

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

Distinguished Guests of the day, Smt. Haritha V Kumar, District Collector, Thrissur, Dr. S.S. Lal, UN Consultant, Public Health Expert, Rev. Sr. Dr. Sophy Pereppadan SABS, Manager Nirmala Matha Central School, V. Rev. Fr. Davis Pulikkottil, Vicar, Lourdes Metropolitan Cathedral, Dr. E D Benjamin, President P.T.A., Reverend Fathers and Sisters, Esteemed invitees, Beloved Parents and my dear Students

This is our 30th year in the relentless quest for redefining the methods of imparting education in a manner that befits the spirit of the times. 3 years have passed fraught with unprecedented challenges in learning and teaching with the unforeseen calamity of the epidemic forcing the gregarious student community into a constrained duress. Digital platforms and virtual classes became the order of the day, keeping alive the semblance of school life and social life for the students. For the most part of these 3 years we have striven to make learning easy, accessible and capable of arousing and whetting the curiosity to learn in the young minds under our charge. Looking back, we are justly satisfied that our conscientious efforts to keep the flame of learning alive in our students have been successful.

The year 2022-23 brought with it the great relief of the campus resurrecting with the restoration of customary ways intertwined with a resurgence of the traditions indigenious to the institution.

The year started on a high note with the school winning International acclamation with the Certificate of Recognition for Exceptional Scholastic Excellence from the AKS Global Academic Excellence Awards, Dubai.

The field of academics has always been the forte of the institution as is evidenced by the past record of excellent results in the Class X and Class XII Board Examinations. In the current year, of the 216 students who appeared for the Class XII AISSCE, 50 scored above 90% with Devika Haridas and S Ardra of the Commerce Stream topping the list with 98.8% each. V. Gopika Unni and Angelia Aloor Shaju emerged toppers in the Science Stream scoring 97.8% of marks. In the Class X AISSE, 169 students appeared and 25 scored above 95%. Clelia Rose Vadakkethala scored the highest marks with 99%.

The year's in-house activities commenced with the elections to the School Cabinet, affording the citizens of tomorrow their first experience of the democratic process of electing their leaders through secret ballot. Albina K Biju of XII B was elected as the School Leader and Geff Geo of XI D and Nicky Sheby of XI E were chosen as the Assistant Leaders.

The various leagues and associations like the KCSL, DCL, Holy Childhood and Friends of the Altar had their year - long activities interspersed with literary and arts competitions.

This year's in-house activities were marked by a rare verve and intensity, presumably enhanced by the two years of forced confinement with all celebration and social activity at bay. Large scale and whole - hearted participation in the events was the hallmark of the year. Our hearts warmed when the campus woke up from its slumber and came alive once more in all its flamboyance and grandeur.

The passing year was dotted with celebrations, both customary and newly introduced memorial days in honour of occasions like the Yoga Day, Music Day,

Paper Bag Day etc. Every event, big and small, was celebrated in tune with its theme with activities ranging from a speech, commemoration song or competition to a mega stage and campus affair. The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illegal Trafficking saw the students of Class XI performing a flash mob in selected public places in the city. On the occasion of 75th year of Indian Independence, the students were awakened to the richness of the legacy of freedom that they had inherited through the sacrifice of many lives in his speech by Commandant Naveen Yadav of the B.S.F.

The major celebrations are always crowned by an act of kindness by the student community who are ever reminded of their commitment to the society at large and especially towards the less fortunate. In connection with the Onam Celebration, 150 grocery kits were distributed to the needy in Marottichal and another 200 to the destitute homes in Edakkalathur and Chennaipara. During the Christmas Celebration, Rs. 25,000 was donated to St. Joseph's Mental Home, Pullazhi and another Rs.25,000 to sponsore 30 dialyses in Jubilee Mission Hospital.

The Junior School also had its fun-filled celebrations like the Fancy Dress Day, Chocolate Day, Watermelon Day etc.

The passing year witnessed some commendable achievements by our students in National as well as Inter- School competitions. At the National level of the Smart India Hackathon for Juniors, the trio of Joel George, Alvin B Thattil and Francis Sony of Class X emerged winners with a cash award of Rs.25,000. In the Science Talent Search Exhibition, Joel George and Alvin B Thattil of Class X won the first prize. Loui Bright and Sheha Parveen of Class IX stood first and second in Category 3 in the Sahodaya Ujjwal Prathiba Awards. In the Science and

Mathematics Exhibition held at Vidya Academy of Science and Technology the Senior Secondary team won the first prize in both Science and Mathematics categories while the High School team won the second prize in the Science category. Several prizes were won in the Sahodaya MTSE and ELPSS competitive examinations.

In the National Level Model United Nations Conference YMUN conducted by the YMCA Thiruvananthapuram, Kasinath C A of Class XI was adjudged Best Reporter.

In the Sahodaya Kids' Fest, the Junior School was placed in the 1st Runner-Up position. The teachers also had their part in the success story by bagging the first Runner-Up trophy in the Thrissur Sahodaya Teachers' Kalotsav.

In the arena of Sports and Games our students have distinguished themselves in several events.

Nexa Shibu Elenjickal of Class XI was selected to the National Shooting squad in the Air Pistol event.

Chris Rapheal of Class X garnered a gold medal and a silver medal at the State Roller Skating Championship. Rachael Milton of Class V won the 2nd prize in the All Kerala Sub-Junior Badminton Championship held at Palakkad. The School Football team won several championship tournaments including the All Kerala Football Championship at St. Dominic School, Vellai and the tournaments held in Little Queen's School and Jeevan Jyothi Public School. Alvin Jecko Thottungal of Class IX won the Sahodaya Badminton Championship.

A global recognition came to the Nirmalite community through Harry Paul of Class V who secured a niche for himself in the High Range Book of World

Records, solving 5 Rubick's cubes one after the other in record time on roller skates with hula hoops. The 4- year old Devana P of Pre-KG won her place in the India Book of Records by translating 160 Malayalam words into English.

The developmental activities of the institution during these years include switching to Solar power, opening of a Recording Studio, installation of Smart Boards in all classrooms, the renovation of the Top Auditorium, the construction of a Conference Hall and new Staff rooms at all levels of the main building. One more division has been added to all classes from KG to Class X. Pre-KG classes started in 2021.

Sr. Silvy Edathil took charge as Vice Principal of the school.

The year 2022-23 saw some path breaking new programmes like the Nirmal Radio, a source of in-house entertainment peppered with knowledge tips bringing fun and hilarity into the tedium of studies. The school magazine Reflections was released in an e-version for the first time. The ATAL Tinkering Lab funded by the NITI Aayog, Government of India has come into full swing with lessons in Robotics. The School Innovation Council was formed as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Education, Government of India on 27th December 2022.

Advanced Learning classes providing training for competitive examinations for students of class III to VIII continued its coaching programme. An Anti-Narcotic Club, in tune with the need of the times, was started in campus.

In the intervening years after 2019, there have been some commendable achievements. The school secured the Naipunya Excellence Award in two continuous years, 2020-21 and 2021-22.

The Nirmalite alumni have distinguished themselves in various fields of activity. Sarat Sankar of the 2012 batch qualified in the Civil Services Examination and joined the Indian Foreign Service. Dr. Mithun Premraj of the 2009 batch passed the Civil Services Examination with the 13th Rank and entered the Indian Administrative Service. Bhaskernath of the 2005 batch entered the Kerala Administrative Service. Vineetha Joy of the 2005 Class X batch was conferred the Young Scientist Award. Sandra Liz Simon of the 2016 batch received the Prime Minister's Research Fellowship of Rs. 55 Lakhs for her doctoral studies in Chemical Engineering.

The former Principle Rev. Sr. Mereena Mundadan with her seminal study on the impact of grief on unemployed young widows in Kerala was conferred PhD by the Santo Tomas University of Philippines.

Another joyous occasion was the first Principal Rev. Sr. Little Maria's 50th year of religious life which was commemorated by the Nirmalite faculty in a private felicitation ceremony.

As I stand before this august assembly this evening, looking back in retrospect, my mind marvels at the miraculous ways in which the mighty hand of the Lord has held us up thorough the many crises that arose during these years. This institution has always stood under the covert of His wings, a citadel amidst the storms of life for our children. We bow down in humble acknowledgment of the myriad blessings showered upon us by the benevolence of the Almighty and pray that we may ever be worthy of it.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Management and in a very special way to the Manager Rev. Sr. Dr. Sophy

Pereppadan and to the Education Counsellor Rev. Sr. Little Maria for their unstinted support in all my endeavours. Let me also remember the helpful efforts of the Local Manager Sr.Jilsy John and the prayerful support of the Convent community. My heartfelt thanks goes to the PTA Executive for the timely advice and suggestions in the running of the school. Let me not forget the parent community whose unwavering faith in us has always been our forte and motivation. We are indebted to the Vicar and Asst. Vicars of the Lourdes Metropolitan Church for their support in the spiritual activities of the school and for keeping a protective watch over our children. The neighbouring community also deserves a grateful mention as our loyal well wishers. Last to be named but foremost in my mind stand my beloved colleagues beyond all words of gratitude because their selfless dedication is the key to the rise of this institution. And the ever-widening circle of the gratefully remembered comes full with my treasured students whose love and trust have been my mainstay during the past 6 years as the Head of this institution.

Let me conclude remembering the sustaining and fortifying verse from Isaiah
"He who watches over you will neither sleep nor slumber."

Thank you