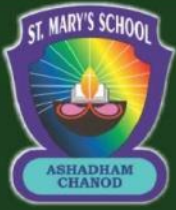
The image features a central yellow rectangular area framed by red, glossy curtains with gold tassels at the bottom. The text is centered within the yellow area.

*St. Mary's School, Chanod, Vapi,  
recently unveiled its e-magazine 'Chimes'  
by Mrs. Hemlata Marballi*

*As the print edition of the magazine  
could not be published this year due to the Corona Pandemic,  
the School decided to convert the publication into a digital one.*



# ST. MARY'S SCHOOL CHANOD



## ANNUAL MAGAZINE 2020-21



## Editorial



I am overwhelmed to be a part of the School Magazine – CHIMES 2020-21. Our theme is : BE THE SUNSHINE! It has been a unique experience for me. A magazine plays an important role in channelizing the budding talents of our writers and artists and helps in encouraging their skills. It's an august moment for our St. Mary's School to include the achievements, amazing projects of our ex- students in our school magazine.

The School magazine is a historical document of the growth of the School. This valuable publication is the opportunity that students require to show their creativity. Even during this pandemic, our enthusiastic students have co-operated and participated in the various sections of Chimes through online sources.

It has been a year filled with sorrows and joys, triumphs and defeats; a year filled with lessons life has taught us and a year filled with acknowledging the importance of our health. We look ahead with renewed hope and new life to another wonderful period of imbibing both knowledge and values and acquiring relevant education that will make us better human beings.

I feel proud to declare that with the support and dedicated efforts of our Principal, staff members and students, we are able to present Chimes 2020-21.

Hope all you readers will find Chimes very informative and entertaining.

Good wishes to everyone and Happy Reading!

Tr. Dimple Chaudhari



## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Dear Sr. Maria Angela, Staff and Students,

I am happy to learn that St. Mary's School, Chanod, is bringing out their issue 'Chimes' this year and the main theme is 'Be The Sunshine'.

On this happy occasion, I would like to congratulate the Principal, Staff and students for all their efforts in bringing out this issue of "Chimes". The topic chosen is very apt in the present situation. The impact of the pandemic COVID-19 is observed in every sector around the world. The education sectors of India as well as the world are badly affected by this pandemic. It has enforced a world-wide lock-down creating adverse effects on the students' life. Around 32 crore learners have stopped to move to schools/colleges and all educational activities have almost come to a halt in India. The education sector has been fighting to survive the crises with a different approach through digital learning. In one way, Covid 19 has given us an opportunity to be creative and find alternatives. Online classes are helping to some extent; but then thousands of children in the remote villages cannot cope up with education due to lack of internet facilities, smart phone facilities. We need to reflect and see how we can be the Sunshine for those who are groping in the dark.

I am sure the thoughts and reflections shared by the students and staff in this magazine, will help to promote thinking and finding solutions to the problems faced by students due to Covid 19.

Once again, I congratulate the Principal, Staff and students for all the efforts put in despite the pandemic and I wish you success in all your endeavours.

Yours sincerely,

Fr. Hilario Fernandes sfx  
Provincial Superior  
Mumbai Province.  
Society of Pilar.

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION



I am very happy to know that St. Mary's School, Chanod, Vapi, is bringing out an e-magazine 'Chimes'.

The theme "Be The Sunshine" is very apt and will act as an important channel in the School's vision of equipping the students with knowledge, skills and values to face the challenges of life with conviction, especially during this Corona Pandemic.

'Chimes' speaks of the academic prowess of the School and the dedicated commitment of the staff members under the leadership of the then Manager, Fr. Tony Lopes and the Principal, Sr. Maria Angela.

I compliment each one of you for initiating this move towards an e-magazine, which is the need of the hour.

Fr. Diego Gama  
Director of Education  
Mumbai Province  
Society of Pilar.

## MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER



Dear Marian Families,

It is a matter of great pride that St. Mary's School, Chanod, releases yet another edition of 'Chimes', this being an e-magazine. This edition is special, given the fact that the normal running of the school was impeded by the Corona Pandemic. The teachers have worked very hard to impart digital learning to our students. Our parents have also collaborated to adapt to the digital platform.

I'm happy that our School excels in curricular and co-curricular activities in order to impart a holistic education. Despite the unprecedented situation in the wake of Covid-19, our entire faculty has left no stone unturned in order to tap the potentials of our students and to ensure a bright and meaningful future for them.

I compliment the Principal, each and every member of the staff and students as well, for your dedication, commitment, loyalty and enthusiasm during this Pandemic. I assure you and your families of my prayerful support. My prayers also extend to those of you who have lost your loved ones.

May we all strive to be a Sunshine to the needy and the helpless!

Wishing you all the very best ! May you chime goodness at every moment!

Fr. Tony Lopes, sfx.  
Manager

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Marian Families,

My eyes behold the verdant grassy carpet that can be viewed from the window of my office, and it tells me that when you can't find Sunshine, 'Be The Sunshine'. Yes, as Randi Fine says: "Hope is the promise that anything is possible." Although our world is beset with the Corona Pandemic, it has not deterred us from having hope. Our teaching faculty has risen to the challenge of re-imagining the traditional classroom learning with the online mode of teaching, so as to provide uninterrupted access to education and knowledge. Let us thank God for all His graces!

We are very much saddened by the loss of some dear ones and we pray that their souls may rest in peace! Let us continue to pray for one another and for the entire world family that we remain safe and healthy! This challenging situation has indeed enabled us to build foundations of resilience and positive thinking in order to cope up with stress and loss.

God's message of love is being proclaimed throughout the world. Miracles are taking place in hospitals and nursing homes where kind-hearted and dedicated people strive to save lives and share God's goodness with others. Your smile and reaching out a hand to help another can work wonders. Doing what you can, here and now, with what is available to you, has a deep and positive impact all around you.

Our tenthies and twelfthies were preparing to answer their Board Exam with much seriousness. But due to the Pandemic situation, things turned out to be different for them. We will miss the twelfthies much, but we realize that we are here – to guide them and help them move on in life. Many of these students will never come back here again. They are moving on for further educational opportunities and we are saddened that they are leaving us. But we have to let God take over from here. We trust that God will continue to lead them in their next journey of life. Farewell and God bless you!



It takes a lot of work to keep the “Chimes” moving . We appreciate the hard work of the Editor, Tr. Dimple Chaudhari and team, for the second edition of ‘Chimes’.

As you glean through the pages, may you realize that your life is God’s gift to you. All that you have and all that you are is part of the gift - your time, your education, your wealth, your influence, your mind, your creativity. It’s all a trust. And it matters what you do with all of that because your life matters to God. And so does everyone’s life.

Hence, let everything you say or do, may it chime beautiful music to others, so that they may forget their pain or sorrows, at least for a while. Let others see the best in you! Be the Sunshine!!!

God bless you!

Sr. Maria Angela, sfn.  
Principal

*Education is not preparation for life;  
education is life itself. (John Dewey)*





*MARIAN ETHOS*



## ***ON BEING A MARIAN***

St. Mary's School is our second home, bonded with a silky yet strong thread of love, care and support. I have completed 12 years in this School and everything feels like yesterday. The first day of school, the first friends, the initial bickering and so much more. This place gave me a lot more apart from just knowledge. The unforgettable myriad memories, my second parents, I refer as teachers, my best friends and a lovely bond I shared with all the teachers in this campus.

Memories are a part and parcel of everyone's life. How will I ever be able to forget those little reminders, laughter, incomplete books, the excitement of P.T. `period, superfluous pranks and giggles, the prolonged "Good Morning Teacher and Thank you Teacher" we sang. The Marian Anthem fills me with deep pride every time I recollect these moments.

As a Marian, since the beginning of my education journey, I can say that the atmosphere here is really light, making it a really warm and comfortable place for everyone, always giving us the vibes of being at home. Being Marian-educated has made me disciplined, self aware, confident and respectful towards everyone. It makes me so proud to think that I have studied in one of the very best Institutions, in terms of facilities, teaching methodology and vast opportunities provided to every tutee.

Not only have I gained knowledge, but have learned life-lessons here. Having been the Captain of the Blue House for a year, made me learn how to work in a team, how to lead and how to create good relations with others and I'm thankful for this opportunity. I would never have been what I am now, if I were not a Marian.

On certain rare occasions, I was able to observe my Respected and Favourite Principal, Sr. Maria Angela. I think what makes her really appreciable is how she is firm with the discipline, yet, so friendly and pleasant towards us. I loved how she would personally take even little issues in her hand and handled them so calmly but responsibly. The way she respects and cares for everyone, be they students, teachers, non teaching staff or parents, makes her more amiable in her relationships. I would like to use the adjective "flawless" to describe her personality.



I feel she is a keen observer, considering how she perpetually searches for new talents in us, motivates everyone and encourages us to do our very best. She possesses a very high degree of skills in English language and encourages us to sharpen our skills as well.

I admire the way Rev. Sister puts in so much effort in everything, making things seem effortless and perfect, without even gasping for once. She, however, discourages anything that is perfunctory and tries to make us responsible persons. Her attitudes of - ***never give up, always do your very best, trust in God, be a person of higher values, aim higher and respect everyone*** - have galvanized me a lot. Rev. Sister has taken our School to a greater height. She often emphasizes on Quality Education and Self-Discipline. Time and again, she has encouraged us to have a goal, to learn to manage our time and resources. Whenever Rev. Sister would visit our classroom, it would warm up our hearts and keep our minds alert to receive important tips for life. Her short talks during the School Assemblies were very informative and enlightening.

The Marian family has taught me that family is not always blood-related but it's all about caring, commitment, enthusiasm and team spirit. "Together we Learn, Achieve and Care" is a wonderful motto chosen for our School.

I would also like to share about how my teachers work so hard to see that we achieve success and they also have a caring attitude towards the weaker or slow learners. Some even sacrifice their time just to complete our syllabus. I have seen them smiling brightly, hiding all their problems just to keep us going on. Their smiles always encouraged me to be joyful. The Marian teachers never have 'the favourite student' thing and always told us that we are unique. They keep boosting our confidence. They always reminded us that we are perfect the way we are and I'm so thankful to each one of them for this. They taught me that it's okay to have flaws but I need to work on them and improve upon. I'm also thankful to the non-teaching staff for their hard work and dedication.

A plethora of times, I wonder how fortuitous I was to be a part of the Marian family. I burgeoned everyday here. Being educated at St. Mary's was a blessing for me. I feel blessed!

I am and I will always take pride in being a part of this beautiful Marian family. I'll forever feel very proud to say I was a Marian even in the forthcoming future.

May I cherish this pride and love forever in my heart. May this Family forever remain healthy, joyful and dedicated!

Anchal Sengupta

X – B



*SPECIAL FEATURES*



## ***IMPACT OF COVID -19 ON EDUCATION***

' Beautiful indeed is the Vocation of all those who help parents in fulfilling their duties and who, as a representative of the human community, undertake education with qualities of mind and heart with continuing readiness to renew and to adapt'.

### **Gravissimum Educationis**

Some touching imprints on the childhood minds are always everlasting. I remember with nostalgia an indelible memory of an incident related to me by my mother many years ago. She being of orthodox and unscientific thought pattern said to me that when I was in her womb, there was an epidemic of small pox and we were affected by it. She would regularly go to the Church and pray for healing on her knees right from the Entrance to the Sanctuary through the intercession of Mother of Perpetual Succor. We were healed without any medical treatment. We absolutely believed that it was a miraculous cure.

Now, Be that as it may, the Covid-19 Corona Virus Pandemic, is perhaps the greatest disaster of the millennium which has shaken the edifice of humanity from its very foundations, as never before.

Its onslaught on human lives, jobs, economy, travels, security, safety, students, teaching fraternity, and Education has been alarming, as thousands have succumbed to the deadly Corona Virus.

### ***A – The Negative Impact of Covid – 19 : The Melange of Melancholy.***

One universal and painfully poignant melancholy of the time on our beloved Mother India is the gripping invisible attack of Covid-19 Pandemic . And this unprecedented mélange of unfathomable despair and destruction has plunged us all, from the past hopeful optimism, into a deep valley of hopelessness in every field, more so in the field and stream of Education.

#### **1. The Universal lockdown closed Educational Institutes :**

The fearful pouncing attack on humankind, rendered all the Educational institutions to be closed, with repeated lockdowns nearly 7 times, creating uncertainty among parents and children . So much that to get food provisions for minimum daily survival, was totally at stake. People surrendered themselves in faith to God for their miraculous protection, for security and safety, with tears and woes, perhaps, incomparable in human history, down the ages.



## **2.The Unexpected Death of the Countless :**

The Corona virus Pandemic has caused countless deaths in 216 countries. The discussion about death has become a daily occurrence in numerous families. Many people were unable to say goodbye to their loved ones and couldn't even perform their mourning rituals. The merciless wave of the cruel Corona Virus has inflicted harsh wounds on many people. Many Heads of Educational institutions and the Managerial Administrators of schools, colleges and other corporate centers had fearfully become stark frozen, not knowing what steps could be taken next, at any point of time.

## **3. Covid – 19 Frontline Warriors in Distant - Quarantine :**

While many of us were largely confined to our homes doctors, health-care workers & medical staff members were & are leading the battle against Covid-19 from the front. Putting their lives at risk with selfless commitment to save lives, they truly are our warriors and heroes. Parental duties in hospitals and subsequent quarantine have made their children feel deserted and have deprived them of timely parental guidance. This has created a sense of fear and insecurity among children and even a kind of anger and disrespect. Children need to be reassured of their security & loved ones.

## **4. People fleeing for Safety and Security.**

Another negative impact of the pandemic was many were fleeing for survival from the affected areas. This was the pathetic situation of the migrants going to their native lands, on whatever, they could hold on to reach, even by walk, to distant miles. Hence, their children's education and the bread winners job was an unthought-of reality far in the horizon. Some have not yet returned to any education and learning, at their alma mater.

## **5. Mothers and little children tearfully ostracized :**

The brutal Covid — 19 had ostracized the little kindergarten children from their beloved mothers who were affected positively by the dreaded virus.

A touching whatsapp picture was made viral of a little child brought by her daddy on motor cycle to the hospital where the mother was being treated, to meet her. But due to the distancing dismay both the mother and the child could send, only actions and messages of kissing and missing. The onlookers had unspoken tears in their eyes dripping, It was a painful pondering effect and Impact on the child and her childhood learning.



## **6. A Lack of Network and Non-Availability of accessories :**

There were many similar negative impacts of the pandemic, some students could not attend online teaching learning classes, due to the lack of network in their remote areas and also due to the privation of the pecuniary resources, since bread earners had lost their jobs, Hence education became for them, only a chimeric wish.

## ***B – The Positive Impact of Covid – 19 on Education :***

Though dark clouds were floating above in the sky, with uncertain esoteric fears of the unknown, Known, yet, there appeared inadvertent silver linings of positive impact of Covid-19 on education.

### **1.The Pandemic has crushed the supremacy of Pride :**

In the global catastrophe of the day, everyone felt insecure due to human inability and helplessness gaping at deaths in every continent. In every profession, among the educated or not , the rich or poor realized that we are finite and weak, that we are subservient to the mighty powers of the omnipotent God. In simple words the pandemic has crushed the supreme of one's pride.

### **2.The true love of family bonds was experienced as never before :**

No sooner was the lockdown imposed, than the slogans to stay home stay safe' was the clarion call. Parents and older siblings taught and educated, their younger brothers and sisters in various talent, developments, music, art and craft, and so on. And most importantly , the members of family experienced the struggles of joy and difficulties of each other, and learnt to grow in care and concern for one other. It was Education for a life time.

### **3.Online teaching and learning became the order of the day :**

Introducing Computer Education to India way back in 1986 with the New Education Policy of the then late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, was a land-mark visionary thought, that digitalized and computerized India. This could now be achieved by educating our students during this pandemic with great ease of safety and security . This venture was the Savior of the century.

#### **4. Impact on the Examination system :**

A change was envisaged from the traditional correction method to the digital assessment. The older pen and paper approach was changed to digital online assessment approach by which there could be quick grading, due to the specific software used. This brought in a new trend of e-portfolios, thus, specific software used, which brought in new trend of e-portfolios, thus ushering in systemization in the arena of Education.

#### **5. The Block Chain Tech:**

This method of computer technology crawled in an Education's teaching-learning system slowly but surely as a safety measure system which has allowed knowledge and information gathered to be disseminated when needed but it cannot be copied. Hence, every student's marks or degree was certainly under accurate evaluation and validation. In other words a block chain e-line technology helped to keep safe all the students' panegyrics gathered in grading their achievements.

#### **6.The emergence of 'Personalized Learning'.**

During the undulating situation of the variant population, it was not possible for the schools and teachers to focus on the students in the classroom system as was in normal times. For this reason, with the help of the latest digital gadget tech, and the use of internet and television, the personalized teaching through technology, come to the rescue, through which teaching and explanation could reach to the nooks and corners of homes, and hamlets. Besides, the Educational Institutions could conduct any required online exams, evaluations, and assessment and declare results with ease and precision.

Thus, we not only have to concentrate on our streams of subjects, but intently learn the blessings of the impact of the new pattern of the digital system on Education for a better tomorrow.

**Fr.Lawrence Fernandes, sfx.**

Asst.Parish Priest, O.L.Vailankani Church





### *Cute Kindergartens*

Hain Ginott says, “Children are like wet cement. Whatever falls on them, makes an impression”.

Children reflect the Divine. Their innocence, selflessness, curiosity, truthfulness and spontaneity reveal their heavenly personality. It is said that a mother is every child’s first teacher but what about their first teacher at school? Actually, they are like their mothers, friends and guardians.

It is the teacher who recognizes and nourishes the untapped potential of the pupils beside inculcating moral values in them. In the initial days of the academic year, they search for their mother’s love to get adapted to the school’s environment. The co-curricular activities such as poem recitation, story enactment, dance, music, games - both indoor and outdoor, bring out their inner talents. This makes them confident and encourages them to participate in competitions. Our students have consistently displayed their talents and potentials by participating in various Inter-School Competitions.

Their innocent imagination and questioning makes us alert and to be more creative. Their presence fills the classroom with laughter and joy. They enjoy making rangolis, decorating the Christmas tree and dancing garba. Eating fruit salad on Fruit Days and planting saplings on the Green Day create excitement and joy for them.

It is rightly said that no child is sluggish. He/ She is good at something or the other which is yet undiscovered. This responsibility lies on us and on parents. Kindergarten sets the base for future endeavours.

I feel fortunate to share my knowledge and experience with these little champs.

**Tr. Vidhya**

## *Reflections*



The saga of a child is a masterpiece of the Omnipotent and Omniscient God who is Omnipresent. Every child is exalted in this sanctorum at St. Mary's High School, Chanod, situated in the lap of nature. It stands firm, imparting knowledge individually to each and every child in a special and unique way.

The prizes bagged by the children in the field of academics, sports and extra-curricular activities make our hearts swell with pride. Our School is an array of colours as it is divided into four Houses - Red, Green, Yellow and Blue. It is interesting to see all the four Houses competing in the Inter-House Competitions keeping everyone on their toes, thus, inculcating within every child a spirit of competition. Latent talent is unearthed and the School prepares students for varied Competitions, It is bewitching to see the students enter the lime light with ease and walk away with trophies. The academic side of the picture too flaunts meritorious successes year after year.

Celebrating important days and events captivate the hearts of the audience and receive a lot of appreciation. It is overwhelming to experience St. Mary's School celebrate all the festivals, thus, imbining within its students a deep sense of equality and venerating traditions.

It has been a great experience to be a part of this great Institution with such an enthusiastic, inspiring and vibrant Management with moral instructions and discipline, creating implicit faith in service to humanity.

**Sir Robby Gonsalves**

*"If there is no struggle, there is no progress."*

### ***How Has COVID-19 Affected Our***



Covid-19 has rapidly impacted our life, business, education, transport, tourism and entertainment and has disrupted the world trade. It has slowed down the global economy and has led to a crisis of unemployment. This global pandemic has affected millions of people, who are either dead or fighting to stop the spread of this global disease.

This being a new viral disease, affecting humans for the first time, and with vaccines are limited in availability, it has affected the education sector very deeply. It has enforced lock-down in schools and educational activities. Our schools have been trying out new approaches to digitize teaching methods. We have come to realize that technology plays a vital role in the educational system in the current situation. Despite the challenges of limited internet access and electricity, we are learning actively through various remote learning methods. Some parents feel frustrated in having to home-school their children without adequate preparation. Everything seems to have changed.

The habits that COVID-19 has inculcated in us should last forever - like washing of hands, wearing a mask. We are now much more concerned about our health. Greeting each other with handshakes and hugs are no more in fashion now. The pandemic has affected the entire food system and has decimated jobs and placed millions of livelihood at risk.

We need to re-think the future of our environment and tackle climate change and environmental degradation with ambition and urgency. Only then can we protect the health, livelihood, food security and nutrition of all people, and ensure that our 'new normal' is a better one.

**Urmi Bhut**

**X- A**

## *Virtual Learning*



Virtual learning is a learning experience that is enhanced through utilising computer or the internet, both outside and inside the facility of the educational organisation. Virtual learning provides various channels such as mail, online chat and video conferences through which students and instructors can interact with each other.

Virtual learning is opted these days due to the lockdown. It is beneficial to an extent because it does not require waking up early. One can study in a comfortable manner. Virtual learning offers a good substitute to classroom learning in the time of emergency but it cannot replace the classroom. Whereas classroom learning still remains the main option as discipline can be taught through it and it is a better mode of imparting education and knowledge. Both virtual learning and class room lessons have their own importance. In these times of pandemic, virtual learning is more important so that the education of children is not hindered. It has both advantages and disadvantages.

Virtual learning is accessible to anyone who has a computer, tablet or a smart phone with better broadband internet connections. Classrooms are important as the children sit together and concentrate on a particular topic. They are able to learn new skills in such an environment and the teacher has their full attention.



Virtual learning can usually take place at a time that is convenient for the student. There is no longer any need to be in a classroom at a specific time or specific date. There is no actual human communication involved. The virtual environment can make you feel a little lonely if you need clarification on any topic. It's not instantly available as it would be if a teacher were present whom you can still ask for clarification in a virtual learning situation. But the answer may be delayed due to online availability of the person who could answer your question. A virtual classroom is only as good as the technology behind it. In a virtual classroom, sometimes the connection fails or something can go wrong with the electronic gadget. It takes some time to repair the gadget. Yet, I think classrooms are better than virtual classrooms.

Sonu Yadav  
XI- Science

*"The truly rich are those who enjoy what they have."*

## *Prayer*



The first thing that comes to our mind, when we think of prayer is purity, devotion, protection and blessings. Prayer eliminates negativity and adds positivity to our minds. Technology still lags behind when it is compared to the power of prayer.

So pray for your dear ones, be good to others, be kind and helpful. This pandemic has taught us how important it is to care for one another and to pray. When faced with difficulties and our prayers remain unanswered, our faith slackens. But prayer is not a technique of escape from difficulties. It is rather a stimulus to growth in the very face of difficulties.

We must have a deep faith in God, a living and practical faith. This faith should help us to enhance the meaning of life and to find the purpose of our life. This meaning and purpose should be connected with higher values of wisdom. Or else, one may tend to linger in the pursuit of lower values simply to satisfy our basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, power, education and wealth.

Someone has rightly said that Prayer is the link that connects us with God. Isn't it wonderful to communicate with the Divine, to be in the company of the Divine and to match our thoughts with that of the Divine?

Pray sincerely and you will find peace. Pray and you will find joy. Pray and you will be a loving person. Your life will become meaningful.

“Oh Lord, you are great!  
You have created everything for us.  
We are your children and you love us very much.  
Thank you for loving us despite our sins.  
Forgive us, Lord, and teach us to do the right thing.  
Let our words and actions bring honour to your name.  
Lord, bless us and heal us.”

Tr. Sushmita Ganguly



# *SKILLING*

## *Children...*



Born as a seed of humanity,  
Got to be known as the model of sanity  
A miracle I created,  
To whom my soul got connected  
Teaching them all about life,  
To overcome the human strife  
Telling them to walk miles.  
But always with a smile  
Trying to be child's savior,  
Teaches them the life's barrier  
Children are the unavoidable inspiration  
On whom I could feel my reflection.  
It's good to give a child, the best inheritance  
It's cool to give a child, the wings of independence

You will always be my baby  
Even though you are eighty,  
Or even got a lady  
You are my treasure.  
Make my occasion pleasure  
Your love lasts forever.

**Tr. P. Shanti Selvan**

*"It's not about perfect. It's about effort."*





## *Children Are Our Treasure*

Children are our treasure,  
They give us pleasure,

Their smiles glisten our eyes,  
Their gestures fill our minds  
They love us innocently.

God's grace mirrors in their face  
God's love reflects in their eyes  
They give happiness to the world  
Their babblings light up our minds.

Every child is a gift of God  
Unique and charming in every way.  
Their sense of wonder and interest  
Fill the world with joy and excitement.

Children are our treasures  
Treasure them with love and joy.

**Tr. Suma Shashikumar**

*"Sometime you will never know the value of a moment,  
Until it becomes a memory."*

## *SAVE - NATURE*



Trees and seas, mountains and plains,  
Make the world so wonderful and great.  
Butterflies and ducks, Eagles and kangaroos.  
Make the world so beautiful and gay.  
Rocks and caverns, brooks and oceans,  
Make the world so colorful and vibrant.  
Whales and lions, snow and rain,  
Make the world so pulsating and lively.

Do your bit to save Mother Earth.  
Don't break her heart with your greed.  
Each one plant a tree for the bees  
Don't throw the plastic into the seas.  
Save the seas from mindless pollution  
Save the Earth from insane destruction.

Be attuned to Mother Earth,  
her heartbeat and breath,  
And you will feel harmony within,  
Internal rhythms that induce joy and peace.

Humans play with nature  
And destroy the whole creature  
Stop polluting water and air  
Bring solution and be aware.

**Shivani Kawa**  
**XI Commerce**

## *Life is a Garden*



Beautiful hearts are the gardens,  
Beautiful words are the roots,  
Beautiful thoughts are the flowers,  
Beautiful deeds are the fruits.

Take care of your garden  
And pull out the weeds,  
Fill it with sunshine  
and water with care.

**Pooja Bhanushali –  
VI – B**

*“The secret of getting ahead is getting started.”*



## ***NEVER GIVE UP***



**NEVER  
GIVE  
UP**

A hope which makes us feel proud  
of being average,  
A hope which makes us stand boldly  
in front of problems,  
A hope which makes us believe we  
can do it,  
A hope which makes us rise to do  
something great.

Life is full of mountains,  
Some big, some small.  
If you keep on going,  
You will make it to the top.

**Abhay Nishad**  
**XI - Science**

*“A little progress each day adds up to big results.”*

## *THE PANDEMIC DAYS....*



Cities are locked, streets are quiet  
Against the enemy untold.  
We can't go to malls, nor to waterfalls  
Because the virus is a scare.

If you have to go out, think twice  
Wear your mask, be sanitized.  
And wash your hands thrice and more.

Scientists and doctors protect us  
Making the situation stable and right  
Follow the protocols  
To save the world from this virus.

A salute to doctors, nurses and frontline warriors  
With whose aid the world can be sustained.  
They have put themselves at risk and danger  
To make the world a better place.

Thank you for your tenderness and care  
Which you share with people of all cultures  
For all your kindness and sacrifices  
We sincerely say 'God bless you'!

**Mahek Shaikh**  
**VII – A**



## ***PATIENCE***



I once heard an old man say:  
“Arranging things going to pray-  
Giving in my hands one dime old.  
Listen son, good things take time.”

Kept thinking about this the whole day;  
My heart wanted these words to obey.  
When I got the work which was tough;  
I sat on the chair which was rough.

I thought I would do it,  
Even though I would be unfit.  
And after days, with God’s grace,  
And you know without doubt,  
Good things did come about.

**Nirmal Das**  
**X- B**

*“No matter what the situation, remind yourself "I have a choice”*

## रक्तदान ही श्रेष्ठदान



एकबूंद, एकजीवन  
एकजीवन, एकपरिवार  
एकपरिवार, एकसंसार  
एकजग, पूराविश्व  
कहनेकोतोहैरक्तदान  
परंतुकिसीकेजीवनकाश्रेष्ठदान  
रक्तदानहीजीवनदान  
कहनेकोतोहेरक्तदान  
संसारकाश्रेष्ठादान  
एकबूंदरक्त;  
जीवनकादान !

- Shreya Behera  
IX -B

*“A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat,  
determination and hard work”*

## શિક્ષકની વ્યથા

મારી શાળાના વિદ્યાર્થી રૂપી પંખી ઊડી ગયાં,  
વ્હાલ સોયા શિક્ષકોને માળાં માંજ છોડી ગયાં,  
દિવસ, અઢવાડિયા મહિના વિતતા ગયાં,  
મહામારીની સ્થિતિ માં ધરેથી જ જ્ઞાન પ્રાપ્ત કરતાં ગયાં.  
મિત્રો છોડી પરિવાર સાથે સમય વિતાવતા ગયાં,  
ધરે અને માંના બનાવેલ ભોજનનો આંન દલેતા ગયાં,  
ધરે રહી રામાયણનાં રામને જાણતાં થયાં,  
સાથે મળી મહાભારતના પાત્રને ઓળખતા થયાં,  
મહામારીની સ્થિતિ માં ધરેથી જ જ્ઞાન પ્રાપ્ત કરતા ગયાં.  
નવા સત્રનું નવું શિક્ષણ કાર્ય શૂરું થયું,  
શાળાનાં મેદાન વિદ્યાર્થી વિના ખાલી હતા,  
સ્વતંત્ર દિન માં મધૂર દેશ ભકિતનાં સૂરોના સંભળાયા.  
શિક્ષકોની એ જ અભિલાષા .  
સુના પડેલ વર્ગખંડ માં વિદ્યાર્થી હોય,  
ખાલી પડેલ શાળાનું મેદાન હસતું થાય,  
દસ મહિનાથી સૂની પડેલ શાળામાં.  
વિદ્યાર્થી રૂપી ઊડી ગયેલ પંખીની રાહમાં .....

- Tr. Khushbu Patel





*VIEW POINT*



### ***Covid-19 and Education***

Covid-19 Pandemic has been one of the major disrupters of normal life for the world. Each and every sector of our daily lives has been hit by this pandemic crisis. Every person has been affected in one way or the other. The education sector which is to be uncompromising is also severely hit. The departure from normal and standard modes of imparting education to an online or virtual mode has had a lot of negative effects on students as well as teachers. While online education is seen as an alternative or a contingency plan for the pandemic, the very idea of online education is built on the assumption that everyone is having the privilege of access to smart phones and other digital technology. While some students found it relatively convenient to shift to online mode, there are many students on the other side of the spectrum, who don't have access to the required technologies to access education - a basic right which even the constitution provides. This is the first and foremost negative impact of the pandemic on the students.

Covid-19 has made education more inaccessible to many of the students. The digital / online mode of education has a lot of health impact for students increasing screen time for similar duration of physical classes, severe eye and head strain for both the teachers and students. It has been observed that compared to the normal mode of learning, online mode propels everyone to do more than what is required. This adds to the strain and pressure to the individual as mental capacity has been one of the most important components which has been neglected for a long time. The Pandemic has taken a toll on the mental well-being of the individuals.

At, we look at the effects of Covid-19 on education, we also need to look at the positive side Digital learning has made it possible to learn from home. This is a good coping mechanism in case any such future disaster or crisis occurs. We have a standard blue print ready, at the same time, students have a possibility of learning other skills which they like. Thus, everything is not dark or bad as we expected. The Covid-19 is one of the water shade moments in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The sheer intensity of the crisis is really large. At such a crucial juncture, it is really important for everyone to cooperate, coordinate, work compassionately and understanding each other.

**Tr. Suma Sasikumar**



## A Pearl Of Great Price

The best gift that teachers could give to their students in return for their love, appreciation and gratitude towards them is a Pearl of Great Price that no oyster can make, no money can buy. Teachers can mould and shape students with love, care and concern.

The acronym 'Pearl' could be symbolized as follows :

- P- Positive Self Image- can be strengthened by messages 'You can' and 'You will'.
- E- Encouragement- using encouraging remarks 'You will make it', 'Well done! I am proud of you'.
- A- Appreciation – elevates, encourages, builds and strengthens.
- R- Right Values- Values of honesty, kindness, respect, integrity, obedience, punctuality, sharing, cleanliness, caring and responsibility moulds one's character.
- L- Love – the most powerful force of life. It guides us in a positive light and brings meaning to our lives. It can be made tangible and real through encouragement, patience, thoughtful acts, caring and sharing.

I believe this is the best treasure we, teachers, can bequeath to our students so that they can cherish it for life!

**-Tr. Vidya Rao**

## My Experience of Teaching in St. Mary's School



I feel happy to pen down my experience to be a part of St. Mary's School. Even though I joined recently, I was involved in many activities. The Principal and Staff members are very supportive and polite. The smooth and systematic working makes me feel comfortable.

Firstly, I got many opportunities to improve my reading and writing skills. Secondly, teaching different grades in an innovative method has helped me to stretch my skills and grow professionally. I am learning that a teacher is a teacher for everyone. It is more opportune to teach optional subjects which create a lot of vibrancy and lighten the mind.

Thirdly, I'm learning to maintain records and be as systematic as possible. Moreover, I look forward to learning many more things and to use my skills as much as possible.

The various co-curricular activities enable me to be creative; so too the values to be practiced on a monthly basis. It enables me to tune myself spiritually as well.

I pray that all who come to St. Mary's may receive the blessings of Mother Mary.

**Tr. Reetu**



*GUEST STAR*



## **Tr. Ketki Pandya**

“As I retire, I am taking many of you with me. You will live in my memories. I’ll always remember the things we achieved together: the many successful plays we had put up, the time we spent in learning and during the annual concerts.”

These impressive words are from none other than Tr. Ketki Pandya who retired in October 2020.

We present to you a glimpse of her mighty chunk of life which she dedicated to St. Mary’s School for the past 26 years.

Q1. What was your proudest moment in the School?

❖ Firstly, I will say that being a teacher in this Institution itself gave me a great sense of satisfaction. When a former student acknowledges me, I feel I have made an impact in his or her life. This fills my heart with pride as I have been doing the valuable task of shaping the future of young minds.

Q2. Could you tell us about your teaching philosophy?

❖ My philosophy of education is that all children are unique and have something special. I believe that a classroom should be safe and caring where children are free to speak their minds and blossom to grow physically, mentally, emotionally and socially. So every teacher should strive to create such an environment where students can realize their full potentials.

Q4. What qualities make a good teacher, according to you?

❖ According to me, a good teacher should have the qualities of being patient, caring, kind-hearted, dedicated, sincere, a good communicator, adaptable and must strive for self-improvement. She should have the desire to be creative and innovative. She should update her knowledge and read books, rather than spend time in meaningless chatting or gossip.



Q5. Who influenced you to be a teacher?

- ❖ My mother had encouraged me to choose this profession and I'm grateful to her.

Q.6. Any advice for the young teachers?

- ❖ My advice for young teachers is that they should love their students, be organized, creative, and flexible. All children have talents so remember to look out for them, tap them, praise and value them. They should focus on educating the whole child, not just academics or their own subjects.

Thank you, Ma'am

**Interviewed by : Tr. Dimple**

*"Keep a little fire burning; however small, however hidden."*



## **Mrs. Anita Sundar**

Project - Evaluating Stem Cells in Utrine Biology

Place of work - National Institute of Research in Reproductive Health,  
Parel, Mumbai

Website - <http://www.nirrh.res.in/>

### **Research Work**

In a female reproductive system, a regular natural change occurs periodically

due to the rise and fall of a hormone called estrogen.

This cycle results in the thickening of the lining of the uterus, and the growth of an egg, (which is required for pregnancy). These eggs are formed inside an ovary.

Besides the OVARIAN CYCLE, there is an additional cycle called UTERINE CYCLE occurring in UTERUS which aids generation of a special type of cells called STEM CELLS. A STEM CELL is a cell with the unique ability to develop into specialized cell types in the body.

UTERINE STEM CELLS aid in creating an environment for regeneration of OVARIAN & UTERINE CYCLES. Absence of them or damage to them, naturally or artificially results in various situations that may cause INFERTILITY.

My research work was finding these causes that effect those UTERINE STEM CELLS. The experimental works were not carried on animals with similar internal biological system such as mice.

I would like many you students to study well and become Scientists.  
I'm proud to be a Marian.





*Tweets*

## **Avni Shrivastav**



Corporate Social Responsibility & Core Member at Welspun

I am really honored and thankful to have been a student of St Mary's School and proud to have learnt under such amazing Teachers and a wonderful School. School is the second home for children and it has played a vital role in nurturing me into a good human being. Besides shaping my character, my school has also helped me to face the world with confidence and courage.

## **Mr. Ashwin**



Generally, life gives you a test and then the lesson. But I would say that School gives you a lesson and then the test. It prepares you for the various subsequent tests of life. St. Mary's has prepared me for life and I owe my success to this School.

## **Mrs. Trupti Thakkar (Ex-Teacher)**



Teaching is the best profession that nurtures all other professions. It was a wonderful experience of teaching for almost 28 years in this school. I am glad to have chosen this vocation wherein I got many opportunities to make a difference and change students' lives in a better way. They are certainly going to amplify knowledge, achieve success and make us proud.

## **Mrs.Rita Desai (Ex-Teacher)**



I have worked in this School for a long period. Although I joined as a teacher, I felt that I was a learner at the same time. I got to learn many things from my students and the institution. I will always cherish this relationship. I wish my students, a successful future. I am also thankful to my colleagues for their support.

## **Mrs. Reema Francis**



I consider myself to be fortunate enough to have served in St. Mary's School as a teacher for 29 years. Each day in School offered me new learning life experiences and changed my perspective of life. I thankfully remember all the Principals under whose guidance I could develop my leadership qualities. I can never forget the innocent & enthusiastic students who doubled my passion and love for teaching my favourite subject Mathematics. St. Mary's School has been my second home where I cherish the most wonderful memories and I am thankful to the Almighty for His blessings.

## **Mr. Mukul Patil**



Software Engineer

School is the first institution one joins and what we learn here becomes a part of you. St. Mary's School has always focused on being particular and serious about one's responsibilities. Even now in all the things I do, sincerity comes naturally and I strive towards perfection. It is no more a forced practice but a walk of life for me. Every student from this School imbibes all these values at a very young age and these values form the very foundation of our successful lives and we owe it solemnly to our Alma Mater.

## **Mr. Manish Dhirubhai Patel**



Assistant Environment Engineer in Gujarat Pollution Control Board Gandhinagar.

I'm grateful to this awesome School and supportive Teachers who have shaped me and taught me precious lessons, activated my hunger for knowledge and inspired me for a successful future. I am missing the Golden School Days. I am proud of being a Marian Student.



## Ratnesh Mishra



Running USA based medical billing organization – Pro-health Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (Noida), Post graduate from DU.

Teacher is known as Guru in Indian parlance and has always played an important role in helping the ardent students change for the better.

- School life is the best phase of human beings.
- My school life was a learning experience.
- The confidence and motivation it gave me, I couldn't get anywhere else and the credit goes to all my teachers (Guru).
- Every student should try to make his/her life better and the best use of school life because it never comes again.
- Most importantly, I made friends here, who support and boost my spirits.

## Sunny Parekh



Managing Director, Envies Products Pvt. Ltd.

Proprietor SUNNY ENTERPRISE Partner Safe sure Disposables&

Partner Karma Impex Education: MBA in Marketing and International Business

I will always be obliged to my School and my teachers as they have shaped me for what I am today. They have been my strong pillars. I am out of school, but my learning still continues. Many thanks to all my Principals and Teachers.

What I am today, I dedicate it to them !

## **Dr. Pillai Lakshmi Sreekumar**



Assistant Professor at NSS College Kerala.

Alumni of St Mary's School Vapi

Lovable and Caring teachers and my Good Friends.

Good friends !

Enjoy the good academic atmosphere for study and a Good School for moulding students' behavior and career. Please know that I recognize your positive influence and moral guidance and the value you imparted to me.

Best of Luck !

## **Anita Sundar**



Consulting Science Communicator

You will be surprised to know that I hated going to school. Though I was a rank-holder, I was not a morning person. But later in life, I learned the values of those annoying routines that made me disciplined in what I am today. The school times were missed equally during the vacations as it is today and the life hereafter.

St. Mary's School was not only near to my residence, but was and still is near to my heart.

## International Labour Day



Your talent determines ; what you can do.  
Your motivation determines; how much you're willing to do.  
Your attitude determines  
How well you do it.

- Lou Holtz

## Republic day -2021



India is Great, India is Grand !

The 72<sup>nd</sup> Republic day of India was celebrated on 26 January in the school campus by the staff members under strict pandemic protocols.

Rev. Father Lawrence Fernandes, Asst. Parish Priest of O.L. Vailankani Church, Vapi, was the Chief Guest, who unfurled the national flag and addressed the gathering.



## House System

The students of the school are grouped in for separate houses and each house is monitored by a teacher representative along with other teacher members of the House. The Houses are **Red, Yellow, Green & Blue**. The house system aims to give students an identity and sense of pride in a supportive, secure environment. It helps to inculcate a spirit of teamwork and unity among the students along with providing them a platform to showcase and hone their talents in different fields. A number of inter- house activities like quizzes, drawing and poster- making, poem composing, essay writing, photography and various competitions are conducted during the course of the academic year.

The idea is not merely to compete, but to celebrate each others' presence in the School overall growth and development in a healthy environment. The House system is an integral and vibrant part of the school's culture. The House system is designed to reflect and enhance certain core values as follows:

Red House: Integrity

Yellow House: Respect

Green House: Hospitality

Blue House: Gratitude

The practice of these values enable us to strive towards self- development, intellectual empowerment and life- long learning within the diversity and strength of our community.



### **World Health Day**



Celebration of World Health Day on 7<sup>th</sup> April'21 made us pledge for good habits in order to stay healthy. "The first wealth is our health"!

### **International Women's Day**



Empowering women is a great responsibility. Taking care of all the protocols with regard to Covid-19, our school celebrated IWD day with great zeal. Mrs. Hemlata Marballi, President of International Association of Lions Club, Vapi adorned this occasion with her presence. A Volley ball tournament was organized to make all the teachers step out of their comfort zone.

### **Martyrs' Day**



India celebrates Martyrs' day or Shaheed every year on January 30. The day is chosen to honour our brave martyrs who laid their lives for the country. Diwas A Salute to all the martyrs who ensured our freedom by sacrificing their lives.



## THANK YOU

### Dear Rev. Fr. Toney Lopes

We, Marians, would admiration like to express our heartfelt gratitude to you fo all that you were to us and for all that you did for us. You are worthy of respect and admiration. Always full of energy and motivation.

During this Pandemic, we have received much comfort and assurance from you. we were able to tide through these difficult times with ease.

Your vision for St. Mary's School has been an inspiration to us. Your guidance and love for us will always be treasured.

We wish you all the very best in your future endeavours!

## God Bless You!

*"Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose."*



## Welcoming our New Manager

Welcome ! Dear Rev. Fr. Herald Mathias !

St. Mary's is delighted to have you as our Manager, dear Father.

With your fresh thoughts, optimism and gentle value-based approach, our school will surely progress. We look forward to a great time under your guidance.

*"Words can inspire, thoughts can provoke, but only action truly brings you closer to your dreams.."*



## Amazing Facts (Science)



- The sun doesn't change color during sunset.
- Water slows down light.
- Sound creates heat.
- Time goes faster at the top of the building than at the bottom.
- Transparent objects are visible because they reflect light.
- Touch phones don't detect certain materials because of electrical charge.
- If you travel faster than the speed of light, you'll age less.
- Winds have shadows.
- Water expands when freezes, unlike other substances.
- Every hydrogen atom in your body is likely 13.5 billion years old because they were created at the birth of the universe.
- One inch of rain is equal to 10 inches of snow.
- Air becomes liquid at  $-190^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- There is enough DNA in the average person's body to stretch from the sun to Pluto and back — 17 times.
- Grasshoppers have ears in their bellies.
- You can't taste food without saliva.
- Octopuses have three hearts, nine brains, and blue blood.

## Amazing Facts (Technology)

- TIME Magazine named the computer the "Man of the Year" in 1982.
- The internet speed at NASA is 91GB per second.
- 51% of internet traffic is "non-human". 31% is made up from hacking programs, spammers and malicious phishing.
- Babies have around 100 more bones than adults.
- 20% of Earth's oxygen is produced by the Amazon rainforest.
- Polar bears are nearly undetectable by infrared cameras.
- It takes 8 minutes, 19 seconds for light to travel from the Sun to the Earth.
- Stomach acid is strong enough to dissolve stainless steel.
- Venus is the only planet to spin clockwise.



## **Tips to a Safe Life!**

### **HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS**

- Wash your hands often
- Avoid close contact
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.

### **Tips to the Healthy Life!**

- Eat a healthy diet.
- Consume less salt and sugar.
- Reduce intake of harmful fats.
- Avoid harmful use of alcohol.
- Don't smoke.
- Be active.
- Check your blood pressure regularly.
- Get tested.



## Toppers For Academic Year 2019-2020



Jilakra Nitya  
Jr. K.G.



Yadav Aradhya  
Sr. K.G.



Chaudhari Ojal  
I A



Nanda Nishi  
I B



Yadav Palak  
II A



Noronha jaden  
II B



Bhanushali Diya  
III A



Mate Vaibhav  
III B



Zope Ritik  
IV A

*"A little progress each day adds up to big results."*

## Toppers For Academic Year 2019-2020



Pal Shweta

IV B



Gharate Tarak

IV C



Shivalaya S.

V A



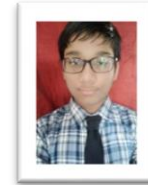
Bhanushali Pooja

V B



Khan Mhd. Shahid

V C



Shukla Parth

VI A



Kotak Nandini

VI B



Bhilare Sarthak

VI C



Kandel Ashv

VII A

*"All successes begin with Self-Discipline. It starts with you."*

## Toppers For Academic Year 2019-2020



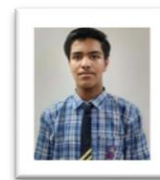
Aditya Rajesh

VII B



Behera Shreya

VIII A



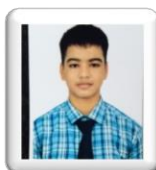
Goyal Eklavya

VIII B



Tukadiya Kaushik

IX A



Das Nirmal

IX B



Patil Sanika

X



Gajare Ishita

XI COM



Yadav Kimi

XI SCI



Dubey Mansi

XII COM



Singh Sangeeta

XII SCI



# Events – 2020-21

## QUIZ COMPETITION



## WOMEN'S DAY



### Events – 2020-21

#### FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR REV. FR. TONY LOPES



#### INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY



### Events – 2020-21



### CHRISTMAS DAY



## Editorial Committee



Rev. Sr. Maria Angela



Tr. Anita Yadav



Tr. Dimple Chaudhari



Tr. Chetna Patel



Sir Kalpesh Bhagat



Sir Prashant Singh



Sri Nikunj Panchal