







**Inspiring Spiritual** 

**Academic Growth** 

Half Yearly Newsletter Volume 7 | Issue 02 Oct'22 - Mar'23



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#### **FAREWELL TO ISC BATCH 2023**







# **Model United Nations (MUN)**

Model UN is a popular activity for those interested in learning more about how the UN operates. Thousands of students worldwide take part every year at all educational levels. Sri Sri Academy school - Alipore, Kolkata, hosted its 7th edition of MUN this year from the 28th to the 31st of October and our school, St Francis Xavier School was a part of it too. Arkadev Pandey (XIS1) represented the school and got a place in DISEC, UNGA's first committee.

The event started with the school band 'Enigma' delivering a musical performance followed by introductory speeches.

With an amazing set of participants and an equally efficient EB, our participant started the course of debating and conferencing, playing the role of the delegate of Australia. The main motion of the house dealt with the issues in the Mediterranean Region, involving peace and security followed by the topic - the Syrian Civil War.

This was followed by the introduction of the second formal-informal topic, the conflict between Cyprus and Turkey, regarding the occupation of North Cyprus. This yet again was another fantastic topic with prime relevance, creating one of the most important sections of the entire conference. The third and last formalinformal topic introduced was regarding the conflict between Israel and Palestine, which continued on the third day too. It was quite an enriching experience as there was a lot to learn from the event.

Arkadev Pandey (XIS1)

# **Guru Nanak Jayanti**

Students of St Francis Xavier School celebrated Guru Nanak Jayanti on the 7th of November to commemorate the birthday of Guru Nanak, one of the most revered Sikh Gurus and the founder of Sikhism. PowerPoint Presentations were made by the students depicting the life and works of Guru Nanak and were shown to the student audience.









# From the desk of Secretary and Administrator

Dear Students & Parents,

Sitting at the helm of affairs, it gives me immense pleasure and pride to see the overall growth of St. Francis Xavier School. The school has been instrumental in carving out students to become all-rounders and shaping them to be productive members of society.

We are constantly surrounded by situations presenting umpteen challenges. With the tech explosion, the world has become smaller in terms of accessibility, but the greater challenge is to build the natural inquisitiveness of students, and help them experiment it through interaction with the world. They need to be given life learning lessons to absorb the reality of the world being increasingly volatile and uncertain. In its complexity and ambiguity, students must imbibe the attitude to face challenges head on and confront them with a positive bent of mind.

It is only education that can equip the present generation to respect and appreciate ideas, see the perspective of others, develop a sense of purpose and move towards a brighter future. Such holistic education to build, motivate and create better citizens is what made St. Francis Xavier School rise to the fifth position in East Kolkata in the Times School Survey.

The school has received accolades having participated in numerous inter school events. These achievements have been highlighted in the school Magazine 'SPARK' in the 'Hall of Fame' section. Apart from the co-curricular activities, the outstanding academic achievement of Ayush Sur (99.24% in JEE Mains) and Souvik Sarkar (99.702% in JEE Mains) has made the school proud.

In its endeavour to reach greater heights the school plans to introduce smart classrooms to facilitate

greater teaching. Students through this technological initiative will learn more effectively. The provision of the school counsellor has been very successful in addressing the emotional, social and behavioral needs of the students.

It is only appropriate that the curricular should continue to evolve and new progressive ideas and practices (tried, tested and proven) should emerge to help teachers develop better citizens for a better nation and in turn a better and brighter tomorrow.

Regards

#### Ajay Chopra,

Secretary & Administrator

### **ESPECTRO**



# From the desk of Principal (0)



Dear readers,

It's a pleasure for me to connect with you all through our half-yearly newsletter 'Espectro' which has completed eight glorious years of its journey. It was launched under the auspices of our revered founder Principal Madam after being conceptualized by our respected

Secretary & Administrator, Mr. Ajay Chopra. I am pleased to see that Espectro has successfully been able to mirror the progress and achievements of our students & teachers and it has also served as a vital platform for our young student editors to hone their writing skills.

I hope, while we read this newsletter, we will be ushering in the new academic session 2023-24 which awaits wholehearted efforts from all with a zeal to outdo oneself in comparison with the last year. I feel it is important for all of us to learn from our past experiences as to where we excelled and where we failed to give our best.

Failures are the results of failing to plan properly. I recall a wise man, apart from Benjamin Franklin who often says" If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail". It is my experience as well that we fail only when we fail to give due importance to the details and carry out work without objective. Failures do occur while you work towards building up anything and in a way, it gives us the experience to be ready for the next time to do things right. It is rightly said that 'You're not a rider unless you've fallen off seven times. Nevertheless, it is always advisable to get up and start building things from scratch even after you see an entire edifice crumbling down before your eyes because some people failed to add their part of the bricks despite being fully aware of their

These situations often arise in the life of teachers and students who plan so meticulously to hold classes, organize events, take part in competitions, etc. There will be occasions where someone or the other will fail to perform in the team and the entire event will be rendered a fiasco. That is the time that calls for keeping calm and remaining patient while others do fail and blame you for their failures. Rather, one should trust himself when all others doubt him and while doing so it is also advisable to make a room for their doubts. One must then try to understand what made them doubtful of your capabilities and take steps accordingly. I believe, if we all see things from the above perspective then any task will become an opportunity for experience rather becoming a burden.

•I hope all of us shall be looking forward positively to the new session with fresh minds and rejuvenated spirits aiming to perform better than the last time and raising the bar all the while. There is a lot to do and achieve in this new session as we have introduced a set of new modules of learning keeping in line with the recommendations of NCERT where the students shall be given additional knowledge about financial literacy, Foundational literacy and Numeracy (FLN). These modules are designed in a manner where a pupil shall be engaged in various learning **by doing** activities that will make the entire learning joyous and recreational for the participants. There is also a plan for Ten bagless days for the students of Classes VI to VIII which shall be utilized for activities like Visit to national monuments, museums \* Handicrafts: jute making, bamboo work, craft \* "Best out of waste" \* Educational Games/Sports \* Hygiene and Cleanliness \* Environment & Greening Activities \* Music and Cultural activities \* Activities related to information and Communications Technology (ICT) \* Value and peace education \* Celebration of national festivals \* Interaction with local craftsman/ artisan \* Project based activities \* Animation, graphic, fashion designing \* Kite making, Dramatics, Scrapbook creation etc.

I look forward to a very enriching and fun-filled academic year ahead which calls for the wholehearted participation of all the teachers, students, parents, and guardians.

#### **Anil Srivastava**

Principal(0)



# From the desk of **Headmistress**



Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to pen down my first message for the much awaited newsletter ESPECTRO. All of you had already an overview of the events and activities that took place in the first half of the academic session. Now the time has come to reminisce the events of the latter half for which students and teachers have put in a great deal of hard work and effort. Kudos to You!

The current Academic Session has come to an end and we all are waiting with anticipation for another year to unfold awaiting what wonders it has in store for us. As, it is wellknown that the most momentous and significant events in our lives are the ones we do not see coming. Life is inevitably punctuated by sudden changes and defined by the unforeseen. And unforeseen it was! Remember March 2020? When our lives turned topsy-turvy - plans cancelled, dreams shattered . But these are 'boundary situations ' which we cannot initiate, plan or avoid. We can only "encounter' them. The best laid plans may go awry but how we encounter the situation is all that matters. Now that we are getting back normalcy in our lives, let the year ahead provide you all with wonderful opportunities. Opportunities which you can nurture and also give shape to your dreams and aspirations. Let us begin the new session with a promise to ourselves - stay strong and accept whatever life dishes out to us. Thank You and God Bless!

#### Mrs.Mom Chattopadhyay

Headmistress

# **Inter-House Dance Competition**

On 31st October 2022, an Intra-class dance competition was held at St Francis Xavier School in the school auditorium. The students of the primary section were given the option to perform either to Indian or contemporary dance forms. Ms. Riti Bhat and Ms. Chandni Chatterjee were the honorable judges for this event.

Arshi Dutta from Tagore House of class 1B presented a dance performance on 'Rabindra Sangeet' and secured the first position. Kritika Lal of Class IIB performed on the 'Aashayein' song and secured the first position. Tanisha Agarwal of (Gandhi House) from class IIIB secured the first position by presenting a dance performance on the 'Maiya Yashoda' song. Tanisha Dutta of class IVA Gandhi house performed on a song from the movie 'Takshak' securing the top position. Chandreyi Malik of VC (Tagore House) also secured the first position by performing on a song from the movie 'Durga Sohay'.

For the senior section, the judgment was based on rhythm, theme, dress, and choreography. Participants were divided into two groups - one for Classes VI-VIII and the other for Classes IX- X. From the first group -Ahana Das of VI A, (Tagore House) secured the first position by performing Shiva Vandana. Arshika Saha Roy of VI A (Netaji House) secured the second position. She performed on the song 'Aigiri Nandini: Durga Bandana'. Naitik Roy of VI B (Teresa House) came third by performing on the song 'Yeh Jo Desh Hai Tera' from the movie 'Swadesh'.

From the second group-Sriyanka Sarkar of IXC (Tagore House) performed on the song 'Allah megh de paani de' and secured the first position. Debangana Das of IXC (Netaji House) secured the second position by performing on the 'Shakti' mantra. The entire event was coordinated by the dance teacher Mr. Arnab Sen and was judged by Mrs. Sarbani Biswas and Mrs. Snigdha Sinha.

#### Mrs. Sanchaita Saha and Mrs. Sarbani Biswas

(Assistant Teachers)

# **Inter House Quiz Competition**

The Inter House Quiz Competition was held on 4th November 2022 in the school hall. The quiz competition was sectioned into four rounds-General, Audio-Visual, Incredible India, and Rapid Fire.

The following table gives us an insight into the results of the competition:

CATEGORY	CHAMPION HOUSE	FIRST RUNNERS-UP HOUSE	SECOND RUNNERS-UP HOUSE
GROUP A (I-III)	NETAJI	TERESA	N/A
GROUP B (IV-V)	GANDHI	NETAJI	N/A
GROUP C (VI-VIII)	TERESA	NETAJI	TAGORE
GROUP D (IX-X)	GANDHI	TAGORE	NETAJI
GROUP E (XI-XII)	NETAJI	TAGORE	TERESA

#### Mrs. Papiya Ghosh Dutta (Assistant Teacher)







# **Inter House Extempore Competition**

The Inter House Extempore competition was held on 10th November 2022 for four different groups of students in the school premises. The occasion gained impetus with the presence of Principal(0) Sir and Headmistress Madam. The topics were decided by drawing lots and two representatives from each house articulated their knowledge and views on the chosen topic. The final result for the competition was as follows:

CATEGORY House	CHAMPION HOUSE	FIRST RUNNERS-UP HOUSE	SECOND RUNNERS-UP
GROUP A (XI-XII)	NETAJI	GANDHI	TERESA
GROUPB(IX-X)	NETAJI	TAGORE	GANDHI
GROUPC(VI-VIII)	GANDHI	TAGORE	GANDHI
GROUPD(III-V)			
• CLASS III	NETAJI	TAGORE	N/A
• CLASS IV	NETAJI	GANDHI	GANDHI
• CLASS V	TERESA	TAGORE	TERESA







Mrs. Soma Acharya, Mrs. Joyita Acharya, and Mrs. Papiya Ghosh Dutta (Assistant Teachers)



### Margdarshan-Induction Ceremony of District Interact Council

Interactors and the Interact Club teacher-members attended the induction Ceremony of District Interact Council 2022-23 on the 11th of November, 2022 at South City International School. Mr. Ajay Kumar Law, present Governor of Rotary Dist-3291 renamed 'Margdarshan' as 'ALAP'. Out of 105 Interact Clubs under Rotary District 3291, 17 schools were chosen and their representatives were assigned different posts. It was a matter of great pride that two interactors of our School, Akshat Jaiswal (XIIS1) and Shaunak Dutta (XIIC) secured the posts of DIE and Photographer respectively.

Mrs. Kshama Dam (Interact Club Coordinator)

### **Children's Day Celebration**







Our teachers donned the role of entertainers and organised Children's Day with much fanfare in the school premises, on 14th November.

After a cessation of two years, we finally got to attend the event in person, joining the celebration, arranged by our teachers. The function was held in the school hall and there were two slots- one in the morning, and one later during the day. Plenty of arrangements were made for us. The school was decorated beautifully. We were greeted warmly and escorted to the hall sequentially.

From the Primary Section, Rahul Sir hosted the programme and from the Senior Section, our English teacher, Nikhil Sir was the host for the day. It started with a speech by our respected Administrator and Secretary Sir followed by an opening dance, performed wonderfully by our secondary teachers- Snigdha Ma'am, Sarbani Ma'am, Gargi Ma'am, and Papiya Ma'am. The teachers of the primary section along with Headmistress Madam presented a group song. Children's Day marks the birth anniversary of our first PM, Jawaharlal Nehru, therefore a PPT presentation on him was presented with a narration by Amartya Sir.

Purnendu Sir delighted us with a mesmerizing song followed by a duet by Chandni Ma'am and Suman Chakraborty Sir. Their brilliant performance left us agape. There was another dance performance by our senior secondary teachers, Kshama Ma'am, Indrani Ma'am, and Rameesha Ma'am to elevate the already brilliant show to another level. We were also treated to a third dance performance by our senior secondary male teachers which of course did not fail to astonish us again.

A brilliant musical performance by our Bengali teacher, SKB Sir stole the audience's hearts. Rahul Sir and Suman Sir joined him to add to the show. Another musical show was put up by the combined efforts of our teachers which was an impeccably performed medley. A third song performed by Shaon Sir on-'Something Just Like This' was equally amazing. In the end, Rahul Sir and Suman Sir presented a surprise dance item based on the song -'Jeena Yaha Marna Yaha'. Our dance teacher, Arnab Sir escalated the course of the events with a scintillating dance performance. Finally, with an inspiring and informative speech by our respected Principal Sir, we ended the course of events for the day.

Arkadev Pandey (XIS1) and Boudhayan Saha (VB)

### **Inter House Football Competition**

The Sports club of St. Francis Xavier School organized an Inter-House Football tournament on 16th November 2022. The result of the competition is given below:

CATEGORY	CHAMPION HOUSE	RUNNER UP HOUSE
GROUP A (VI-VIII)	GANDHI	TAGORE
GROUP B (IX-X)	TAGORE	NETAJI
GROUP C (XI-XII)	TERESA	GANDHI







**Sports Club Coordinator** 

# Report on Educational Excursion Classes I to X 2023

An educational excursion was organized for the students of Classes I-V on 25th November 2022. The students of the primary department accompanied by their teachers were taken to Science City.

They visited the planetarium section of Science City where they saw the simulation of the sky, planets, and other celestial objects on a dome ceiling which fascinated them. They were also introduced to the models of telescopes and microscopes. The students visited different parts of Science City like the 'The Energy section', 'Fun Science section', and the 3D science show. The students got the chance to learn in a different environment. They came to know about the various experiments on the concepts of light and sound.

All in all, students learned with fun and real-life connections.

On 29th November 2022 the students of Classes VI to VIII were taken to the Alipore Jail Museum, which was a correctional home in the recent past.

The jail has been redesigned by the 'West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation' (WBHIDCO), turning it into a heritage spot that is on the "Grade I" list of 'heritage sites of Kolkata'.

The cells of historic figures like Netaji, Jawaharlal Nehru, Bidhan Chandra Ray, Khudiram Bose and the Gallows were a few important sight marking the place where many freedom fighters were executed. The students invariably realised the struggle Indians had to go through to achieve independence. Students were then taken to a 'permanent exhibition' where the belongings of the late freedom fighters were kept, along with the handmade clothes made by Indians in the 'tantkal' while they were in prison. Class teachers gave a brief explanation of all the items for better understanding.

Class teachers took a few students for the light and sound show. It was a 3D show which depicted an elaborate story of India's independence right from the time when the English East India Company settled in India. It was a lifetime experience for the students.

The entire jail museum was visible from the watchtower located at the center of the jail complex. It had previously served as a site for surveillance for the erstwhile jail authorities.

The Alipore Jail Museum tells moving and vivid stories of India's struggle for independence. An excursion to it leaves an indelible impression on one's mind.

Mrs. Sadaf Salim (Assistant Teacher) and Parna Saha of class VIII A



# Inter School Fest (Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan)

On the 26th of November, a selected group of students from our school participated in a science quiz- Eduquest, and a seminar at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bidhannagar.







The school had hosted a set of events spanning multiple

days, with our school being a part of all. The main events were a seminar for career counseling and a quiz. Arkadev Pandey(XIS1) was a part of the quiz team with teammate, Ruhit Banik of class XIIS1.

The session was graced by eminent guests from the fields of science across different prestigious colleges in Kolkata. Students gained much knowledge, not only academically, but also, more importantly, regarding actual skills needed to build a career to our needs and likings. The thrill increased as the names were called to get up on the stage, for the quiz was about to begin. The guizmaster for the day was Mr. Tarun Das, a renowned professor of BITM, best known for the most interesting demonstrations of science.

The quiz took place in multiple rounds beginning with the prelims. Out of nine, three schools were eliminated, where we won the first prize.

For Commerce students, various events were organised as follows:

Edspoof: It tested the imaginative limits of the participants who were required to put forward & demonstrate an advertisement in form of a presentation.

Edtech: Participants were given a theme on a business situation and they were asked to come up with vivid business strategies to overcome its shortcomings.

Edjam: A topic was given 30 minutes before the main event. Two participants from our school spoke where one was for and the other one was against the topic. Sania Gupta (XIIC1) and Tamanna Bandhopadhyay (XIC) were adjuged the second Runners up.

Arkadev Pandey (XIS1)

### **Inter House Basketball Tournament**

The Inter-House Basketball Tournament was held on 31st November and 1st December at the school premises. A glimpse into the result:

#### **CATEGORY**

GROUP A (VI-VIII)/ BOYS GROUP B (IX-X)/ GIRLS GROUP C (XI-XII)/BOYS



#### **CHAMPION HOUSE**

**TAGORE NETAJI TAGORE** 



#### **RUNNERS UP HOUSE**

**TERESA GANDHI GANDHI** 



#### **Sports Club Coordinator**

# St. Francis Feast Day, 2022

Students of St Francis Xavier School celebrated the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 2nd December by holding a special assembly. For the Primary Section, the Assembly started with the garlanding of the portrait of St Francis Xavier and lighting the candle. Vivek Das of Class VA dressed up as St Francis. Arpit Kalondia and Vivek Das of VA delivered a speech on the life and works of St Francis Xavier. The students displayed charts on St. Francis Xavier in the







Assembly. The students of classes VI-X also held the assembly where Kathamrita Chatterjee of XS was the emcee who spoke about St. Francis Xavier's contribution. It was followed by speeches and a beautifully enacted skit by the students of classes VI-X depicting the moral values taught by St Francis. Students of the Senior Secondary section presented a skit based on the miracles of St Francis Xavier. The school choir and the teachers sang a beautiful song-"Make me the Channel." It was followed by a group song.

The programme ended on a very beautiful note, with a vote of thanks by our respected Principal Sir (0) and our Headmistress Madam who duly acknowledged the efforts of the students and teachers for making this event a success.

Pratyasha Majumder (Class XS)

### Investiture Ceremony and District 3291 Fest of the Interact Club

The Investiture ceremony of the Interact Club took place on the 9th of December, 2022 in the school premises. Mrs. Sulagna Daw, the current DICC of District 3291 graced the occasion. It was a great honour when in her speech she did mention that St. Francis Xavier School was outdoing other schools in Kolkata. The efforts and hard work of our Interactors, in the events organised







by District 3291 were applauded. She appreciated the fact that our Interactors indeed carved a niche with their sincere efforts in all the events viz. fests, eye camp, book donation, visit to orphanages and old age homes.

Sulagna Ma'am along with Principal Sir (0) and Headmistress Ma'am pinned the badges, which was followed by the Oath taking Ceremony.

The Interactors participated in 'Unwind', a fest organized by Rotaract District Organization on 11th of December, 2022 where they secured the Second position in Medley.

Mrs. Kshama Dam (Interact Club Coordinator)

# **World Human Right Day**

Human Rights Day is observed on the 10th of December every year. We observe this day to remind ourselves of the inalienable rights that everyone should get as a human being. On this occasion, students prepared PowerPoint presentations under the able guidance of their teachers.



### **Career Guidance**

A career guidance session for the students of class XII-Science was held on Friday, 9th of December 2022 in the school hall. It was a great honor when our Principal(0) Sir imparted valuable information about the different courses available after Plus 2 science and enriched all of us with such great insights into the topic.

The major topics covered were - the various career paths in the science stream, the available courses, important competitive examinations with their dates, details about the different sites from where they can gain information about the top colleges with the course details, scholarships, employment news, & list of fake Universities. They were also told how to understand their values, interest, aptitude, potential skills, and management of stress & anger which in turn will help them to set goals after evaluating themselves effectively.

Ms. Dipwanita Chatterjee (Counsellor)







# **Special Assembly on Christmas**

St. Francis Xavier School organised a special assembly to usher in the festive spirit of Christmas on 20th December 2022. The programme of the primary section started with a prayer by Mr. Rahul Mojumder, followed by his speech explaining the importance of the day. Then there was a dance performance on the instrumental 'Waka-Waka' by the students of class I and the school choir sang 'Jingle Bell'. Christmas Celebration can never be completed without Santa Claus. The role of Santa was perfectly played by Spandan Dey of class VA who sang Merry Christmas with the students.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks by our Headmistress Ma'am, Mrs. Bipasha Das followed by the school song and display of charts and Christmas crafts made by the students. For the senior section, Nandita Dutta of Class XI S1 delivered a speech on the significance of Christmas. The significance of the day was elaborately explained by our Principal (0) and at the end of the program, the school choir sang - "we wish you a Merry Christmas.

The students of classes VI to X had their part of the celebration in the evening when all were assembled in the basketball court to celebrate the birth of Christ before the winter vacation commenced. The assembly began with an enlightening speech by our respected Principal(0). The emcee, Parna Saha of Class VIII A told us more about Jesus Christ and Christmas followed by a speech by Ahana Basak of Class VIII B. The English Choir doubled the joy of the celebration with the song 'Jingle Bell' and 'Joy to the World'. In the end, Ayush Thapa of IX C dressed as Santa Claus and greeted the children.

Mrs. Riti. P. Bhat and Mrs. Papiya Ghosh Dutta (Assistant Teacher)







### **ESPECTRO**



#### **Biennial Concert**

On 23rd December 2022, the Biennial Concert for the session 2022-2023 was held with glamour and glitz at the Eastern Zonal Cultural Complex. The dedication and sincere efforts of the teaching and non-teaching staff, and students alike, toward making this concert a grand show was visible on the day which served as an occasion to celebrate the multi-faceted talents of our students

The ceremonious lamp was lit to invite divine grace to descend upon all. A large LED screen was installed in the backdrop which added magnificence to the entire show by projecting awe-inspiring visuals & graphics.

After the lighting of the lamp, students of Classes VI-X performed a welcome dance titled 'Swarg Swagatam' based on the music created by the famous dance maestro Uday Shankar. Thereafter, the students of Classes III-V rendered a fantastic performance in the form of an English Play-'Shrek' that depicted the victory of good over evil and also asserted that true love can transform lives. The students of Classes I and II tapped their feet to the tune 'Latino Feats'.

The Bengali department put up a play - 'Tamaso Ma Jyotirgamaya', depicting the ill effects of superstitions that once prevailed in our society.

The Hindi department put up a play 'Chanakya ka Rashtra Nirman' a historical tale presented with lilting music and action.

Students of Classes VI-X presented a Classical Fusion Dance based on the theme 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam' which conveyed a strong message on environmental protection.

The English department staged the play- 'The Mask of Zorro', an adaptation of 'The Curse of Capistrano' a 1919 novel by Johnston McCulley. The performance of the students as well as the stage set-up mesmerized the audience at the end of each play.

The School Choir presented a medley of Christmas Carols to bring in fervor and create the ambiance of the festive season. The parents and guests showed their appreciation as the hall rang aloud with applause after each item was presented.

With the sincere efforts of our Secretary and Administrator, Mr. Ajay Chopra, Officiating Principal, Mr. Anil Srivastava, Headmistress Madam Mrs. Bipasha Das, teachers, students and support staff, the concert concluded with the promise to carry forward the legacy of St. Francis Xavier school for years to come.

Mrs. Indrani Banerjee (Assistant Teacher)







#### **Warm Clothes Donation**

Interact Club of St Francis Xavier School, 'Sahayog', took up the project of distributing warm clothes to the poor and needy in the wake of the onset of the winter season. The Interactors arranged for the collection of the garments by sensitizing the students towards the plight of the people who can't afford to buy clothes to keep themselves warm during winter. Approximately 112 items were donated by the students and the same was handed over to the 'Kankurgachi Deshoprem welfare Society' an NGO, on the 2nd of January, 2023.

Mrs. Kshama Dam (Interact Club Coordinator)



# **Special Assembly on National Bird Day**

On the 5th of January 2023-National Bird Day, a special assembly was held at school where the students were reminded of the need to save birds in order to save trees and promote afforestation. Students displayed their love and care by making







innovative bird feeders and bird shelters which were then placed on the school terrace and hung on the trees in the neighborhood. Charts were prepared by the students of classes I to XII. Students also pledged to install bird shelters and feeders at their homes as well.

# Special Assembly on Swami Vivekananda Jayanti

To mark the auspicious occasion of Swami Vivekananda Jayanti, a special assembly was held at St. Francis Xavier School on 11th January'2023. Our respected Headmistress Madam gave a motivational speech on Swami Vivekananda. A few students of Class VA - Mrinal Modi, Kishan Raj, and Spandan Dey recited a poem named -'The Fourth of July'. Bibek Das of VA dressed up as Swami Vivekananda. Arpit Kalundia of VA delivered a speech on Swami Vivekananda and Divyanshi Maiti of class IA recited a poem titled - 'Hey Pradiptobeer Swami Vivekananda'. Mr. Rahul Clement Majumdar was the EMCEE for the Day. For the Senior Section Nandita Dutta of Class XIS1

delivered a speech on Swamiji and his preachings. Ahana Basak of Class VIII B delivered a speech on Swami Vivekananda. Shreyan Ghosh of Class VIII B delivered the famous discourse of Swamiji at the Chicago Religious conference. Debarchana Datta of VIII B sang the 'Ramkrishna Aarti' in her beautiful voice. A speech was delivered by our Principal(0) highlighting the achievement of Swami Vivekananda wherein he put India's religion and culture prominently on the world map.



**Boudhayan Saha**(V-B)

### **Annual Picnic (I-XII)**

The Annual Picnic was organised at Ekanto Apon Resort on 20th January 2023 for the students of classes I-XII.

The bus journey toward the venue started with great enthusiasm and anticipation of a wonderful day ahead. The students were given delicious breakfast boxes upon boarding the bus. All were extremely excited and kept singing songs during the entire trip.

The students and teachers were welcomed by the staff of the resort upon arrival where they were briefed about the facilities available at the venue. The entire arrangement was checked by the Principal (0) after which the S&IB and support staff were deployed to ensure general safety and security.





The students were given the necessary briefing by the Principal(0) after which they were allowed to enjoy their day. All were excited and shook their legs to the thumping dance numbers which were played on the open ground. They even created a few crazy steps and the teachers too joined the fun.

Students were engaged in various games like cricket, football, badminton etc. The places most enjoyed by the children were the dance arena and play area with swings & slides. Teachers engaged themselves in paddle boating as well. After a tiring and fun-packed morning, the children headed for lunch where all relished different items of food followed by desserts. All the students expressed a desire to revisit the place. Indeed, it was a great day for all as it strengthened the bond between the teachers and the taught.

Mrs. Mausumi Mondol (Assistant Teacher)

#### **Inter House Cricket Tournament**

St. Francis Xavier School organised the Inter House Cricket Tournament for classes-VI-XII wherein a total of 120 students participated from the Four Houses. The matches were held on 21st January at the AD Ground, Salt Lake City. Mr. Suman Chakraborty along with the other members of the Sports Club of STFX made all the arrangements to ensure the successful conduct of the event. The residents of the neighborhood were seen cheering up the players who put up a spectacular performance. The results of the tournament are as follows:

**CATEGORY** GROUP A (VI-IX) GROUP B (X-XII)



**CHAMPION HOUSE** 

**NETAJI** 

**RUNNERS UP HOUSE TAGORE GANDHI** 





**Sports Club Coordinator** 

# **Netaji's Birthday and Republic Day**

St. Francis Xavier School held a special assembly on the occasion of Netaji Jayanti and Republic Day at the school premises on 24th January 2023.

The programme commenced with the lighting of the lamp and garlanding of the bust of Founder Principal Madam by our Principal (0) Sir, followed by an enriching speech on the significance of the day by Mr. Rahul C. Mojumder. A speech on Republic Day was delivered by Debanshi Sarkar of Class III A. Rajanya Pal, of Class III A recited a beautiful poem on Netaji. A skit depicting Netaji's struggle was performed by the students of Class V followed by their dance performance on a patriotic song. Our school choir sang the Patriotic song- 'Ae Watan Mere Watan' which invoked a sense of pride among all for our nation.

Students of Classes VI to X also held a special assembly and the emcee was Archisman Ghosal of class VIII A. The programme was followed by a series of speeches by Riya Singh and Tamali Varsitha of class IX S on Republic Day and on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, respectively. Sarthak Paul of standard VI A presented a melodious instrumental of the song 'Muktir o Mandir o Sopano tole' on his synthesizer. A beautifully choreographed group

dance was presented by the students of classes VI to IX. A solo patriotic song by Debarchana Dutta of class VIII B and finally a skit by the students of Classes VIII & IX mesmerized the audience. For the Senior Secondary Section, Nilesh Ranjan Saha of Class XIS delivered a speech on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's contribution towards the achievement of independence. The programme concluded with a speech delivered by our respected Principal(0)Sir explaining the consequences of the INA trial and RIN revolt which led to the independence of our country. He also explained the importance and significance of the preamble of the constitution and explained the meaning of each term mentioned in the same. The programme concluded with the entire audience singing the National Anthem with devotion and pride.

Mrs. Sanchaita Saha and Mrs. Papiya Ghosh Dutta (Assistant Teachers)











# Saraswati Puja

Saraswati Puja was observed at St. Francis Xavier School on 26th January 2023. The entire school staff joined hands in the puja celebration after flag hoisting & singing of the National Anthem as the day coincided with the Republic Day.

The room for Saraswati Puja was well decorated by the teachers and support staff. The idol was adorned with flowers by the teachers. The decoration created a perfect ambience with colored paper and other decorative materials. It was also a pleasure to see our teachers as well as students dressed in traditional Indian attire.

The puja commenced at around 09:45 a.m. and concluded with teachers and students offering pushpanjali to the Goddess. Our respected Secretary & Administrator, Mr. Ajay Chopra offered puspanjali to the Goddess. The students who turned up for the Puja were mostly the ICSE and ISC examinees coming to school for a brief period of relaxation before their examinations. Some ex-students also joined the celebration to seek the divine blessings of the

Goddess. After the completion of the rituals of the Puja, prasad was distributed among all.







Mr. Amartya Pathak (Assistant Teacher)

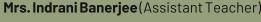
# **Drawing competition at the Indian Coast Guard**

On the occasion of the 47th Raising Day of the Indian Coast Guard, various events were organised by the Ministry of Defence. We are proud to announce that Arka Sarkar of Class VIII A took part in the Drawing Competition held at Coast Guard Residential Enclave on the 28th of January, '23, and secured First position. His artwork included a scene where the Indian coast guard marine squad is seen protecting the Coral Reef from the poachers near sea shore.

Mrs. Joyita Acharya (Assistant Teacher)

#### **Staff Picnic**

It was indeed a day filled with excitement when the Admin, teachers, and office staff of St. Francis Xavier School went for a staff get-together to 'Banabithi Resort' on the 3rd of February' 2023. It was a day filled with fun, laughter, music, and dance. The games organised at the venue by the sports club thoroughly engaged and entertained all the staff members who were elated to get prizes and gifts upon winning the same. Every staff member enjoyed the day to the fullest with a scrumptious lunch and an environment filled with love. All the staff members were thankful to the Management for organising such a wonderful day ou









### Science Exhibition









The Science Exhibition 2023 was organized by St. Francis Xavier School on January 30, 2023, at the school premises. It was a wonderful experience for all the students and the teachers of the Science Department.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Principal(0) Sir and Headmistress Madam. Students of the Primary section put up their exhibits in the school hall. The hall was decorated with colored charts prepared by the students. Participants demonstrated their models and charts based on the following topics 'Best out of waste', 'Our Universe', and 'Sustainable Development'. The parents and guardians praised the innovative ideas and efforts of our students.

For the Secondary and Senior Secondary Sections, the entire Physics lab was decorated with colorful and informative charts prepared by the students from classes VI-XII. A model of an LPG gas leakage detector (Sentinel) prepared by class XI-XII students, based on an Arduino open microcontroller, was appreciated by all the visitors. There were many working models, such as wireless communication devices, rain detection machine, automatic street lights (an advanced energy-saving module), light illusion (3-D holograms), hydraulic press models, and many more models on renewable energy systems, electromagnets to name a few. The visitors, as well as the judges, highly praised the innovative ideas and efforts of our students.

In Biology, students of Classes VI to XI took great interest in making working models on systemic and pulmonary circulation, ultra-filtration, working mandible, reflex arc, and many more. The students also displayed models on SARS-COV-2 virus and hydroponics. There were charts and PPT presentations emphasizing on pollution checks and the conservation of natural resources.

Students from the Chemistry department made the working models of an Underwater Explosion, Flaming Flask, and Chemical Sunset explaining the concept of Conservation of Energy, types of flame, excitation energy, and its relation with the color wheel. The polymeric reaction was explained through models showing its utilization in the fashion industry viz. Nail Tattoo. The role of Chemistry in the field of medicine was explained in detail through charts and PPT presentations. The visitors were enthralled to see the wonderful presentation by the student demonstrators.

For the Mathematics exhibition, the students prepared various items such as the Height and Distance model, Probability Game, and Conic Section model. The Math Lab initiatives like the mathematical Quiz show and Relation & Functions demo were much appreciated.

The Computer Science department put up colorful and neatly made charts displaying vital information about the recent developments in the fields of Al and machine learning. An LED System designed by the students of Class XI using Arduino was the center of attraction. It was programmed to display lights glowing in different patterns following specific commands. A few students of Class XI designed two games using Java called 'Snake-Labyrinth' and 'Digital Cricket' which became very popular with the audience. Another worthwhile effort from students of Class XI was designing an animation project titled 'JavaPro'using Java.

The visitors as well as the judge greatly applauded the innovative ideas and efforts of our students.

Mrs. Rameesha Dey Sarkar (Science Club Coordinator), Mrs. Chandni Chatterjee and Mrs. Dipa Mazumder (Assistant Teachers)



### **Plantation drive**

On 1st February 2023, the Nature Club of St. Francis Xavier School organized a plantation drive in collaboration with Vinisha, a non-government organization, led by its founder Mr. Ramesh Chandran. Approx. two thousand seed packets were handed over to our students to ensure that they also join hands in the environmental crusade by planting seeds and raising awareness towards the drive by re-distributing the packets to their friends, relatives, and neighbors.

Mrs. Ashima Chattopadhyay (Assistant Teacher)

### Farewell for ISC batch 2023

"All good things come to an end ......" The emotions evoked by these words loomed large on the day when a farewell ceremony was organized on the 7th of February at our school for our beloved seniors of ISC batch 2023. The day marked the end of the wonderful journey of almost one and a half decades of school life for most of them. The ceremony began with the lighting of the lamp followed by garlanding the portrait of our revered Founder Principal Madam. Our Secretary & Administrator Sir gave an inspiring speech where he advised the students to be avid readers. He also added that in this digital age among the plethora of learning materials available - one has to wisely choose the relevant one. Moreover, spending time on social media can also be helpful if we choose the right content. He also mentioned that being a good human is what is important, rather than getting just good grades. He encouraged everyone to come back to school and share their success stories once they achieve the same.

The Students of Classes IX to XI put up a colorful cultural show to entertain their seniors. It started with a dance titled 'Vishnu Vandana' performed by Sanjibani Saha of Class XS. A medley of English and Hindi songs like 'See You Again', 'Night Changes', 'Channa Mereya', and 'Yeh Dosti' was sung by the choir. Students tapped their feet on a fusion of retro and contemporary songs. This was followed by an interactive session to select Mr. Francis and Miss Francis. The candidates were judged by their promptness, acumen, poise, and spontaneity. The most coveted titles of Mr. Francis and Miss Francis were bestowed upon our Headboy- Pranoy Ganguly (XIIS) and Headgirl-Tanisha Dugar (XIIS) respectively. Pranoy Ganguly in his speech gracefully thanked his teachers and friends for making his school life special.

Rameesha Ma'am, Indrani Ma'am, Nikhil Sir, and Trina Ma'am - the four class teachers of ISC Batch 2023 showered their blessings and motivated the students through their speeches.

The speech of our respected Principal (Officiating) Sir at the end surely made everyone remember their initial days in the school. He not only inspired them to be a better version of themselves but also gave them a few important life lessons.

Lastly, we had the Cake cutting Ceremony. All the dignitaries cut the cake and marked the end of the function. A buffet arranged by the school management with a scrumptious spread was relished by everyone.

Towards the end, the atmosphere got charged with the joy of graduating and the sorrow of parting forever wherein laughter and tears intermingled.

Nandita Dutta (Class XI Science)









### Vaccination drive









St Francis Xavier School facilitated Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation's free-of-cost Measles and Rubella vaccination drive for the students (up to the age group of 15) at the school campus. Students of classes I to V were administered the dose on the 8th and the students of Class VI-X on the 9th of February 2023.

Mrs. Indrani Banerjee (Assistant Teacher)

# **Career Counseling Session**









A career counseling session was conducted on 10th February by Dr. Divya Pal, under the aegis of the 'Fortis School Mental Health Programme' supervised by Dr. Samir Parikh the Director of Mental Health and Behavioral Science (Fortis Group). The key highlights of the session were steps to success, techniques for effective studying, and coping with exam stress. The students of Classes XI attended the seminar with keen interest and expressed their wish of attending more such informative sessions.

Ms. Dipwanita Chatterjee (School Counsellor)

### OUIZ

1. What is India's link with the World's first living heritage University?

2. Kookaburras is the nickname of the Hockey Team of which of the following countries?

South Africa New Zealand Zimbabwe Australia

3. Which of the following is not organized by International Cricket Council (ICC)?

T20 World Cup One-Day Cricket Tournament Indian Premier League World Test Championship

4. Which of these minerals was found in abundance recently in India?

Palladium Lithium Barium **Thorium** 



- 5. The 46th International Kolkata Book Fair saw a record sale of books totalling \_\_\_\_\_?
- 6. Which Asian country has officially recognized e-Sports as part of multi-sports events?
- 7. Vaidehi Chaudhari, who won her maiden singles title recently, plays which sports?
- 8. Pink Ladies' and 'Granny Smiths' are types of what fruit?
- 9. What is the fastest flying bird on Earth?
- 10. Nebraska's Sand Hills where a new type of quasi-crystal was discovered, is located in which country?

### SUDOKU

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periodically in all directions.

10. The USA. Quasicrystal is a substance that has atoms orderly arranged like a crystal but its atomic structure is more complex and does repeat

- 9. The Peregrine Falcon
  - 8. Apples
- $\label{eq:constraint} $$ $$ . $$ Tennis. Vaidehi is also the reigning National Tennis champion.$

Sports Ministry are asked to include 'e-Sports as part of multi-sports events.

- 6. India. The President of India, Droupadi Murmu amended the rules governing E-sports. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the
  - 5. Over 25 crores. A new record. Over 26 lakh people visited.
    - 4. Lithium.
    - 5. Indian Premier League
  - 2. Australia Kookaburra is a type of large kingfisher bird native to Australia
  - $\label{eq:proposition} \textbf{ANSWERSTO} \ \textbf{OUIIS} \\ \textbf{OUNESCO} \ \textbf{is set to become the world's first living heritage university and it is set to become the world's first living heritage university and it is set to become the world's first living heritage university and it is set to become the world's first living heritage university and it is set to become the world's first living heritage university and it is set to become the world's first living heritage university and it is set to become the world's first living heritage university and it is set to become the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and it is set to be come the world's first living heritage university and the world's first living heritage university and the world heritage university and$

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ANSWER TO SUDOKU





It was a pleasure for the toppers of Classes I to IX & XI of AY-2022-23 when their beloved Secretary & Administrator, Mr. Ajay Chopra joined them in their celebration. That beautiful moment was captured and framed to be cherished

# TRAVELOGUE - BAGORA, **NORTH BENGAL**

**Next weekend's destination** 



"A picture sque village, a place of absolute tranquility from the madness of the city."

With mountains, fog, and pristine nature, Bagora is a beautiful hamlet located at an altitude of 7150 feet above sea level and is a place where you can just relax and rejuvenate. The mountains being the eye-candy, and the carpet of green grass a soothe to your soul, it calls for a leisurely walk around the village to explore it further.

To reach Bagora, one has to take a shared cab from Siliguri / NJP towards Darjeeling and get off at Dilaram, from where one can take a car to Bagora. The most mention-worthy activities are- a visit to the zero point, and also bird-watching. There are several trekking routes from Bagora to Chimeni (4 km), Latpanchar (19 km), Mongpu (12 km), and Chatakpur (8 km). Bagora is also called the 'zero point'. About 1.5 km from Bagora market, there is an air base. On the way down to the air base there is a viewpoint from where we could see the Teesta river winding its way through the valley. If you get lucky and the weather stays clear, you can also catch a glimpse of the Kanchenjunga in all its majestic splendor.

#### **OURJOURNEY**

The road leading to Bagora is so beautiful that one falls short of words. The uphill road winds through pine and dhupi forests so dense that even the Sun's rays have difficulty penetrating. On our way, we came across many native sights, like the road leading to the Bagora market - a small village with a few stores and local farmers carrying their produce in beautiful baskets.

When we reached the place, we found that there was only a single homestay called Diki's Homestay and one forest rest house. Fortunately for us, the host family was able to provide us with quite a decent accommodation. The best thing about the homestay was its location. It was located on the top of a hill, the highest in the village. On further exploration, we saw a small lawn in front of the homestay from where we could see the magnificent view of Kalimpong. Our stay was quite a nice one which brought solace to our souls.

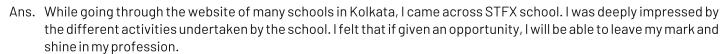
If one wants to escape the hustle and bustle of the city, a weekend spent in Bagora will surely leave an unforgettable impression of sheer peace and tranquility.

Mr. Nikhil Biswas, Assistant Teacher



### IN CONVERSATION WITH MRS .RITI PRASHANT BHAT

- 1) From when have you been a part of St. Francis Xavier School?
- Ans. I joined this institution in the year 2010 when I got appointed by our Founder Principal Sheela Chopra Madam.
- 2) Have you always been inclined to teach? What made you choose this profession?
- Ans. Since my childhood, I had a passion to become a teacher. I was greatly influenced by my teachers and felt that I too can make an impact in students' lives.
- 3) What made you choose St Francis Xavier School among others in the city? How is our school special to you?



- The school is very close to my heart as here I have spent many precious years of my life.
- 4) What motivates you in school while facing the challenges of dealing with the adolescents?
- Ans. A teacher's job is never easy. A child's innocent greeting, the look of wonder in his/her eyes as we teach, a simple drawing he/she thrusts into your hand and runs...all these are moments that made me realise that it's worth being a teacher. Another added advantage was to get a chance to work under the guidance of our late Founder Principal Ma'am who trained us very hard.
- 5) How do you see the school in the absence of the Founder Principal Madam? How do you want to see it?
- Ans. Our late Founder Principal Madam was a pillar of strength for us. On her passing away, we all were in a state of shock and apprehension. But the school functioned effectively under the able administration of our Secretary and Administrator, Ajay Sir, and the blessings of the late Founder Principal Madam.
  - As I have been a part of the school for so many years, I would love to see it attain great heights and grow in size & reputation.
- 6) The first day of any new job is always a special one. How was it for you?
- Ans. I was very nervous on the day I joined. It was a new place, a new beginning and there were butterflies in my stomach. That very day we had to take the students for Sports Practice at SAI and I had no idea about my role. Realising my nervousness, the erstwhile Sports In-charge entrusted me with some easy tasks that boosted my confidence. After a while, I started interacting with the other teachers and students and an immediate bonding was thus created.
- 7) Do you feel a teacher needs to have a bond with students which extends further than just the need to teach? How is your relationship with the students?
- Ans. I believe the student-teacher relationship should be of two-way trust and respect. Being teachers, we simply cannot stop at just teaching. We have to inculcate morals and values so that they become good human beings. I always talk to the children when I realize that he or she requires some handholding in order to make steady progress.
- 8) How has the school contributed toward your professional growth?
- Ans. Apart from the advanced teaching methods being followed in the classroom we also carry out a lot of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities which are meticulously planned to achieve the desired objectives. The experience gained while taking part in such activities has helped me immensely in my professional and as well as personal growth.
- 9) After being a part of our institution for these many years, has there been a change in your outlook on our school?
- Ans. My feelings towards the school have undergone a lot of change. Initially, it was a professional bond that over the years transformed into a personal one as well. Now, I do not see my existence apart from this school as I feel I have a role to play in its growth. I have received every kind of cooperation from my school and for me, it is a home away from home.

Arkadev Pandey, XIS1