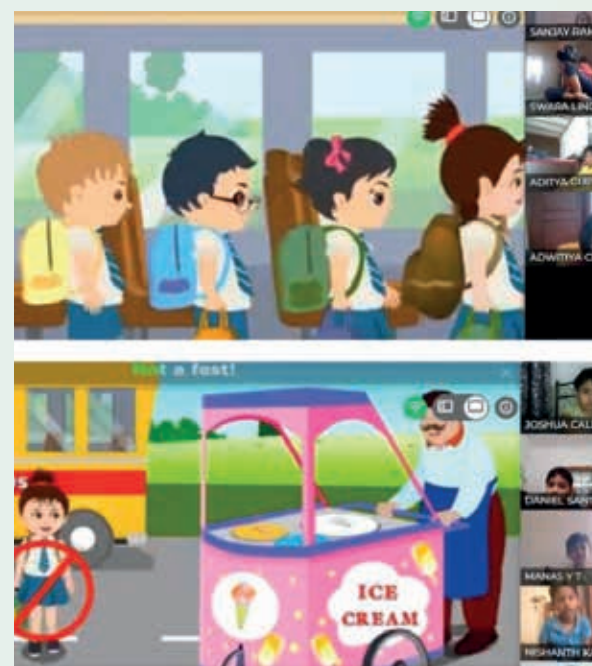
#### SAVE WATER AND TREE DAY:

Humans, animals and the environment depend upon trees for survival. Also, water is an important element that is a balancing factor for a healthy environment. Hence, children were encouraged to plant seeds to contribute to restoring our damaged ecosystem. A brief discussion supported with a story was shown to make the day meaningful.



#### ROAD SAFETY DAY:

Exhibit patience and follow certain rules while on road is what we displayed while celebrating the day. We fused songs and activities for identification and association of traffic lights with the colours.

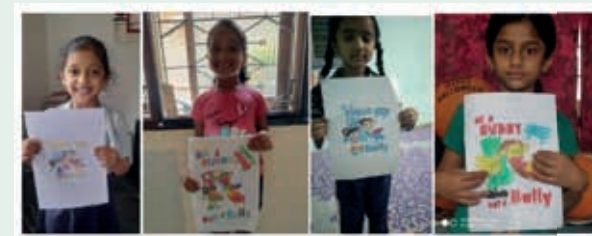


#### SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT DAY:

A short video on environment conservation was shown to the children to initiate the topic. A colouring activity was given in support of the following measures that can save our planet Earth and our environment.

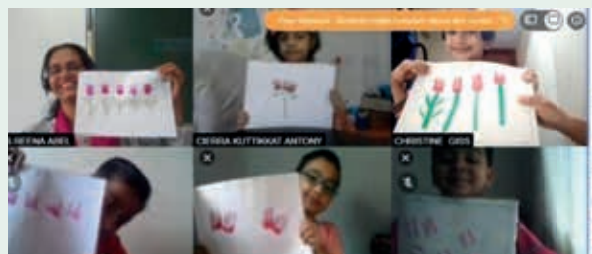
#### NO BULLY DAY:

A short narrative was given along with a song to observe No Bully Day. It was explained to the children that they must stand against bullying as it hinders their development.



#### PINK DAY:

Pink Colour symbolizes comfort and compassion. Demonstration of various Pink objects was done to make the day evocative for the children. Fork Painting of Tulips added charm to the celebration.







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## CHARITY & DONATION DAY:

We celebrated the day with the spirit that Charity begins at home. Donation enables us to carry on charity. Hence, we encourage our tiny brigade to keep a bag to collect things which they can easily give away to those who need a little helping hand.



## PIGGY BANK DAY:

The habit of saving itself is an education. We celebrated the day by imparting the idea of having a piggy bank and inculcating a habit to save little money. Children made small piggy banks by reusing some old boxes and were elated.



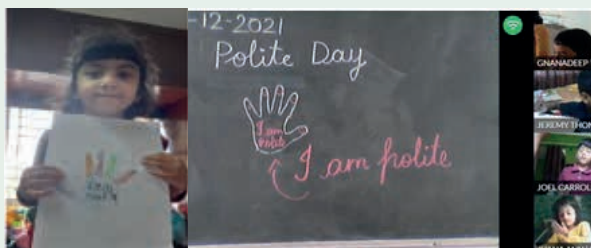
## I RESPECT DAY:

Respect is one of the greatest expressions of love. Showing respect is when you care and how your actions impact others. We observed the day by discussing the importance of exchanging respect with our elders and peers for greater good. Children did an activity of colouring a poster.



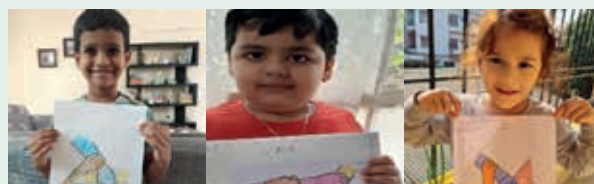
## I AM POLITE DAY:

Being polite means respecting others feelings. Showing politeness is a noble way to make people happy. A story was shared and children traced their palm and coloured the same to exude their happiness and content.



## COLLABORATIVE KINDNESS DAY:

Children could relate to the virtue of Kindness as we narrated to them how essential it is to inculcate Kindness to make this society a wonderful place to live in. Collaboration makes the joy double. Collaboration divides the task and multiplies the success. Children did a colouring activity which was symbolic.



## WHITE DAY:

White is symbolic of perfect harmony and projects purity. We celebrated Christmas as a season of rejoicing. We sang carols, danced to Jingle bells and did a cotton sticking activity to mark the occasion.



## GETTING NURTURED - JUNIOR SCHOOL

### SPELL WELL ACTIVITY

'Spelling is important because it aids in reading. It helps cement the connection that is shared between sounds and letters'. A spell well activity was conducted on 18th September 2021, online for classes I to V. This was one of the numerous, enjoyable activities that gave students a platform to learn spellings in different ways. The prime motive was to improve the spellings and increase their vocabulary. Children participated earnestly in the activity, their efforts and initiatives were appreciated by one and all.

### TALENT SEARCH:

Each one of us is unique. We have different talents and abilities. A school talent show can be a great way to showcase our students, build their confidence, and bring the community together. To showcase the talents of our little buddies, we conducted an Online Talent search activity on 20th November, 2021 for Classes I to V. Students exhibited their

talents in various activities. They sang melodious songs, played musical instruments, manifested a few kung fu techniques, danced gracefully and some of them showcased their acting skills. The best part was the Magic Show presented by our young magicians. All the performances mesmerized the audience. Our students really rocked the show.



### GREETING CARD MAKING:

This is the season to greet people with greeting cards. The competition was conducted via Google Meet for Grade 1-5 on 04/12/2021(Saturday). As Christmas is round the corner, the theme chosen for the competition was all about "Christmas". Students participated with great zeal and enthusiasm. The little ones showcased their creativity and festive spirit in making colourful and captivating cards. Christmas Carols were played in the background and children enjoyed singing along while decorating their cards.







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## PORTRAYING TALENT - SENIOR SCHOOL

### DECLAMATION:

Students of grade VII participated in the Declamation, Competition. The students presented their inspiring speeches and expressed their views.

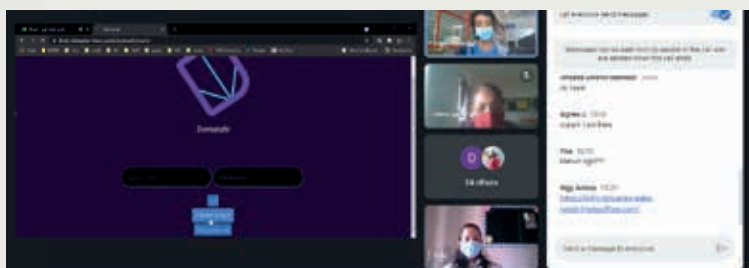


### POETRY WRITING:

Poetry Writing Competition was conducted for the students of grade VIII on 18th September 2021. Many young promising poets of the senior school participated in the competition and composed beautiful poems.

### WEB DESIGNING:

Web Designers of SPAB, grade VII participated in the competition with zeal and enthusiasm on 20th November 2021. Children used various languages like HTML, CSS, Python for designing their own web pages. Congratulations to the participants and winners!!



### DEBATE:

Good communication between individuals is always essential for the betterment of humanity and life. In order to improve confidence in public speaking skill, an Inter-class Debate Competition was held for the students of class IX on 23rd November, 2021 at Delany Hall. In a heated discussion for and against the topic 'Is the world doing enough to reverse climate change', the participants helped the audience make out that even though a lot of measures are taken to reverse climate change we have got to cover a long way ahead.



### IT CLUB ACTIVITIES:

Techwiz (IT Club) - celebrated its first anniversary on 28th October, 2021. This occasion was marked with a fun filled session, which included quiz, games and fun facts presented by the members of the club. The support and encouragement from the students' side was much appreciated by the teachers. During the months of November and December, the Computer department coordinated competitions for all the classes from VI to IX



### APP DEVELOPMENT:

App development competition was conducted on 27th November for the students of class VIII in which many promising young App developers from the senior school participated and exhibited their great talents. Congratulations to the participants and winners.



### VIDEO MAKING:

On 13th November, 2021, a Video Making competition was held for the students of class IX. Being one of the powerful means of expression of self vision on any concepts or concerns, the competition added confidence to the participants in the areas of creativity, presentation and self expression. Congratulations to the participants and winners.



### SCRATCH PROGRAMMING:

The scratchers of today are the developers and innovators of tomorrow. A Scratch Programming competition was conducted for the students of class VI on 4th December 2021. The competition on 'the visual event-driven programming environment' provided a creative learning experience to the young scratchers. Congratulations to the participants and winners.



## AWESOME INDEED!! - EXPERIENCE SHARED

### RAIN WATER HARVESTING KIT ASSEMBLED ONLINE:



Ms. Merin Binoj, VII C

We, the 50 Patricians, were excited to participate online in the Guinness World Record attempt on 'Conservation of Water' – a hybrid mode attempt in which 7500 students from all over the country took part. The main venue of the attempt was Panaji where the students from Goa gathered. The relishing moments of glory began at 11 a.m. Sunday, 12 December 2021. The rainwater harvesting activity began after the inauguration ceremony. Following the instructions given by the organizing committee, we assembled the specially designed rain water harvesting kit which we had received in the previous week. I am extremely delighted to be a part of this mega event. It was really a gripping experience. I also take this opportunity to appreciate the hard work taken by the organizers to make this event successful.

### MY EXPERIENCE AT MPL (MATH PREMIER LEAGUE)



Ms. Maria Charles  
VII C

Every year counting well is conducting Math Premier League (MPL) for class 6 to 8 children. This year I too got a chance to participate in this competition. They provided 20 minutes daily workouts for every participant freely. Even though all the questions were tricky and indirect, I could score good marks only because of the practice session. I am sure that by participating in these kinds of competitions we can improve our logical and analytical skills.





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## PATRICIANS' TALK

### "THE PANDEMIC – MY STORY"

#### STUDENTS' RESPONSE

##### The Pandemic - A trip to hometown

During the lockdown, my brother was born and I was very happy. We didn't have anyone to take care of my little brother and mom. My dad decided to go to Kerala and stay with our grandparents. My dad drove the car for 14 hours (635 km) from Bangalore to Kerala.

We quarantined ourselves for 14 days so that the coronavirus would not spread to other people. After completing our quarantine, I met my grandparents.

During the lockdown, we tried not to go out in public places. We are having online classes as our school is closed due to the lockdown. I miss meeting my friends and teachers, but I also enjoy online classes. We were able to communicate and meet people with the help of Zoom and Whatsapp calls. We also got to celebrate many festivals and birthdays online.



Master Alvin Alex Shibu - II A

##### The Pandemic - My Story

The Pandemic, caused by the deadly Coronavirus, has changed the way we live our lives. Everyone has been affected by it. People were feeling blue because they weren't able to step out of their homes. According to me, the pandemic had brought great misery to the world. Many people lost their dear ones in the span of two years. However, the lockdown caused by the pandemic has brought few good things to our lives, that is, many people got to enjoy and learn new things during the lockdown. I was sad that I couldn't go out and play with my friends, but I also spent my time on other activities. I learnt how to draw, paint, and also started learning Spanish and Japanese! To the people who are down by the pandemic, I put forward that instead of looking at the unpleasant side of life; always look to the silver lining!



Miss. Lakshmi Shriya Maddali  
- V D

##### Corona – My Story

Life was all about looking to what's next big thing, intense progression, about tomorrow; but it was a virus that taught me the pure definition of 'uncertainty' .....It was 2020, I made plans for the summer, but that's when the lockdown came in; a year passed by, all online .Finally, expecting summer 2021 to be better, there came the next one. We slept in one world and woke up in another. I went back home as a 7th grader from school and now I come half way down 9th. People now have changed the idea of planning things for a long term future; they started to look for the near future. I started to be grateful for "our daily bread" (Something I never really valued, until the lockdown). This might just not be my story, but something many can relate to. I realized every day is a gift from God ...for we don't know what might happen next!!



Miss. Rhea Vinod - IX B

##### Pandemic Musings

The Covid pandemic practically had such an effect on my life, making me see things from a completely different point of view. I realized that one learns the value of things only when one loses them.

I realized how much my family, teachers and friends meant to me only when I couldn't see or interact with them physically for months. It taught me to see both sides of the coin and made me realize the worth of life which God has so freely gifted us with. I also got to do many things I could never do before...I never thought studying from home was ever possible! It also gave me more time to spend with my family too, cherishing their love and care.

The cases of the pandemic may be less now, but let's never forget the value of relationships and treasure them wholeheartedly.



Miss. Crystal Angel Mathew, VII -D

##### The pandemic

Once started the pandemic  
Almost lasted for years,  
Sitting at home was boring  
But making crafts was amazing.  
Wearing a mask, was a tough task,  
But staying at home was better than  
playing in the park.  
I wish to play with my friends  
I wish when the pandemic will end,  
Waiting for the day!  
When the pandemic goes away.



Miss. Krithi Lohith - V E

##### Covid O Covid

Don't think we can't defeat you  
Our unity is our strength  
And together we all will cheat you  
You made a lot of people suffer  
But don't worry soon we will all recover  
Our power is strong  
And we won't let you survive for long



Miss. P. Sayvitaa - V C





## TEACHERS' CORNER

### PANDEMIC - MY STORY



**MS. RAJI MATHEW**  
CLASS TEACHER, VIII D

When the lockdown started, I was happy. Happy that I can sleep as much as I want or read as much as I can. The novelty of unlimited free time started to wear off and the air of uncertainty started to dampen my spirits. Physical inactivity was a major concern. Slowly my friends and I started morning walks.

Morning hours were glorious. The climate was good. Vehicles were off the road. We had the entire area around us to explore. Until then, I wasn't aware that I am living in one of the best places in Bangalore. Each day we started to explore a different route. Though I knew that Bangalore is blessed with Gulmohar trees, the number of varieties I have come across was mind blowing.

Getting friendly with the neighborhood farmer family and getting fresh papaya, curry leaves, brinjal, flowers

etc. made us realize how selfless the farmers are. Identifying the different species of birds and flowers quickly became a real entertainment.

Though the morning walks were uneventful, once I came across seeing a black snake. I was holding my breath, still I couldn't stop appreciating the majestic nature of the snake. After a few months I could see the place where the snake slithered away was completely ransacked due the new extension of the railway project. I often wonder what might have happened to it.

Most of the time, these developments destroy the natural habitat of many plants, animals and birds. I must thank nature for keeping my physical and mental health happy during this pandemic and it also made me realize the importance of protecting the various habitants of nature. Even though things are getting back to normal and life started spinning really fast, I have decided to stop once in a while to cherish the beautiful things around me. The pandemic taught me the importance of life.

### PANDEMIC- MY STORY



**MS. SMITI SINHA**  
CLASS TEACHER, V E

A few months back when Corona was at its peak in Karnataka, unfortunately my family and I were tested 'positive' and admitted in the hospital's isolation ward with crying patients. We were suffering from acute headache, severe bronchitis, body pain and

loss of appetite. Since we were not allowed to meet our family members and friends- as a result of which I felt depressed and afraid. News of hundreds of deaths due to COVID-19 in my state further panicked me so much that I spent every moment of my isolation in deep sadness and suffering. That was the most horrible experience of my life. About a few days ago, when I learnt that Corona's new variant Omicron has infected two people in Karnataka, a flashback of my painful experience haunted my mind again.

### MY COVID STORY

The COVID-19 Pandemic has interrupted life at work and home, globally, in many ways. Despite all the anxiety and sadness that have accompanied this life-altering pandemic, one thing that kept me going during the difficult times is a regular practice of gratitude. I feel grateful as I am able to help the people who need support. Though it was difficult to see loved ones struggling with long-haul COVID symptoms, it felt overwhelming to see them making it through like a fighter. There is an old saying that you

can't pour from an empty cup. Pandemic made me realize that I need to take care of myself first in order to take care of others. It taught that quality time with family and friends should not be taken for granted. Above all, I learnt that my life is precious.

There is no doubt that living through a pandemic is challenging. But remind yourself that life will return to normal- even if it's a new kind of normal.



**MS. DEEPIKA SAXENA**  
SCHOOL COUNSELLOR



**MS. LUCY JACOB**  
SENIOR SCHOOL  
COORDINATOR

### THE PANDEMIC – MY STORY

Much has been spoken, written and discussed about a virus that changed life on this, our beautiful, planet forever. My own personal story of the pandemic is a mixed bag of bright spots on a grey canvas of time. It is less than two years since the pandemic began and yet the new normal has almost obliterated even the memories of what was once normal. The new realities that the pandemic brought in, created a sense of urgency and haste in everything. Urgency was felt not just in research and invention for making a vaccine, but also in the process of learning and unlearning of everything familiar about life and livelihood. Confinement within the four walls of home was unknown to the present generation. Suddenly that became the norm of the day and I quite enjoyed it. The pandemic created such conditions that did not give the luxury of dwelling on one's feelings either. As a teacher, everything that was known and familiar to me had vanished all of a sudden- classrooms, smart boards, note books, pen, pencil, all had gone. I needed to find new ways to reach out to my students, learn new methods of teaching and learn it fast. It was difficult, frustrating at times but it

has been a great learning experience and I found it very exciting. One of the things that has struck me and edified me greatly during the pandemic is the resilience of ordinary people, especially women around me. Their stories of survival and tenacity and their ability to find solutions to the challenges of life are incredible. The story of Selvi, all of 22 years, the only breadwinner of the family, lost her job with the first lockdown and yet found ways and means to feed her family of four and keep her two siblings in school. Confidence and courage is what I have seen in her. The plight of migrant labourers around me and their survival is nothing less inspiring. Their stories of fortitude and many more similar ones, give me courage in the face of difficulties, and challenge me to turn difficulties and problems into opportunities. Pandemic cannot crush the spirits of those who are determined to seek solutions rather than mourn their troubles and miseries. As schools began slowly reopening in their effort to bring back a semblance of normalcy to the lives of millions of children, I am more than happy to see the excitement and joy on the faces of my students, to be back where they belong and with whom they should spend time with.





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## PARENTS' VOICE

### REBIRTH

For years, I was flowing like a river

Wild or tame time to time

A trivial, tedious life

With a weeping soul..

In the chaos of the pandemic

I could find the inner self.

There was an abrupt end to those never-ending dramas by people around..

I began to smell those

beautiful flowers in my garden..

While they lost theirs..

I evoked those which went apart..

Taking my pen out from the shell.

I began to colour my life

Hoping to fly like a butterfly..

Slowly could taste my life better

When people lose their taste buds..

Never knew my inner self

Who was calling me to spread my wings to fly, fly and fly..

**Ms. DHANYA KUNHAPPAN PV**  
(Parent of Nainika Sinoj, Class 5A)

### PANDEMIC- A LEARNING

Covid-19 has forced most of us to restrict ourselves from outdoor adventures. Human history will remember this period as a time of unique separation and crisis but also of great courage, learning and cooperation. As each one of us is rethinking the way we live/lead our life. In situations when we were most vulnerable/worst affected, we learnt to be happy and engaged in a constructive way. We should take care of ourselves and take precautions to be safe, this way not only we will help ourselves but also help others. We can survive all this, every cloud has a silver lining, meaning that there's hope or something good to be found in every bad situation. Soon, new mornings will dawn. The flowers will bloom and the streets will be lively. The sun will shine brighter.

**Ms. GARGI CHAKRABORTY,**  
(Mother of Master Agastya Sarkar Class III A)

### PANDEMIC — MY STORY

Life is going through a phase that none of us had ever thought of. These are the times when we are physically confined to the four walls of our houses. Away from society and staying at home, both were strange & challenging facts at the beginning of this pandemic for us. How can we always sit at home not seeing our

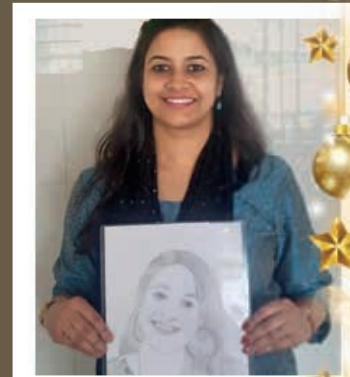
beloved relatives, without going on shopping in the malls, without having restaurant food, without going on holiday trips? All these used to be our family entertainment activities in this busy life. I'm sure many of you would echo the same. Suddenly we had to stop everything. It wasn't an easily acceptable change. But as a family, we strictly followed the safety guidelines from the beginning itself. We have not gone out anywhere unnecessarily. As a mother of a nuclear family, it was a challenging and rocky path that I had to cover. During our family conversations, we tried to explain to our kids the impacts of this pandemic. With social distancing and travel restrictions, we had all turned to technology for maintaining social connections and fuelling the intellectual growth of our kids. Staying connected with our wider family & friends through social networks made our world vibrant, although it couldn't provide the same warmth of meeting people in the real world as before. To overcome the stress of this situation, as many of you would have done, we also engaged ourselves in some cooking experiments, some creative artworks & some musical activities. These things made the relationship between us closer and meaningful. Despite all this, the mind still longs for a pandemic free world where we can live without restrictions.

**MS. LINTA SEBASTIAN,**  
(Mother of Michael Davis Joseph Class IV D)

## THOUGHTFULNESS OF YOUNG PATRICIANS



The students of SPAB expressed their love and respect towards their teachers by presenting them their portraits on the occasion of Teachers' Day. Thanks to the talented Patricians - Master Saksham Kumar IXC, Miss Sara Varghese (VIII A) and Miss Inchara Muthamma B.J. (VIII A). The teachers were touched with this beautiful gesture. They expressed their gratitude and blessed them.



Merry.....  
CHRISTMAS  
designed @ royalbluegraphics





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## WE BID YOU ADIEU DEAR BRO.TOMY VARGHESE

Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other. Rev. Bro. Tomy Varghese exhibited rare qualities of Integrity, Insight, and Inclusiveness as essential qualities of leadership. We must agree to the fact that a genuine leader makes a great impact and influence over the people immensely. Although Bro. Tomy had a short stint at SPAB, his towering presence, constant support, and inspiring words as a supportive mentor worked wonders for many. He could establish a great connection with senior students and continued to inspire them.

A short meeting was conducted to thank him for empowering the teachers and students. We prayed as it is the key that unlocks all the storehouses of God's infinite grace and power. Brother was an asset to the institution. Team SPAB could have achieved a lot under his leadership and guidance. However, we definitely missed a wonderful experience of working with an inspirational leader like him. Coordinators and many teachers came forward to express their gratitude and acknowledge his endowment to bring positive vibes to the workplace. We're sorry to see you depart, but we're excited for your career advancement with this transfer. We wish you Good Luck in all your future endeavors. Best wishes dear Bro. Tomy Varghese.

### AS WE BID FAREWELL - REFLECTIONS AND BEYOND



"It was a rare blessing to work with a principal who has a dynamic personality like Brother Tomy. When I look at him, all I see is a positive aura and a source of energy. We at SPAB were blessed to work with such a personality. It was a short stay, yet you managed to impart so much knowledge to us all. Thank you, Brother. Wishing you all the best for the future."

**Ms. Charlene Scaife**

"Dear Bro. Tomy Varghese, you are a dynamic principal. Thank you so much for boosting my confidence. You are so welcoming and motivating.



I am grateful to you for appointing me as the cultural committee coordinator. I consider this as a wonderful opportunity. You will be dearly missed. God bless you with all the success in your future endeavours."

**Ms. Nilofer Kasbekar**

"Dear Brother, Your departure reminds us that dreams are often short lived. The knowledge that you shared with us and the learning you bought cannot be compared with anything. You have been a true and amazing leader to us. You were always the seeker, the achiever. So, may your dreams remain big and your obstacles minor. Wishing you all the very best"

**Ms. Kamalika Bhattacharya**

"There was never a dull moment when you were around in the Campus. Your spirit lifts us always to work hard. Thank you Brother Tomy"

**Mr. Satish Rao D**

Dear Brother, A Principal like you was surely an asset to our school. On your farewell, we are sure that you will be remembered for your guidance, leadership and friendly behaviour. Your presence in the campus will surely be missed dearly. Wishing you the very best for your life ahead as the institution you will go to is truly blessed.

**Ms. Rachel Erika Xavier**

It was an unhappy moment for SPAB to bid adieu to Rev. Brother Tomy Varghese, who is moving on to take up another venture. His term here was short, but he has left a lasting impression. Being a true leader and a motivator, he guided us to work together as a team for the amelioration of our

school. We, the SPAB family, wish him lots of luck for all his future endeavours.

**Ms. Jasmine Bino Mathavath**

Brother Tomy Varghese came across to me as a man with vision. He has plans both remote and proximate to build up an institution. He with his availability and all-pervading presence had created a positive impact on all - the staff, the parents and the students. I wish him the very best on my own personal behalf. "A leader is one who knows the way, shows the way and more importantly goes the way". Bro. Tomy was such a person.

**Ms. Lucy Jacob Kavungal, SrSchool Co-ordinator**







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## THANK YOU NOTE FROM CLASS XII

Dear Brother Tomy,

“Thank you Brother for your constant support and encouragement. You were approachable. Your love and kindness towards students transformed them. The regular visit to each class gave a positive energy in the campus. We are grateful to you...”

**Asha Ninan,**  
Class Teacher, Class XII.

“Thank you for all the support and encouragement that you have given us during this time while being a part of our SPAB Bangalore family!!”

**Nyra Correia, Student of class XII.**

“Thank u brother for helping us throughout our exam”

**Mainak Saha, Student of Class XII.**

Brother, Hope you find success, enlightenment and good health in all your future pursuits....

**Kirk Lenka Fernandez, Student of Class XII.**

“Thank you for your support and guidance”

**Tom P. Chacko, Student of class XII.**

“Thank you for all that you have done for us”

**Ankush Bhat, Student of class XII.**

“Thank you brother.. You were kind to us and helped us”.

**Saket Ram Kumar Dondapati, Student of class XII.**



ISC CLASS XII 2020-2022 BATCH WITH  
BROTHER TOMY VARGHESE



## WELCOME REV.BRO.GEORGE JOSEPH, THE NEW PRINCIPAL,SPAB

Rev. Bro. George Joseph was accorded a grand welcome by the teaching and the administrative community as the new principal of SPAB. He is a well experienced academician and a visionary with a cheerful personality. He, in his interaction with the staff on 22nd December 2021, said that he would be carrying out the plans and visions of the previous principal, Bro. Tomy Varghese, and would introduce innovative ideas to take the school to the next level. The new Principal will take charge on 1st Jan 2022. We wish him the very best and hope he stays long to see his dreams bear fruit.

