



NAVA SPURTHI

Bangalore Region



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NEWS LETTER

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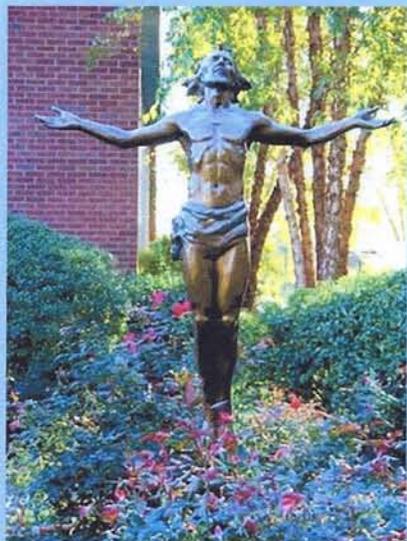


"The stone was rolled away from the door,
not to permit Christ to come out,
but to enable the disciples to go in."

Easter is a promise God renews to us in each spring.

May the promise of Easter fill your heart with peace and joy!

Happy Easter!



He is Risen Alleluia !



St. Mary's Convent, Mulund



Sr. Celine C.J. conducted a four day course, a spiritual journey together, for the 18 young members of the Bangalore Region. Through the Mantra we were made aware- ***“In the centre of the universe where love abides, where I abide, all is well, all is peace. In the centre of my being, I am whole and healthy, I am loved and protected. In the centre of my being all is well”.***

We were challenged by the question, “What is the quality of life you are offering to the young girls who join the Region”? Community life is, ‘who we BECOME in our spiritual journey’ (Jn 10: 16). “I have come that you may have life, and life in abundance”. Srs. Lucia and Lima attended the same course in Bangalore, arranged for all the superiors and principals of the region, numbering to 17 members.



Congrats Sr. Sneha CJ

We were happy to have Sr. Sneha's (Patna Province) visit to us. She was endowed with a Gold medal by the Governor of Maharashtra in the presence of our President Dr. Pranab Mukherjee, and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra on 30 December, 2012. Sr.Sneha was selected as the Gold Medalist of Mumbai University for aggregating highest marks in her BSW degree and being the most successful candidate.

Congrats Sr. Sneha! We are proud of you.

Thank you dear Mrs. Natalia D'Souza

After 29 years of dedicated service to SMC, we bade farewell to Mrs. Natalia D'Souza, one of our primary school teachers through a meaningful prayer service and a fellowship lunch for the staff.



In the Inter-School Athletic meet organized by the Vidya Prasarak Mandal, our SMC students won a gold in 100 meters race, a silver in 200 meters race and a gold and bronze in shot put and a gold in Relay. Congrats to our winners!



In the Seventh Mumbai International Touch Rugby Championship, in which about 50 teams of different age groups boys/girls, we won the Girls' Champion Cup and the Runner-up Cup too.

The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus was celebrated on 15 January together with our parish priests and the Carmelite sisters sharing our joy.



January was a month for picnics. All the students of SMC marched to different spots/places and enjoying themselves to their heart's content.

On 23 January, being the first day of Mary Ward Week, the Primary and Secondary school students conducted prayer services on the occasion of the birthday of our Foundress, Venerable



Mary Ward. Prayer services were conducted during the entire Mary Ward Week in the school and in the community.



On the 64th Republic Day of our Country, 26 Jan., Sr. Lucia, the Manager of the school hoisted the National Flag and a prayer service was conducted highlighting the importance of the day. One of the Executive members of SMAART, the Ex-students Association, Ms. Malaika spoke to the students and parents introducing them to SMAART.



SMC Mini Sports Day. Was celebrated on 28 January.



The Art and Craft Exhibition was inaugurated on 9 February. Parents flocked in to see the talents of their children being displayed at the Exhibition. The Ex-students (SMAART) also displayed their items and also put up a food stall.



The Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to 75 boys and girls of our parish by Rev. Bishop Percival J. Fernandez, for which Sr. Smitha was an animator in preparing them for the same. It was one of the largest batches in recent years.

SMC, Alakode

The New Year dawned on a happy note. The school started with a Holy Mass. Most of the neighbouring parishes celebrated their parish feast in the first two weeks of January. We visited a few parishes and prayed there. We also visited the families of a few teachers and students who live close by.



As usual the Mary Ward week was kept with special assemblies and prayer services.

Classes 8 – 11 had interesting and informative sessions on Personality Development and on Career Guidance and on other related topics from an expert in the field, Mr. Kunjipalu.

Six of our D.C.L. members participated in State level competitions at Kottayam and all won prizes. 18 others won

prizes and scholarships. It is a matter of great joy that Sr. Rosalia received D.C.L's Best Principal award since our school has won a good number of State level prizes. Members of our Speech Club too bagged quite a number of prizes.

Sr. Deepti and Sr. Gladys attended one day training programme for the Forane Council and for the Sunday School Teachers respectively.

On 1 March, the school offered a thanksgiving Holy Mass for past academic year. Board exams have started. At the sad news of Sr. Agatha's demise and Sr. Rosalia left for Patna. Parish retreat was held from 10 - 14 March at five centres at the same time.

Mary Ward School, Puthenvelikara

All the parishioners gathered in the church at mid night, welcomed the New Year by participating in the Eucharistic celebration and asking for God's blessings upon the entire creation. On 3 January we implored God's blessings upon our world-wide Congregation. Srs. Sherly, Alma and Jyotsna attended a 'Psycho - Spiritual Integration' course conducted by our Sr. Celine CJ. They benefited from the course and on their return shared with the community the content of the course.

During the Mary Ward week, the students highlighted the role, played by Mary Ward for the defense and propagation of faith through role plays, skits, maxims, etc. In the community too, daily we gave due importance to Mother Mary Ward and prayed through her intersession. We expressed our patriotic spirit on Republic Day by hoisting the flag, March Past by the students and by a fitting prayer service followed by a colourful short entertainment programme. It was also an occasion for the parents to see the art and craft exhibition by their children.

A group of Australians, carrying the relic of St. Faustina, explained to our students when and how St. Faustina cultivated devotion to Jesus by praying the Mercy Rosary. We appreciated their zeal and enthusiasm in spreading the good news.



2 February was indeed a grace-filled day, the Golden Jubilee of Sr. Francisca! Our Bishop Mar Joseph Karikkasseri concelebrated with the priests in our and neighbouring parish. We felt blessed by the presence of our young looking jubilarian, priests, CJ sisters from the various communities, relations of Sr. Francisca, teachers, parishioners and well-wishers. Congratulations to Sr. Francisca for the 50 years of labour of love in the C J family!

The atmosphere at the celebration on the feast of St. Sebastian was charged by the presence of the Almighty. Carrying the statue of St. Sebastian, the parishioners moved along the road very prayerfully. All along the way St. Sebastian received warm, colourful and thunderous welcome. The illumination, decorations, fire-works, etc. added devotion and joy to the occasion.

Before the final examinations, the teachers and students gave a fitting farewell to our dear sisters Sherly and Seema as they are on transfer. They commended on their dedicated life and service for the growth and development of the school and thanked them for it.



Mary Ward School, Mittappally



Our grand annual function was blessed by the presence of our Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Lawrence Pius Dorai Raj. In his message, he appreciated much the talents displayed by the students who are from the remote villages and urged them to be honest and



hardworking, exhorted them to develop their potentials with the guidance of their teachers. During the function the class X toppers of 2011-12 were honoured with an award.



On 12 January, Pongal, the National Festival of Tamil Nadu, was celebrated with pomp and show. The management prepared sweet pongal and served it to the children and the co-workers.

The class VIII students organized a prayer service for the same occasion, highlighting different legends of Pongal and prayed specially for the farmers. It was followed by a mini – fete.

25 January Sr. Mercy along with the class X students visited Arunachal Temple, Thiruvannamalai. It was a memorable day for them.



Some of us joined the parish retreat, conducted by Dharmapuri diocesan priests the theme being “We are a Blessing to the society, provided we keep the precepts of the Lord”.

The construction of our convent is in progress.

Mary Ward Convent, Pizhaku

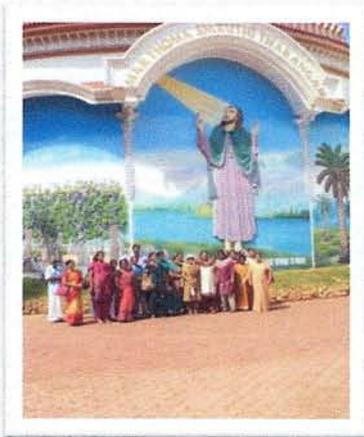


The theme of Mary Ward Week was “Inculcating Mary ward’s values in children for a peaceful coexistence”. Students highlighted virtues of Mother Mary Ward such as uprightness, sincerity, freedom, justice, peace, love and harmony. This was an essential part of our ministry carried out in our school through value education classes and celebration of the school anniversary. The teachers helped the students to imbibe the values of Mary Ward in the context of the present day education.

To mark the Year of Faith our community made a pilgrimage to seven churches starting with a Holy Mass in St. Mary’s Church in Kuravilangad and ended in St. Thomas’ Church Kodungalloor. We also began the study of YOU CAT and Catechism of the Catholic Church.

A one day seminar by Christeen Team was organized for our students, the theme being ‘transformation of self and others through the teachings of Jesus - *Purification of mind, through Jesus’ preaching; purification of heart through Jesus’ healing ministry.*

A prayer service followed by a cultural programme was conducted in order to bid farewell to the outgoing students. Sr. Daisy, the principal, in her message, reminded the students to nurture the values they have imbibed from N.P.S. for their future life. The students profusely thanked the staff for their selfless service to them in the past years.



A tour was organized for our teachers and supportive staff to St. Thomas’ Pilgrim Centre at Kodungallor and the Chirraai Beach and Vallarpadam, Kochi.

At the end of the academic year, we bade farewell to one of our teachers, Mrs. Rosamma and Sr. Vidya CJ who have contributed much to the growth of the school and the students. As a token of their love and gratitude, the students, staff and management offered bouquets to them and prayed for their wellbeing and prosperity.



At the end of the academic year, the deserving students for their outstanding performance in the school, academics and rank holders and winners of various scholarships, were awarded by the school.

Sr. Suma is busy with the ICSE Board Exam English Paper Evaluation in Mavelikara. She stays with the Carmelite sisters.

The school closed with a thanks giving Holy Mass for God’s providence over us, with a message, “Think Good; do better and achieve the best!”

**Nava Spurthi wishes all its
readers A joy-filled Easter.**

