



NAVA SPURTHI

Bangalore Region



Vol .IX/II

NEWS LETTER

December 2018

Maria Sadan, Bangalore

Region days

The month of November saw us busy preparing for the Region days. We thank God for the blessings and guidance we received from God during these days. We are grateful to Sr. Prisca for her generosity and willingness in putting much effort (during her holidays), for the members of Bangalore Region to build up the skills of Generative Listening, team work, collaboration and networking for effective apostolate and leadership today.



We welcomed Sr. Prasanna to our community as she has begun her B. Ed studies in Ramaiah college. We wish her all the best for her studies. All our students had their exams and they did well. Congratulations to all!

Srs. Vidya and Prasanna made their **annual retreat** in Mulund in November. They had very enriching experience with the Eucharistic Lord.

Sr. Suchita attended **C. J Formation Conference** 2018 from 2nd to 13th October in Rome. It was an enriching experience for her to be with the international C. J community.

During advent Maria Sadan community visited and distributed some gifts to the inmates of the **old age home** in Hosur. Our Candidates put up a short programme for them. They all enjoyed. Being with the inmates was a touching experience for us.

Shanti Sadan, Begur

CELEBRATION OF SPECIAL DAYS

On 2nd October, the movie *Gandhi* was screened with appropriate commentary by Mr. Navin Goyal, a well-wisher of the school. The students of Cl. 8 – 10 were the lucky ones. This was followed by essay writing on what they have learnt from Gandhi's life. The first three essays bagged prizes. Kannada Rajyotasava Day highlight was an Inter House Tug-O-War. Friends of Mary Ward Club organised one of the three debates- the Hindi debate. Green Day celebration by the Kindergarten students was unique. On Teachers' Day the students gave a variety entertainment programme. On Children's Day our teachers tried to outdo the students in their creativity in entertaining the children. The Independence Day turned out to be rainy day but we managed to have the prayer assembly on the grounds.



SR. DAISY FELICITATED

Sr. Daisy's first visit to our school as Regional Superior was made special. The whole school assembled to greet her and to pray for her. The Staff and students were happy to listen to her views about how children should use the opportunities to become leaders.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN

Since 14th July we are associated with a community initiative called Beautiful Begur. Residents from Begur and neighbourhood are the members and they are the volunteers. They work towards realising a Clean Begur, Green Begur, Garbage Free Begur, Plastic Free Begur and Blue Begur(clean lakes). Every Sunday they dedicate three hours for cleaning the surroundings including roads. Some students and members of the staff join them whenever possible. Roads near the school now have a cleaner look.

Students cleaning the road



Our students joined two of their awareness campaigns: Garbage Free Begur and Plastic Free Begur. The presence of children in school uniform attracted the crowd. Children also visited many shops and requested the shopkeepers to keep their shops Plastic Free shops.

The BB team was impressed by the spirit of the children that they gave them appreciation certificates during the school assembly.



BANGALORE MIRROR DIALOGUE



On 28th October Bangalore Mirror Dialogue, 2nd Edition was organised at St. Mary's through the initiative of Beautiful Begur. Bangalore Mirror is a supplementary of the National Daily, Times of India. Representatives from Civic Bodies and Public Utilities with the Mayor and The Commissioner of Police were present. Bangalore Mirror focusses on issues plaguing the locality. Hundred and seventy two representatives turned up to discuss their problems with the officials concerned. The officials promised to look into the problems. The journalists and media gave a good coverage of the programme.

A few representatives of the students, parents and teachers witnessed the event. They felt proud that our school was selected to conduct the meeting. It was good to see the professionalism of the organisers. This provided an opportunity for the school to enhance our Public Relations.

PARENTS' DAY PROGRAMME

With the objective of including all, providing opportunity for all and to reduce unnecessary expenses we decided to go for the unconventional as far as Bangalore is concerned though in North India it is not anything new. Instead of the grand Annual Day Programme this year we organised class wise programme. Already we had three such programmes by Classes 5 -10 during September – October. Every group presented a variety cultural programme for an hour and half.



All adhered to the following: the programme began with an inter-religious prayer; highlighted something from Gandhiji's life and mission as we celebrate his 150 years; one item was devoted to the protection of environment and every item had to be value based. The entire programme is woven round a specific theme.



Every student prepared a special card for the parents to express their sentiments. Some of the parents had tears in their eyes when they opened their card and read the heart touching messages. Thus the occasion became an opportunity to strengthen their bonds. The Teachers also recognised their own hidden talents, ability to train the students and co-ordinate a programme.

During the programme we had someone or the other to give the parents a useful input session on a relevant topic, besides the Chief Guest's address. We were happy to listen to parent representatives who at the end of the programme came up and shared their views. Nursery to Grade 4 are waiting for their turn in January.

REACHING OUT



The school collected a lot of provisions for the recent flood victims. Half was sent to Kodagu and the other half to Puthenvelikkara. (Kodagu Distribution in picture.)

INTER SCHOOL EVENTS

This year our students participated in 7 events at the Inter-School cultural competitions organised by KISA (Karnataka ICSE Schools Association). Christ Academy run by CMI priests hosted it. 170 schools participated. The students of our State Board participated in the Cluster level Sports events. In Kho-Kho our Boys' team and Girls' team won the first position.

TIT BITS

The month of October started with our monthly recollection and spiritual insight on "**In the Eyes of God**".

The Franciscan Brothers at Seva Sadan, celebrated their Golden and Silver jubilees. Srs. Lima and Susan were privileged to be part of the celebration.

The sudden departure of **Sr. Savio** of Patna Province to her heavenly reward, shocked all of us. Sr. Mariella represented our community at the funeral service. May Sr. Savio rest in Peace.

Mission Sunday celebrations were grand. The parish members as well as the Congregations took active part in it, conducting games, putting up food stalls, lucky draw, etc. We contributed also some coconuts and rabbits. The day was hectic yet very enjoyable.

As **Kerala floods** have caused great havoc, our sisters from Maria Sadan and Begur had gone with provisions to Puthenvelikkara in our vehicle to help them by doing some necessary relief service.

A Community outing was organised by Sr. Lima to Hyderabad. Srs. Vidya and Rupali joined us. We had a gala time in the Film City. They demonstrated to us how a film is being shot. We had an enjoyable time, returned refreshed and happy.

We bade **farewell to Sr. Prasanna** before she left our community for her further studies. We had a meaningful Eucharistic Celebration and we thanked Sr. Prasanna for her hard work and availability for our mission and wished her good luck and God's blessing on her new mission. Some of us accompanied her to Maria Sadan from where she would pursue her studies.

On **All Souls' Day**, some of us visited the Cemetery to pay homage to Srs. Claudia and Aloysia, praying for them that they may have eternal bliss in heaven. We also remembered all those who have gone ahead of us. It was also a day when our Sr. Clementia left us for her eternal reward. Srs. Feby and Christine attended her funeral service in Patna.

Most of us attended the **Regional Assembly** which was held in Maria Sadan from 10th to 13 Nov. The programme was very informative, enriching and fruitful. Thanks to Sr. Prisca and the organisers.

Sr. Angeli made her retreat in Mumbai after which she spent a few days with her dear ones and returned to the community on 2nd Dec.

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN



The Christmas count-down in the school has become fun-filled and caring with the advent calendar of activities for the staff. The Class teachers have replicated the same for Class Cl. X as well. Christmas preparations are under way. Our community would like to wish all of you,

A VERY HAPPY & BLESSED CHRISTMAS and A BRIGHT NEW YEAR!

Jyothir Bhavan, Thurithipuram

Countless are the mercies of the Lord! Even though, the details of the flood description has become too old to be penned, something needs to be mentioned. The manifold blessings of God could be experienced throughout those days. The three of us from Jyothir Bhavan got into a fibre motor boat from our sit out, on 17th Aug. at 9.00 am and were taken to the bridge leading to Kottapuram. The Lord gave us a beautiful home to stay in Jhancy's residence behind St. Michael's Cathedral. The mother and the daughter Tessa helped us out in every way.

One of our friends named Fr. Rapson O.C.D. came all the way from Malabar with food and water for us. On reaching our place he found us quite helpless to do the initial cleaning. Since he came from so far he could not stay longer either to help. So he gave us food and water then contacted his brother priest Fr. Francen belonging to Kottapuram diocese. Fr. Francen at once contacted the Jesus Youth who had come from different parts of Kerala to our Diocese. In the evening they came around thirteen of them and carried out some preliminary cleaning of the house-just for two hours. We continued the cleaning for more than a month to make it live able.

We highly appreciate the great mission and the sacrifice made, is highly appreciated by the parish priest and the parishioners. At early dawn on 8th September Srs. Mahima, Theresa and Amala reached the Japamala Rani Church. There is a traditional belief that the Baby Mary was born at 3.am. Therefore, very meaningful and devotional services, started with a candle light procession with special singing etc. to mark that day.

The month of October is very special for Thuruthipuram because of the feast of our patron, St. Francis of Assisi and of course importance is given to the recital of Holy Rosary. The sad news of Sr. Savio's accident and heavenward journey brought a sudden thick cloud of sorrow to our feast day celebrations on 7th October. This year, the feast of the Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Mother was very special in our parish. The tenth year of the little children praying rosary regularly on every Saturday under the direction of Sr. Imma was kept up in a remarkable manner. One hundred and twenty eight children were "Prasudentis", to celebrate this year's feast. All of them dressed in blue special uniform walked down the aisle in procession- a beautiful sight indeed! The Japamala Kusumangal received showers of blessings from our Blessed Mother.

We make it a point to visit the families of our dear sisters and take part in the funeral services of their dear ones. In the past months, we attended the funerals of Sr. Vianney's mother in Upputhodu, Sr. Linda's father, Sr. Georgina's mother in Ammadom, Trichur, Sr. Imma's cousin in Vazhoor, Sr. Assunta's brother, Sr. Nancy's father and Sr. Reena's mother in Madakathanam.

The Regional Assembly in Bangalore, with the generative listening as our main theme definitely has made us better listeners. May the Lord help us to live our commitment more fruitfully. From the city of David to the warmth of your home may the joy and peace of Christmas be born to you and to your loved ones.

Have a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year!!!

ST. MARY'S CONVENT, MULUND

Teachers' Day: On this auspicious occasion of Teachers' Day, we had prayer service and entertainment programme, as a unique expression of affection and gratitude by the students for their teachers. The celebration culminated with a delicious lunch for the staff.



St. Mary's Day: This year St. Mary's Day was celebrated on 8th September. To mark this occasion of our Mother Mary's birthday we had prayer service, followed by a colourful and energetic House-wise folk-dance competition. The dances were awesome and fabulous.

Diamond Jubilee: 17th September was a day of great joy as we celebrated 60 years of committed service in religious life of Srs. Mary Jude and Theodora. We thanked the Almighty God for our sisters during the Eucharistic celebration by Fr. Cleophas Fernandes our Parish Priest and concelebrated by Fr. Leo OFM CAP, Fr. Sean, Dn. Rock and Dn. Everest. Our sisters from Umralla, CTC sisters and the other fathers of the Parish joined us in the celebration. We were also privileged to have Sr. Daisy, our Regional Superior, on this auspicious day. After Mass, the Jubilarians were felicitated with a jubilee song, garlanded and the jubilee cake was cut, followed by fellowship meal.



Our students of the under -14 and under-17 category bagged second position in DSO Kho-Kho matches. Our students of both the categories of Rugby won matches at the district level and 4 of our students are selected for the National level. Congratulations girls. We are proud of you. Sivasri of Std 7 bagged second prize in English Elocution competition at T-Ward level.

Our kids of the Primary section won First and Second prizes at the T-Ward inter-school Recitation Competition. Congratulations girls! Well done!



In line with **JPIC** this year we have taken the theme : **Conservation of Nature** and the school prayers services are conducted accordingly. Our students of secondary section participated in T-Ward Science Exhibition held in the first week of December.

Our First Term Exams commenced on 1st October and ended on 13th October. On 3rd November we had Open Day and thereafter the school was closed for Diwali vacation. The School reopened on 22nd November.

We were blessed with many visitors in the month of October - Silver Jubilarians from Patna Province and Nepal Region after their programme in Goa, Sisters from Nirmala Convent, Jhansi as part of their Mumbai Darshan.



During the Diwali Vacation, from 18th to 25th November, we had our **annual retreat** guided by Fr. K.P. Vincent S.J. of Gujarat Province. Sisters from the other communities too joined in the retreat. We were renewed and spiritually refreshed after this retreat.

Children's' Day: Since Children's' Day was during the vacation, we had the celebration on 30th November. We had a meaningful prayer service, imploring God's blessings on our students and children all over the world. It was followed by an entertainment programme, all initiated by the teachers. The children were shown a movie and given snack boxes. They had a fun-filled and memorable day. Some of our former students also visited the school to relive their past memories.

On 3rd December, the students were given vaccination –prevention against Rubella and Measles by BMC(Municipality).

SMAART News : The Interschool debate that was conducted last year by us was a great success and many expressed their desire to have it on a regular basis. So the contest will be held every year. Last year 6 schools participated. This year the number has gone up to 14. As many schools are not aware of the rules governing debate, the President of SMAART Executive Council, Mrs. Darshana Kewalramini, organized a training programme on 1st Dec. 2018 for one teacher from each of the participating schools. The programme was much appreciated. Now they will train the teams of their own schools and the Interschool Debate will take place at SMC on 19th January 2019.

We had our Annual Day Celebration of the Pre-Primary and Primary Section on 8th December having Dr. Tushar Guha, Founder & Chairman of Nriyjanjali Group, Mumbai.



We also had our **P.T. Display** of the Secondary Section on 15th December. This year too we honoured the SSC Topper – 2017 / 18 Miss. Sanika Patil by inviting her Parents, Mr. Mrs. Mangla Rajjev Patil as the Chief Guest.



Mary Ward Convent, Puthenvelikara

The month of October came with great fragrance of our beloved mother Mary. The whole atmosphere of Kerala churches and catholic families reverberated with the recitation of the rosaries. We too had the recitation of the rosary for 10 days in the school and community. As we had planned, the monthly competitions couldn't take place, so we had the TALENT FEST for classes 1 to X. Some of the students were better singers than the Flowers - T V show "The top Singer"

We also had the Drawing and painting competitions. On 4th October we had a very meaningful holy mass in our chapel for Srs. Fransisca and Elsa whose feast day and birthday were celebrated on St. Francis Assisi's feast day.

Rev. Fr. Franson our Parish Priest who bears the name of St. Francis also joined us in tripple celebrations. Our sisters from Jyothir Bhavan joined us for the celebrations. The new bus which was damaged in the great flood on 15th August finally got out of ICU and began to run on 7th November 2018. It was indeed a great relief for us and the parents. Though our Annual Sports Day was postponed because of unfavourable weather, once the ground was dried we managed to have it. Rev. Sr. Georgia gave away the prizes for the winners. On Children's Day our teachers danced and sang for them. On 27th November Sr. Elsa went to

Kolkata for the ICSE Principals' meet and returned on 1st December. Even though Sr. Reena was unable to come for the funeral of her mother Sr. Georgia and Sr. Amala represented from our community at the funeral of her mother. Our Sr. Jessy (Nepal Region) Sr. Sherly, Sr. Jyothi and her mother and Sr. Julita paid us short visits. We had a miniature celebration in honour of Sr. Julita's golden jubilee. We were blessed to have a pilgrimage to Thumboli church in Alappuzha. It is believed that Mother Mary saved the people of that place from 'Kadal Shobham' (fury of the sea). We also visited different churches like Vallarpadam, Kanamali, Arthukal and Pookav. Sr. Rosemary is here with us to help out with the accounts. She too joined in the pilgrimage. The beauty of this pilgrimage was that the senior sisters like Sr. Esther Sr. Fransisca and Imma felt quite juvenile after the day long trip.

Even though we are back to the pavilion, we have plenty to do in the school. The convent furniture is painted and school cupboards are being painted. The school building is patiently waiting for the painting. Wish you all a Merry Christmas.

NIRMALA PUBLIC SCHOOL, PIZHAKU

Green Day : On 22nd September The JPIC and Friends of Mary ward club observed a day of cleaning and planting. Both the clubs had a theme-based presentation to enlighten the students about the importance of Plastic free campus and They also created an awareness to have healthy vegetables which are home grown.



After that Friends of Mary Ward club prepared vegetable garden in School and planted some vegetables and plants in the campus. The JPIC club cleaned up the entire campus.

Cultural Fest : On 27th September Nirmala Public school organized a Talent fest with Dance, Fancy dress , Elocution and Debate . The PTA executive committee were the Special Guests. The PTA along with sisters judged the events. The students exhibited their talents and abilities which were well appreciated by the Parents and the PTA.



Devotion to Rosary : October being the month of Rosary we the Nirmalites prayed Rosary for ten days as a School . On the last day we concluded with the Campus Rosary .



Sr. Savio's sudden demise



The sudden death of Sr. Savio was a great shock for all of us. We being the closest community took care of the Funeral service. Thousands of people came to pay their last respect to our beloved Sr. Savio. It was also a time where we felt the entire CJ family united as one mind and heart. The staff

and the students of Nirmala led the funeral procession . It was a very moving and emotional farewell to her.

Picnics: Picnics are time of togetherness and relaxation. Picnics were arranged for Classes 1 to 10 at different times. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the outing and cherish their memories.



SBI Essay competition : The Pizhaku branch of “*The State Bank of India*” organized an Essay Competition for classes 8 to 10, on the theme “Eradicate corruption- Build new India”. The winners got cash award and trophy.

Inter-School Quiz Competition: The “Junior Chamber International” (JCI) along with Nirmala Public School organized an Inter School Quiz competition. Total 122 students from 15 schools participated in the competition. It was a great experience for the staff and the students.



Orientation : One day Orientation Programme was organized for the students of classes 4 to 10. Frs. John Kurian CSSR and Fr. Binoy CSSR enlightened the students on Media awareness and how to choose the good and despise the evil. The students were also motivated to lead a value based life .

Children’s Day : On 14th November The school celebrated the Children’s day with great joy. The teachers put up a short programme and made the children happy. On 17th sports events were held for the children. The students participated with all vigour and energy.



Career Guidance : On 20th November “ Career Guidance” was organized for the Parents and students of Classes 9 and 10. Mr. Sebin Varghese – A motivational trainer enabled the students to have their goals and guide them as to how to train their memory and how to choose their Career in life.



Mary Ward Illam, Mittapalli

In the beginning of September, our students and staff of class 12 had their **picnic** to Kodaikanal along with Srs. Smitha, Usha and Sanjana. On the day they returned, Srs. Deepti and Lawrentia attended the celebrations at Sacred Heart College Thirupathoor as they completed 75 years. The function was very good. This year our drivers and co-workers had their **outing** to Hognekal and KRP Dam at Krishnagiri. The picnic began on the previous night as the ladies came to the convent and prepared breakfast and lunch for all, amidst good fun, noise and laughter. 3 sisters joined the picnic group.

As usual **Teachers' Day** was celebrated. The students conducted prayer service and cultural programme. The teachers had a good lunch and gift, before they left for their homes.

One of the brothers of *Jacintha metals* (our close connections) had the **blessing of their new house**. The day being Sunday, after Mass, all of us joined in the celebration and lunch.

We enjoyed our **community picnic** to Pondicherry on 22nd September. As before, our friend, Fr. Xavier Pakiam SDB arranged with a Salesian community at Pondicherry to give us rooms to refresh and a driver to guide us so that our trip to various spots of sight seeing was made easy. 13 of our plus 2 boys accompanied by the coach and 2 staff members went for **selection cricket match**. It was a good experience for them as there were too many participants.

On 7th Oct after the Sunday mass, we were shocked to hear the sad news about **Sr. Savio**. Sr. Deepti attended the funeral.

We were called to Vellore to receive the Certificate of **Renewal of Recognition** of the school. Srs. Smitha and Deepti went and received it. Srs. Deepti, Smitha and Usha attended the **CRI meeting** at Gonzaga College, Krishnagiri. Two sisters doctors, who are also own sisters, voluntarily gave very useful cancer awareness programme.

Our **Teachers** enjoyed their **picnic** to Bangalore, and of course, the great hospitality, warm welcome and the delicious lunch at Maria Sadan. As Sr. Lawrentia opted to guard the House the rest of us joined the teachers. Sr. Usha made the **annual retreat** at Mount St. Joseph, Bangalore.

On 28th Oct and 4th Nov our parish had **Mission Sunday** stalls and games for collection though the amount that came was meagre. On these two Sundays the Ragava group of Dance conducted semi final and final **Inter school dance competitions** on our school grounds. Our five groups were selected and in the final, our three groups won prizes.

Sr. Smitha attended the funeral of her aunt, a member of the Missionaries of Charity at Vellore.

We got the news about the sad demise of Fr. Savariappan's (our former Parish priest) sister Alphonsa. Srs. Smitha and Usha went with the present parish priest and attended the funeral. Classes 9, 10, 11 and 12 had **Chemistry Day** celebration. A number of students participated in speeches, presenting video clips, showing experiments and quiz competition. It was very informative and interesting. Deepawali was celebrated with a prayer service and Lucky Draw. The lucky ones were very happy.

We are very grateful to Sr. Angeli who came and helped us so that four of us could participate in the Regional Assembly. **Thanks** a lot **dear Sr. Angeli**. Sr. Lawrentia made her annual retreat in Mulund. 25th Nov Feast of Christ the King, was a big day for our parish. Our new parish priest managed to give a decent face lift to the sanctuary, altar, ambo and the holy statues. The **blessing** by our Bishop was on that day. On 4th Dec Srs. Smitha and Deepti joined the parish social work team and the parish priest and **visited the sub-jail** at Uthangarai. The Dharmapuri unit of the PMI had organized a Christmas programme and some gifts for the inmates. They enjoyed it. The jail authorities and the police were very supportive and encouraged us to visit again. From 9th to 12th Sr. Daisy was with us for **visitation**. On 16th Dec we had **CRI Christmas gathering**. We gave gifts to the Bishop which he would distribute to the poor. He gave us also Christmas gift. Sr. Sanjana has her exams these days. Kindly keep her in your prayers. On 22nd the school had **Christmas play and prayer service** followed by dances and of course, Santa, who gave a surprise by coming on a Bike! We linked the themes of modern relevance of sharing, peace making and caring for nature as part of Christmas. The Teachers, drivers and our supportive staff had high tea. At 3 pm our drivers and workers had Christmas prayer service and games. They (we also) thoroughly enjoyed the games. They had high tea and gifts.

We wish you a very blessed Christmas and a Bright New Year!

Thank
you

