



# Yoga with a TWIST

The International Day of Yoga has been celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm annually on 21 June since 2015.

But with the world being under a lockdown, it had to be done within the four walls of our homes. This certainly made the Johnians come up with new ideas to keep things going.

It was Fun Filled Family Yoga Time for them as they all did extensive **YOGA ASANAS** with their family at home. Their pictures were overflowing in the school inbox and we were delighted to see their spirit of being fit even during this time of trial.

Well as they rightly say, 'Fall in Love with taking care of yourself. Mind, Body and Spirit'.

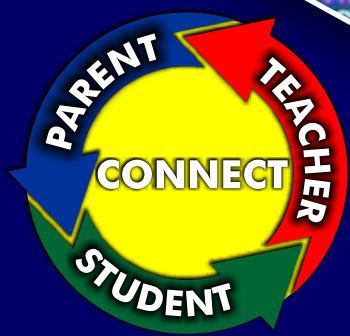


# Parent's Orientation and Positive Parenting Session

As they say, there is no such thing as 'Perfect Parenting' So just be a real one.

Our dedicated team of counsellors held a special orientation during the month of May where they put in 'ginormous' efforts to make the parents comfortable and accustomed to positive parenting during the pandemic by guiding them to initiate worthy Teaching-Learning during this time.

Both parents and children are experiencing a major transformation in their lifestyle and are vulnerable as regards a number of emotional and psychological issues. A number of strategies and coping mechanisms were discussed with parents to efficiently deal with the situation and help sail through these tough times with ease.



# ARTISTIC FLEDGELINGS

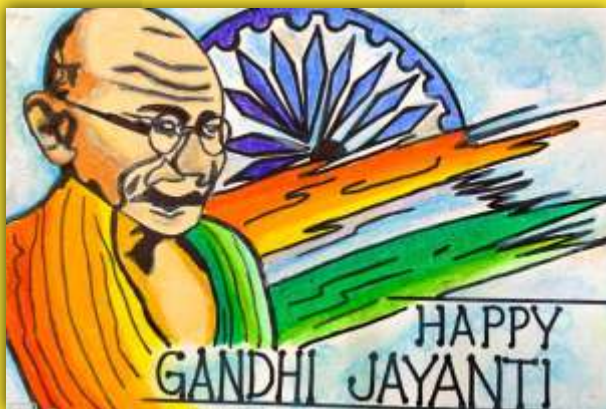
*Every Artist was once an Amateur*



Well, our little fledgelings from Junior school tried to break new ground with their artistic hands and put their best foot forward to create something extraordinary in the fields of art and crafts based on the New Art-Integrated Curriculum which interweaves the subject matter taught in the classroom with various co-scholastic areas, thus making learning more hands on and impactful.

The boys also celebrated the various festivals like Diwali, Gurupurab and Christmas by making various buntings, wreaths and other decorations this time around to light up their homes instead of the school.

The Art Teachers put in numerous efforts and even sent videos to make the concepts clear to the boys. Other than taking regular online zoom sessions with them, this broke the monotony for them and they got a feel of being back at school.





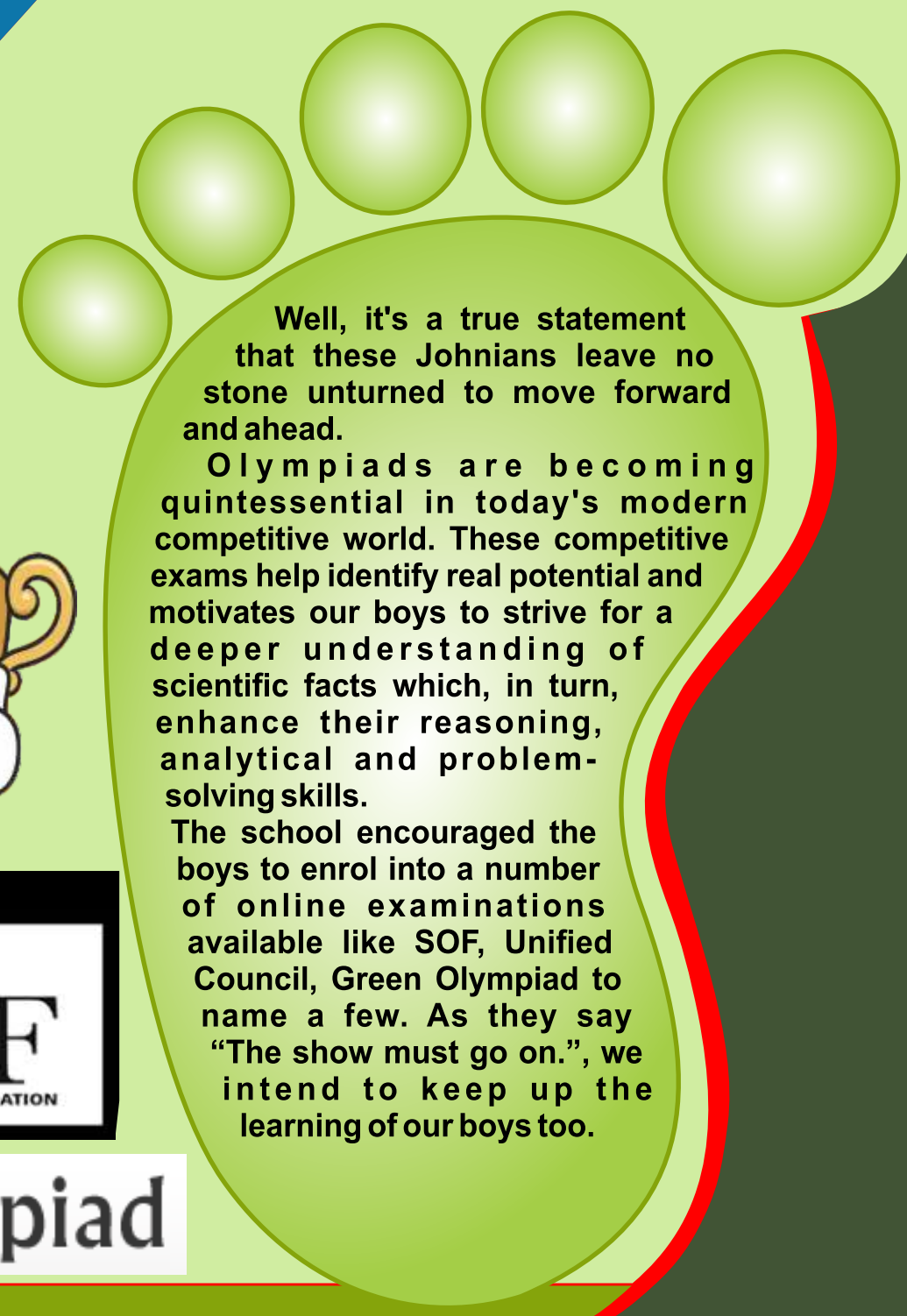
**Little  
Feet  
Taking  
Giant  
Leaps**  
*- Virtually!*



**nstse**  
Test • Assess • Achieve  
**NSTSE • 2020**



**The GREEN Olympiad**



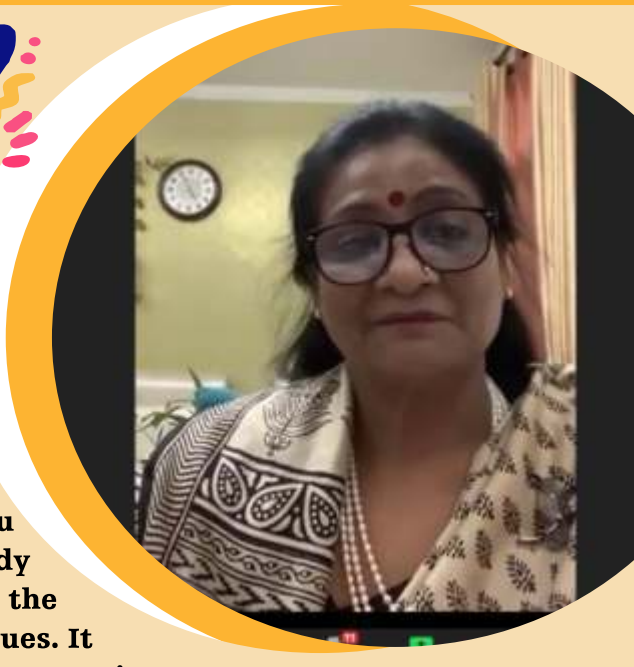
Well, it's a true statement that these Johnians leave no stone unturned to move forward and ahead.

Olympiads are becoming quintessential in today's modern competitive world. These competitive exams help identify real potential and motivates our boys to strive for a deeper understanding of scientific facts which, in turn, enhance their reasoning, analytical and problem-solving skills.

The school encouraged the boys to enrol into a number of online examinations available like SOF, Unified Council, Green Olympiad to name a few. As they say "The show must go on.", we intend to keep up the learning of our boys too.

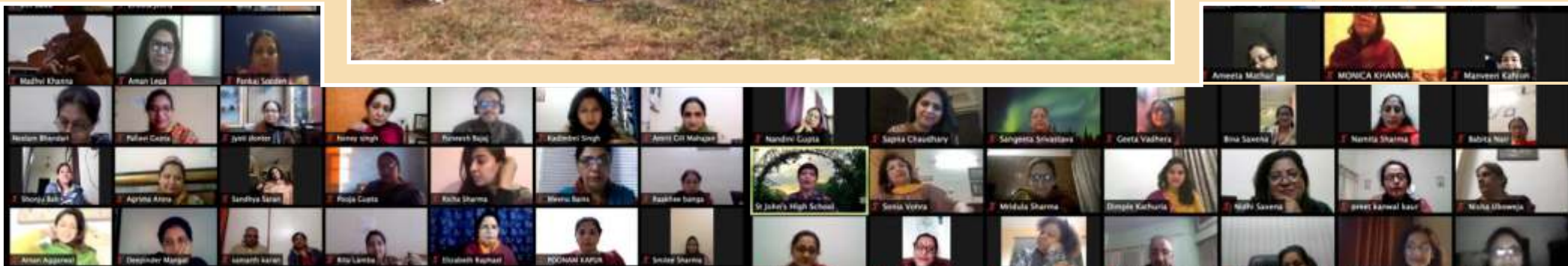


# Farewell Party



We bid adieu to two of our wonderful teachers- Mrs. Ritu Mittal a beauty with brains, and Mrs. Beena Saxena the lady with a magic brush. The virtual farewell was a tribute to the conclusion of the glorious and satisfactory careers of our colleagues. It started with a soulful hymn sung by our Principal Mrs. Kavita Das and our music teachers, followed by heartfelt speeches by their colleagues and beautiful medleys sung by the staff choir. The touching farewell messages written by all, a lovely dance medley and thoughtfully made PPTs depicting their journey in St. John's, left so many of us teary eyed and reaffirmed the fact that each member of the St. John's family is so dearly loved and valued.

*All the best!*





ST. JOHN'S DEDICATES ITS  
FOUNDER'S DAY TO  
**CORONA WARRIORS**



This year St. John's High School dedicated its Founder's Day to the **CORONA WARRIORS** as a tribute to their selfless service to mankind.

5th May is a very special day for every Johnian, young or old. Blessed Edmund Rice our founder taught us through his own life, faith, humility and care to serve society. His vision has resulted in more than 400 schools around the world imparting education that speaks of God and giving hope, compassion and love.

In honour of this, the school created a series of videos.

Everything begins with a prayer in St. John's. The first video sent out, captured the Johnians past and present delivering their school prayer.

As a dedication to a special set of people-the men and women COVID-19 Warriors who have been risking their own lives on the frontline, to keep us safe, a huge banner outside the school gates was put up to thank the toiling frontline warriors. The students displayed the values inculcated in the school by thanking these amazing people.

# Virtual Assemblies

One way in which the St. John's Family has continued to come together during these on-going unprecedented times, is by conducting weekly online assemblies.

## TOPIC : **SIMPLE LIVING HIGH THINKING** (Gandhi Jayanti)

A virtual Class Assembly by the boys of class 5A was conducted online, which was connected to You Tube so that the parents, students of class 5 and teachers of the Junior school could enjoy its live streaming. Based on the format, the assembly began with a welcome address and a Prayer, followed by a beautiful hymn sung by a child. **The boys then shared the teachings and beliefs of Gandhiji and encouraged all to adopt his ways of simple living and high thinking.** An inspiring Hindi poem on Gandhiji was recited beautifully by a boy. In Bhasha Sangam, a child sang a verse of a Gujrati Bhajan, much loved by Gandhiji, which was then aptly translated in English by another student. This was followed by NEWS, national, international and sports news. The music teacher Arun sir shared a video of a song Vande Matram, prepared by the music teachers. The assembly ended with a thought for the day. Finally, the Jr Coordinator spoke a few words of encouragement and a vote of thanks was given by the class teacher.

Overall, it was quite a unique and a memorable experience. The boys and their parents gave their unconditional support. Children participated enthusiastically and enjoyed every moment of this unusual experience.



## TOPIC : **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

The first virtual assembly of class 1D was held on 3rd September, 2020. The theme of the assembly was Independence Day. The boys very confidently conducted the assembly. **It included a poem by the boys on Independence Day and also Vivaan Mohan played the Piano .... song Teri Mitti marking a tribute to the forces and the great warriors.**



# Virtual Assemblies



## TOPIC - TEACHER'S DAY

A special assembly was conducted by the young Johnnians of class 1C. The online assembly began with a prayer for the world and the safety of the teachers. A hymn by Babita ma'am and Arun sir was sung. The relevance of the day was explained by the boys. **An English poem and a Hindi poem were recited by the boys. The students thanked their teachers for teaching them in the pandemic.** Bhasha Sangam was in Dogri and English about precautions for COVID-19. The teachers were very happy to see the little ones after a long time and vice versa. Principal ma'am thanked the parents for their support and applauded the efforts of the boys. The assembly ended with happy faces and laughter.



## EAT HEALTHY, STAY HEALTHY

In order to inculcate the habit of healthy eating, the students of Class KG presented a beautiful assembly emphasising the importance of healthy food for an active life. They displayed a plate of healthy food like fruits and green veggies in front of them. They also explained the repercussions of not following a proper diet.





# "Bridging the Distance Addressing Challenges of COVID-19 through Webinars"

## Health And Wellness

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON	ATTENDED BY
12.05.2020 and 12.05.2020	Understanding And Promoting Mental Health	CBSE	Mr.Aadi Garg	All Staff Members
19.09.2020	Understanding And Promoting Mental Health	CBSE	Mr. Aditya	All Staff Members
25.08.2020	Mental Health And Wellness During COVID-19	Any Other	Dr. Murli Rao (Chicago), Dr. Shamsher Drividi (Fortis Gurgaon), Dr. Swati Chawla and Dr. Prakriti Podar.	All Staff Members
24.05.2020	Managing Emotions And Improving Mental Health During Lockdown	Any Other	Mr. Aadi Garg	Counsellors And Junior Staff Members
02.12.2020	AIDS Awareness	Any Other	Dr. Sunil K Arora	All Staff Members

## Environmental Health And Safety At School

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
19.08.2020	Challenges Of The Pandemic For Safe School Operations	CBSE	Mrs. Kavita Das, Mrs. Kavita Sanghvi, Deepa Kapoor, Nellie Ahmed and Mr. Alok Raj Gupta	All Staff Members
19.09.2020	Revaluating Environment Health And Safety	CBSE	Mrs. Kavita Das, Mrs. Kavita Sanghvi, Deepa Kapoor, Nellie Ahmed and Mr. Alok Raj Gupta	All Staff Members

## Life Of Blessed Edmund Rice

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
29.08.2020	Coffee With Edmund The Advocate	Edmund Rice International	Br.D'Abreu, Br. Steve Rocha, Br. Charles, Br. Sunil Britto, Br. G.Thomas, Br.P.Pinto and Br.C.D'Souza	All Staff Members

## Effective Parenting

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
17.05.2020	Effective Parenting And Child Development	Any Other	Mr. Aadi Garg	All Staff Members
23.08.2020	The Science And Art Of Good Parenting	Any Other	Mrs. Kavita Das	All Staff Members

## Staying Motivated

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
21.05.2020	Staying Motivated During Lockdown	Any Other	Sharda Dhiwal and Mr. Rishi Raj Chauhan	All Staff Members

## Online Education

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
15.09.2020	Environment Literacy	CBSE	Experts from Mumbai, Delhi, Goa and Pune	Science Department
27.09.2020	Online Education And E-Learning in NEP 2020 Prospects And Problems	CBSE	Prof. Maya John(Delhi University) and Prof. Avninder Chopra(Head of the Dept. of English DAV Chandigarh)	All Staff Members

## Subject Enhancement

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
10.05.2020	Innovative Pedagogy In English- Experiential Learning	CBSE	Mrs. Rajni Chatwal	All Staff Members
10.05.2020	Bloom Taxonomy Of Mathematics	CBSE	Dr. AP Chawla	Maths Department
10.05.2020	Mass Media And Values	CBSE	Mr.Ajay	All Staff Members
16.05.2020	Plaksha Tech Talks - Underwater Robotics	Any Other	Dr. Hanumant Singh	Maths and Science Department
09.05.2020	Emerging Roll Of Music In Education	CBSE	Dr. Amiraj Batra	Music Department
09.05.2020	Fostering Critical Literacy	CBSE	Ms. Reema Dewan	All Staff Members

## Gender Sensitivity

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
13.05.2020	Gender Sensitivity	CBSE	Mrs. Kalpana Kapoor	All Staff Members
14.05.2020	Gender Sensitivity	CBSE	Ms. Sangeeta Bhatia	All Staff Members

## Eco-Club

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
16.09.2020	Air Pollution, Climate Change And Ozone Depletion	Any Other	Cpcc Chandigarh, Mr. Ravindran	Science Department
21.09.2020	Keep Environment Safe	Any Other	Eco Club incharges of various schools	Science Department

## Life Skills

DATE	NAME	ORGANISER	RESOURCE PERSON/S	ATTENDED BY
13.05.2020	Awareness Programme	Any Other	Mr.Aadi Garg	All Staff Members
11.05.2020	Enhancing Life Skills	CBSE	Mr.Vivek Tiwari	Counsellors and Junior Staff
10.05.2020	Kohlberg's Stages Of Moral Development	CBSE	Dr. Ajay KR. Khosla	All Staff Members
13.05.2020	Weaving Life Skills In School	CBSE	Mrs. Anuja Sharma	Counsellors and Junior Staff



# A FIST FULL OF RICE

**“God loves a cheerful giver and is rich indeed who has enough to give.”**



सेंट जोन हाई स्कूल सेक्टर-26 की तरफ से एकत्र राशन को प्रिंसिपल कविता दास माता मनसा देवी चेरिटेबल ट्रस्ट को सौंपती हुई ●स्वतः



The initiative 'A Fist Full Of Rice' was introduced in our school a few years ago by one of our Johnians. This year we collaborated with the NGO “Youth For Change.” The students come forward generously to donate bags full of rice and pulses to be sent to the financially challenged families. Rice being a part of every Indian's staple diet, is widely produced and eaten all over India. Rice contains a lot of minerals and vitamins too which are essential for everyone.

This initiative is a part of the annual Christmas celebrations of the school. It is also in keeping with the spirit of our founder Blessed Br. Edmund Rice, who based the foundation of our school on the values of compassion and inclusion. These also happen to be the two touchstones of St. John's.

Every single Johnian was forthcoming in giving and helping the needy. We managed to gather a huge quantity of rice in a few days. Our Alumni, SJOBA, ingrained with the values of the school, lent their support by doubling the quantity of the collected grains. This year we collected 800 kilogrammes and SJOBA added 1000 kilogrammes to the donation. This was then sent to the Mansa Devi Trust for their mobile langars (community kitchen).

Rohiteshwar Dahiya  
Assistant Editor.



# A Display of **CREATIVITY** During a **SWELTERING PANDEMIC**

**THE IMPORTANCE OF POETRY IS NOT  
MEASURED FINALLY BY WHAT THE  
POET SAYS BUT HOW HE SAYS IT!**



This year's online poem recitation competition at St. John's High School is a perfect example of the saying 'Whenever God closes a door, he opens two more'. Due to the pandemic, schools had to be shut and all the students' activities ground to a halt; the competitions being no exception.

Nevertheless, we found a way to come together - virtually. Even though the competition was from the safety of our homes, the competitive spirit was high. Each participant had a choice to recite in Hindi or English. The poem had to be self composed. Each poem was unique in its own way, and each one no less than the last. It was a completely new experience. More than 50 students across three classes participated, and the best made it to the final round, where the topic was "Rural India is Real India."

Creativity had no bounds, be it in the decor of

the rooms, the students' costumes, or the poems' rhyming and cadence. The pandemic was not a barrier that day. The artist in each one of us had resurrected. When they first called my name to present, I felt all the tension and nerves I would have felt had the competition been in a physical setting. While we were presenting, none of us were thinking about the results, but rather it was about not giving up even until the last second and performing to our absolute best.

After doing so, all we could do was hold our breath and wait to see the fruits of our labour.

It was an amazing display of talent and confidence and the judges had a tough time selecting the winners.

Joshaan Singh Sidhu  
7D

Agadh Uday Gupta  
6B



# OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Whenever I am asked the question “why are the students studying in St. John's High School endowed with a feeling of pride when they recognise themselves as Johnians and what exactly sets them apart from others?” I always give them the same answer - our Outreach Programmes Right from the initial years students of St. John's High School are made aware of the prevailing disadvantages faced by people in our society. The Outreach programmes shape the attitude of the Johnians. As we grow up, we realise that we are fortunate to have certain privileges in life that others don't. These programmes help us to form a deep understanding and relationships with the different sections of society that we are involved with.

As the eaglets sprout wings and move into the senior school, the teachings of the outreach

programmes stay intact, with the Johnians throughout their time in this institution.

This year despite the unprecedented times, we modified and took our outreach programmes into the virtual world, converting it into a unique one.

## CLASS 6

The junior most class of the senior wing of St. John's performed Christmas carols in sign language in partnership with Vatika School Sector-19 (school for the hearing and speech impaired.). The boys of classes 6D and 6A performed the ever beautiful melodies of 'Jingle Bells and Wish you a Merry Christmas' and the boys of classes 6B and 6C dazzled the audience with the invigorating carol 'Joy to the World', giving a whole new dimension to the Christmas spirit and joy. The boys took out time to learn the Christmas carols in sign language. Their broad smiles and the Christmas decorations in their backgrounds made it a worth-watching performance. After such an unfortunate year the boys of class 6 revived the Christmas spirit for the people who are hearing and speech impaired.

## CLASS 7

The boys of class 7, partnered with the children of KHELSHALA for a fun session of picture composition. It was conducted online on 21st

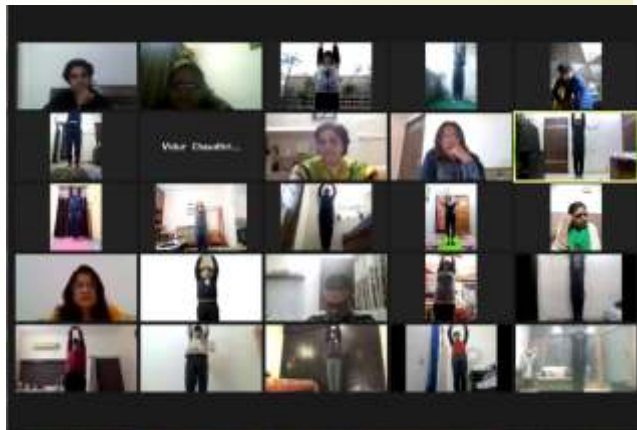
December 2020. The programme was mentored by Ms. Rashi Sethi Gupta.

## CLASS 8

With their middle school journey coming to an end, class 8 participated in an outreach programme with GRIID (Government Rehabilitation Institute For Intellectual Disabilities). They performed various yoga asanas on 11th December, mentored by Mr. Vijay Vashisht. All the participants regardless of their ages or backgrounds, sweated together as they tried to perform the yoga asanas with precision.

In the grimmest of times, we the members of the St. John's family took advantage of a double edged human invention, the Internet, to keep the spirit of our outreach programmes alive and it shall live on forever!

**Aalam Singh Bath -10 A (Assistant Editor)**



# SPEARHEADING THE CCT REVOLUTION



*“The whole purpose of education  
is to turn mirrors into windows”  
Sydney J. Harris*

The world doesn't revolve around textbooks, there is more to the world other than the knowledge that we extract from textbooks. No doubt textbook learning is important. It is the basis for all that we learn and experience in our lives. Textbooks are the foundation of our ascent towards becoming useful assets in the global economy.

However, knowledge has boundaries and textbooks alone cannot accommodate wisdom, logical and cognitive thinking. It can suggest or provide useful methods but at the end of the day it is all about training our brains to pull their weight. To make the best of the knowledge we gather in these vital years, wisdom coupled with mental and logical cognition is very important.

This was renamed “Critical and Creative Thinking Assessment” to bring into focus the real concept of this assessment. That is to encourage innovative and out of the box thinking or in simpler words, find multiple ways to find a solution to a given problem.

India had participated in PISA in 2009 and it had ranked 72nd among 73 countries. It was represented by the states of Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh. India's performance at that time was quite low, but the experience provided valuable lessons about what it takes to do well on a competency-based assessment. Learning from the past, India has started working on PISA-CCT preparations since 2018 and the test is scheduled for 2022. This time the Union Territory of Chandigarh and the Central Government run Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas have been chosen to be the face of the country's education standards.

Thus, part of the onus of preparing the students of the city has naturally fallen on the Number One school of the city. St. John's took this as a great opportunity to prepare not only the Johnians for the PISA-CCT examination but took upon itself the responsibility to head one of the hubs of learning for mathematics. That involved training the teachers of 15 city schools, in order to equip them and enlighten them to move away from the conventional methods of teaching and incorporate critical and logical reasoning into their curriculum. Various seminars and webinars have been conducted by our Principal Mrs Kavita Das to encourage and ensure that the city schools keep climbing the learning curve. CBSE has also modified the pattern of the board examinations to include CCT based questions.

It is a matter of pride for all of us that we are the face of the education of the country because of the high standards of learning espoused by the city schools. We must also endeavour to prepare ourselves in such a way that we honour our country through our performance.

Keeping this in mind, PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) which is run by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OCED) started an examination to evaluate educational systems by measuring the scholastic performance of 15-years-old school pupils in mathematics, science, and reading.

Aalam Singh Baath  
Assistant Editor



# INVESTITURE CEREMONY

- Aalam Batth  
Student Editor(10A)

The best part of the entire ceremony was the fact that it was streamed live on Youtube, so that other students could also be a part of this momentous occasion, albeit virtually.

We walked into the school premises, knowing fully well that we had lost six months of our session. As I entered, nostalgia hit me hard. The laughter, pranks, hugs and bro fists, had been lost.

Separation from a place, where we had spent a major part of our lives, was really calling us to come back. The investiture assembly, though it had lost some of its grandeur in the absence of the students and parents, kept our spirits high due to a feeling of pride and responsibility in me and my fellow students, who were soon to be invested into the school cabinet.

It was good to see my friends, in one piece, and the teachers, who were present, were just as excited to see us as we were to see them. To make the event as safe as possible, social distancing norms were followed and appropriate screening was done.

On the stage, students were invested with utmost care and in an exemplary manner, keeping in mind the covid precautions. We had been invested during unprecedented times. No previous school cabinet had ever operated through online meetings and calls. This was a mammoth task which we had undertaken and it was conducted in a flawless manner.

Every school Editorial Board has been special in its own way. But this board, for the session 2020-21. will have its place in the history books.

Soon it was time to disperse, not to our classes, but to our homes. That small moment of normalcy that we experienced in the presence of our peers and teachers came to an end. We left the institution with a sense of happiness and sadness but with the hope of coming back soon.





# SILVER FERN EDUCATION



Silver Fern Education Consultants is a leading overseas education consultancy having successfully delivered more than 11,000 visas till date and working with around 700 Student recruitment partners across India to helping students make their overseas education experience a success in countries such as the United States of America, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Japan, Singapore, Dubai and Ireland.

**Silver Fern conducted regular online sessions last year to give our students an insight into their dreams.**



Mr Shivam Garg, who is the owner of the Chandigarh faculty and part of SJOBA volunteered to help our students who were planning to go abroad for higher education and provide students with various aptitude tests to help the students find their groove. They then helped all the students in profile building in pursuit of getting the students the universities they dreamed of.



Silver Fern conducted regular online sessions last year to give our students an insight into their dreams. We cannot thank them enough in all the ways they have helped all our students and provided them with the best opportunities for the future.





# Hasta La Vista

The event started with prayers to the almighty Lord, thanking Him for making the event possible even under the implications of the impending pandemic. Kavita ma'am, our respected and loved principal prayed for health and well-being. After sharing our thoughts with the Lord, we were escorted to our school's vast and lush playgrounds, which was the venue for the day. The arrangements regarding hygiene and refreshments were immaculate, with the teachers assigned making sure that all the regulations and preventive measures were being followed.

Our teachers had charted an amazing roster of simple yet competitive events for us to shine in front of our classes. No student was given 'no' as an option which involved everyone in the event. The events included 'roll the wheel', 'ramp walk', 'sack race', 'caterpillar race', 'hurdle race' and many more fun events. We danced our way to lunch.

That lunch will be forever etched in our memories. There were so many delicacies! Also because we felt nostalgic remembering our school lunch break which we had missed for the entire year. Nearing the end, we all were given 'the ties' that were made especially for our batch. A souvenir and an identity that we as Johnians would always hold dear to us. After the official conclusion of the farewell, we began taking pictures with our loved teachers and friends in order to save the nostalgia and for the august day to be forever etched.

This article has no sad ending because we know as Johnians, that our school will always be there for us with open arms.

**St. John's High School celebrated its 60th batch of 2020-2021 on 27th of February. In accordance with tradition, every Johnian was dressed formally in suits and looking the best for the day. Some of them who had never formally dressed were just giddy with pleasure as every teacher complimented them for their look of the day. It seemed as if that day they could take pride in themselves for who they had turned out to be.**

**“This is not a goodbye, my darling, this is a thank you.”**

**Nicholas Sparks**

As chief guest, Ambassador Manpreet Vohra, Indian Ambassador to Mexico, graced the event with his presence. The event was also gilded by the presence of Dr. Sandeep Goyal as the guest of honour. There was an overwhelming response from schools across the globe with teams from Australia, Dubai, South Africa and well known Indian institutions.

**The St. John's International Virtual Debate 2020. A sterling benchmark for debating, the St. John's all India debate, 2019, made yet another futuristic and advanced comeback this year, as the 'St. John's International Virtual Debate 2020.'**

On the opening day, after an enthralling inauguration attended by eminent luminaries, the audience saw two rounds, the role play round - in which each participant had to speak on a pre-allotted topic and enact the character they portray; and the "Picture Speaks a Million words" round - in which two participants were randomly selected who had to debate on both the aspects of the picture provided. The students defied distance as they collaborated in the second round as early as 7 a.m. The enthusiasm was evident amongst the participants and the boys from our school as they strove along with their teachers to actualise online what was planned for offline.

The second day was equally action packed with students debating on topics of international concerns like the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The press was specially invited to participate as interjectors on this day. This gave the event their finalists who competed in Conventional Debating with Johnians storming into the finals.

Chef Sanjeev Kapoor, a famous Indian celebrity chef, entrepreneur and television personality graced the occasion as the Chief Guest for the Grand Closing Ceremony along with the Guest of Honor, Dr. Sandeep Goyal. The event which went live on YouTube was attended largely by viewers all over the world. And no event in North India is complete without the sound of 'dhol'. The audience witnessed an energetic performance by the Bhangra crew of St. John's High School and felt their hearts sync to the melody of the heartfelt patriotic song sung by one of our Johnians- Raghav Anand.

The Principal, Mrs. Kavita Das, addressed the audience, expressing how students develop their knowledge of various topics through such competitions involving discussion, deliberation, and debate. She applauded the efforts of the students, teachers and the tech team- who had put their heads together to successfully work out this organised event on such a large scale. She elaborated on the transparency of the judgement of this competition, and revealed how the judges weren't made aware of the institution each team was representing- thus making the evaluation fair and free of any discrepancy.

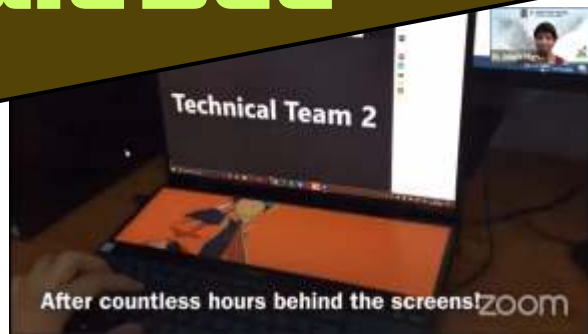
St. John's High School leapt forward to another level with this grand event.





# Visitavity & Coalesce

**“Visitavity and Coalesce” is an annual fest organised by our school which embodies the spirit of healthy competition and assists the students to hone their skills. During these trying times we had to adapt to the prevalent circumstances and conduct our renowned fest, virtually.**



The virtual coalescence of these events was something unprecedented, as teachers and students alike were not familiar with the logistics of hosting such a fest online. However, Johnians did what they do best; adapt to situations that are thrown at them.

This online fest was truly a one of a kind. Dozens of schools participated and the coding event, “Reitech” went INTERNATIONAL! It was the first international event conducted by our school. There are two sides to a coin. Though it is sad that we were unable to conduct the event in our school premises, but what we lost in not being able to conduct it in person, we made up for in terms of participation. Since everything was being powered by the internet, that meant we did not have to worry about geographical proximity.

Having the contest online, opened up many avenues for us that are simply not feasible in a physical event and the fest turned out to be a humongous success.

# Internationalism



**Internationalism  
doesn't mean the end  
of individual nations.  
Orchestras doesn't  
mean the end of  
violins.”  
- Golda Mier**

St. John's High School is a prestigious institution that has selflessly devoted itself to the cause of enlightenment through education. It has a rich history of more than 60 years and a strong alumni association that supports numerous school initiatives since its inception. More recently, St. John's has also started out to make its presence known internationally and to also diligently promote the cause of 'internationalism' by bringing everyone, countries and communities together in order to accomplish the goal of achieving world peace and acceptance. Being one of the many dedicated institutions founded by Blessed Edmund Rice all over the world, our school has for the past five years been holding and participating in

international meets, cultural exchange programmes and competitions. Our students have brought international laurels to the school and registered its name on the international platform. There is so much for us Johnians to be proud of our 'second home', as many of us fondly call it.

Some of the notable landmarks that St. John's has achieved in the past years include holding international cultural exchange programs with schools from South Africa, and Australia. Being a part of one of these prestigious initiatives myself, fills me with gratitude. Not only did our interaction with students from overseas broaden our knowledge about each other's cultures but also widened our horizons about how we can react to international crisis appropriately and also realized our role as 'global citizens'.

Our school also took our special school events such as the 'St. John's All India Debate' and 'Coalesce' to the global level. Teams from South Africa, Australia, Dubai and well-known Indian institutions were present at the first ever virtual contest of this magnitude which was graced by internationally recognised personalities. The event not only promoted healthy competition but also made us come 'closer' despite the current events the whole world is traversing through due to the pandemic.

Shaurya Ahlawat- XIIA  
Sr. Editor





# INSTALLATION OF 'The INTERACT CLUB'

St. John's High School

The Interact Club works with the aim to bring together young people to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of 'Service Above Self.'

Every year, this club of St. John's High School, works actively in the service of mankind. This year too, this club was installed but in a virtual manner....Thanks to the pandemic!!

Various dignitaries were present which included Mr. Sukhjit Singh Gill, President (Rotary Club Chandigarh) and Mrs. Madhu Marwaha.

**The Interact Club works with the aim to bring together young people to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of 'Service Above Self.'**

The event started with an introductory speech by Ms. Meenu Bains apprising the guests about the projects completed by the club....followed by a prayer. After the prayer, a virtual lighting of the lamp took place. The introduction to the club's activities was given by one of the club's directors, Aekom Mohan Singh and the Vice President, Abhayjit Singh talked about the expectations from the club. The previous year's Interact Club President, Pulkit Sharma talked about his tenure in the club and wished the current club members...Best of Luck!!! for their journey ahead. Thereafter, the current President, Livkirat Sethi talked about his responsibilities and plans for the club followed by the Vice President. The Secretary, Arnav Goyal introduced himself and listed his responsibilities followed by the Joint Secretary Gunraj Singh. Pranav Pandhi, the Sergeant spoke about his duties and introduced the Club Treasurer Milap Bansal who after sharing his list of duties showed a video collage of the activities undertaken by the club.....with a solo guitar performance in the background by himself and Kabir.

The activities included Social Distancing from video gadgets, a video on how to remain safe during the Covid-19 pandemic, a PPT on waste segregation, blood donation awareness as well as a project on mental health. Their upcoming projects include an Anti-Cracker Campaign and much more. Thereafter, the 'Badge-Pinning Ceremony' took place which was hosted by Mrs. Bains.

After the ceremony, the President of the Rotary Club Chandigarh, Mr. Sukhjit Singh Gill gave a speech about his experience with the Rotary and their responsibilities and the expectations he has from the Interact Club.

The Principal, Mrs Kavita Das also expressed her expectations from the new committee members through her speech and encouraged them to continue striding forward and to achieve new goals in life. The meeting concluded with the 'Vote of Thanks' by the President of the club.

## → COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>President</b>	: <b>Livkirat Sethi</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	: <b>Abhayjit Singh</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	: <b>Arnav Goyal</b>
<b>Joint Secretary</b>	: <b>Gunraj Singh</b>
<b>Sergeant</b>	: <b>Pranav Pandhi</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	: <b>Milap Bansal</b>
<b>Director of Club Services</b>	: <b>Aekom Mohan Singh</b>
<b>Director of Vocational Services</b>	: <b>Divyansh</b>
<b>Director of Finance</b>	: <b>Kabir Singhwal</b>
<b>Director of International Services</b>	: <b>Shaurya Ahuja</b>
<b>Director of Communication Services</b>	: <b>Lavanya Chauhan</b>
<b>Director</b>	: <b>Aarav</b>

**Teacher in Charge : Mrs. Meenu Bains**



# We Need Each Other More Than Ever..



How can a country lock up itself? That's exactly what happened on the 24th March 2020. All thanks to the widespread of the Corona virus. But all that is a story for another day. For now, let's fast forward to the first week of August.

Working from home was the new normal and for us students, the school faculty was trying their best to bring the school ONLINE.....and our online classes were in full swing.

In yet another effort to improve our experience, our school planned a first of its kind 'Online Assembly.' The odds of it being successful were very low but that was before we got to know the topic, 'ATMANIRBHARTA OR SELF RELIANCE'. Our class was given the challenge of presenting the first online assembly. This was one of the qualities that had been seriously tested in the lockdown. We thought that it was quite relatable, gave it a try and we were right. Our class teacher kicked things off by summarising the topic in her speech which was followed by a prayer and a hymn. We talked about the benefits of self-reliance and how it could prove to be a game changer for our country as a whole. Our school as well, went on to start a campaign 'BE INDIAN BUY INDIAN'.

The meeting concluded with some words of wisdom by our principal Mrs. Kavita Das. Towards the end, it was all praises for us and everyone wondered how we managed to pull it off so successfully.

Teacher In charge :  
Ms Anjali Newton

## Back to School.....

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a once-in-a-generation event. As we fight the COVID-19, it is extremely important for each one of us to realise that we need each other more than ever. The students of class 8-C conducted the online morning assembly on 6th November 2020 on this theme. It was a great team effort by the boys. The assembly started with the morning prayer to thank the Almighty for all His blessings that we have in our lives.....followed by speeches by the boys.

The message conveyed through the assembly was that people need to look out for one another and it is time for all of us to unite. The purpose of the assembly was to create meaningful connections with our community and people. We must keep ourselves mentally healthy during these difficult times and our own mental health is not something best done alone. We really do need each other.

A melodious hymn....'ITNI SHAKTI HUME DENA DAATA' was also played. At the end, a quote from 'The Holy Bible' was spoken as the thought of the day. Everyone was left with 'Food for Thought' at the end of the assembly.

Teacher In charge: Mr Puneesh Bajaj



## एक भारत श्रेष्ठ भारत

'एक भारत श्रेष्ठ भारत' एक ऐसी नई और प्रभावशाली योजना है, जो भारत सरकार द्वारा शुरू की गई। इस योजना का उद्देश्य मौजूदा सांस्कृतिक संबंधों के माध्यम से देश के विभिन्न भागों को बढ़ावा देना है। इस का उद्देश्य उन भारतीयों के बीच संबंधों को सुधारना है जो पूरे देश में अलग-अलग भागों में रह रहे हैं।

इन्हीं विशेषताओं को सातवीं-बी के छात्रों ने ईश्वरीय वंदना से आरंभ किया। योजना संबंधी जानकारी देते हुए, भारत की विशेषताओं को एक कविता के माध्यम से प्रस्तुत किया। 'एक भारत श्रेष्ठ भारत' को तमिल और कश्मीरी भाषा में अनुवाद किया। 'आज के सुविचार' के साथ वर्तमान परिस्थितियों को देखते हुए कोरोना से बचने के तरीकों को नाटकीय ढंग से प्रस्तुत किया गया। छात्रों ने भारतीय ध्वज के रंगों की पृष्ठभूमि (background) का प्रयोग करके भारतीय होने पर गर्व की भावना को भी दर्शाया।

Teacher In charge: Ms. Meenakshi

morning

# ASSEMBLIES



## WATER.... AN INVALUABLE TREASURE... SAVE IT!

Benjamin Franklin has rightly said, "When the well will be dry, we will know the value of water". It is true that thousands have lived without love, but no one without water.

Conducting an online assembly on this theme was an enriching experience. The boys of class 7A helped each one of us to reflect on this sensitive issue through their speeches and poetry.

We know that we all are capable of making a difference. After all, a journey of a thousand miles, begins with a single step. But the real question is that, are we all willing to take that 'Single Step'? One could highlight a number of uses and advantages of saving water but it's of no use until and unless we all make up our minds to take that one single step and be the change we want to see in the world.

So, let's promise ourselves that we won't let our future go down the drain because if there is no water, there is no LIFE!!

Teacher In charge: Ms Pooja Sharda



## TEACHER'S DAY

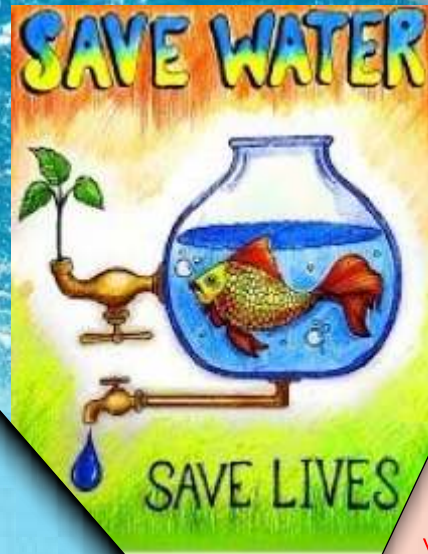
This year was unique; the educators got no time, the school was redesigned and brought to the students' doorstep, the resources were limited and the country was shut down.

The teachers were getting ready to take online classes and support the students...sitting at home. They became the Covid-19 warriors in the true sense and students thanked them from the core of their hearts on 5th September, 2020 (Teacher's Day).

A few students from Class 6 (the junior most class of the senior school) prepared an online assembly replete with songs, speeches and self composed poems for their beloved teachers on this occasion. Special cards were prepared and sent online.

Teacher's Day was made truly special for their heroes without capes.

Teacher In charge: Ms Rashi Gupta





### **CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE FATHER OF THE NATION - MAHATMA GANDHI:**

We at St. John's thought of a novel way to make our boys understand and incorporate into their lives the principles that our 'Father of the Nation' - Mahatma Gandhi - lived and fought for in his own unique way. Rather than making the boys read and listen to the stories about this great leader, several activities were thoughtfully planned. The students from classes Prep - 5 engaged in these with great enthusiasm. There couldn't have been a more meaningful way to pay obeisance to this great leader and the ideas and principles that his life symbolised.

### **St. John's organised an ONLINE POSTER MAKING COMPETITION**

to celebrate the life and achievements of Mahatma Gandhi which allowed the boys to give expression to their admiration and respect for this great Indian personality.

### **HOME CLEANLINESS ACTIVITY -**

Our class one students translated one of Mahatma Gandhi's principles that 'Sanitation is more important than independence' into action by participating in a unique initiative of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation at home.

**WE SALUTE THE APOSTLE OF PEACE-** The enthusiasts of class 3 participated in a SLOGAN WRITING COMPETITION to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

**WE BELIEVE IN EXPRESSING** - The Terrific Twos, our CLASS 2 students participated in a Handwriting Improvement Competition in which they wrote about the contributions of Mahatma Gandhi which made them feel grateful and proud about this great Indian leader.

**WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD :** The senior most class of the Junior school, class 5, paid a tribute to Bapu in a wonderful way by recording prayers in different languages that carried the message that "GOD IS ONE" and the best form of worship is to be kind and tolerant towards all faiths.

**Once again our boys proved that no adversity can prove to be an obstacle in their path to learn new things and give expression to their creativity.**







# IF YOU LOVE SOMEONE, **SHOW IT!!**



**Smiling, happy and carefree faces of boys - a sight so familiar at John's!**

These smiles have been dearly missed by each one of us. The reason is the PANDEMIC and its consequent impact that has forced our children into home confinement and stopped them from engaging in activities they love.

As a salute to the resilience of these little ones and their indomitable spirit, we decided to do something special for them. The management and staff of the school decided to put the smiles back on their faces by holding virtual celebrations of a day very special to each child - CHILDREN'S DAY!

Special videos of prayers, hymns, poetry, skits, songs and dances were recorded for this occasion. A lot of heart and love went into these preparations. On 10th November, at 1 O'Clock sharp, St. John's went live on YOUTUBE and the virtual celebrations of this special day were viewed by the entire JOHNIAN FAMILY in India and abroad. The Principal, Mrs. Kavita.C.Das, in her special message for our boys said that the school was like a 'ghost town' without their presence. She also urged them not to get complacent about their safety and to use masks, sanitisers, wash hands frequently and to keep themselves hydrated as the danger of Coronavirus still loomed large.

The Principal also took this opportunity to motivate each student to celebrate an Eco Friendly Diwali - a 'SWACHH DIWALI-GREEN DIWALI', as pollution could worsen the

effects of this virus. On behalf of the entire staff, the Principal conveyed to the students the heartfelt message that, "We will be waiting with open arms and warm hearts to welcome you all back to school!"

It was a day well celebrated and we are sure that we were able to make our children happier, their hearts gladder and put the smiles back where they truly belonged-on the faces of our children.



Parties!!!

Get together???

Celebrations??

# CLASSES PARTIES

These words sound so strange and unusual in the current scenario. Don't they? But life never stops and it always gives us a chance to find happiness and pleasures in the simplest of moments. So our boys too decided to take the challenge of this Pandemic with a smile on their faces and to celebrate life with the 'Never Say Die' spirit that the JOHNIANS are known for.

Class parties were planned, interesting themes were decided upon, fun games were selected, healthy drinks and snacks were put on the party menu, music was arranged. But mind you, these parties were not the usual kind-they were totally different in every way. Can you guess why?

Yes, you guessed it right. These were VIRTUAL CLASS PARTIES. Creativity and imagination became the keywords in the planning and execution of this wonderful idea. The excitement and enthusiasm quotient was really high. Party invites were sent out and each party had a wonderful theme. The participants put on their thinking caps to conjure up homemade costumes and masks. Moms got busy in organising some healthy and delicious eatables. It was so heartening to see the younger and older siblings joining the party because no

one could resist the spirit of fun and joy that was a key element of these parties. The Virtual Class Parties were a thundering success and the boys agreed to end the party only on one condition--that we would have another one SOON!!!



# CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF

# INDIA!!!

We are fortunate to be living in this wonderful country that has a rich cultural heritage, history, varied languages, customs, different seasons and cuisines. In an effort to make our young JOHNIANS appreciate this fact and familiarise them with different states of India and their remarkable features, a unique project 'EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT' was initiated in the school. This project was in compliance with the Administration's directives.



Each class chose a particular state along with DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI. The students took the initiative and formed groups and chose their own leaders. It was so heartening to see the boys do in-depth research on their topics and go that extra mile to make their projects bright, innovative, attractive and so informative. The information they collected was presented in a beautiful manner. The students explored different sources of information for their projects and their enthusiasm and energy was so amazing. Beautiful collages with attractive and colourful pictures, accurate information and beautiful decorations were the highlights of these projects. Parents gave their wholehearted support to this activity. Submission of these projects was online, so our boys not only gained vast knowledge doing this activity but also mastered technology by learning how to upload their work and yet the fun quotient was at an all time high. But then this is the true essence of learning at JOHN'S- LEARNING BY DOING!!

**This subject enrichment activity was a wonderful tool for our boys to know more about the several states that make up this wonderful country-INDIA and to develop a feeling of pride for this great nation.**

# रजत जयंती समारोह

अप्रैल 1995 में Brother D'Souza की देखरेख में अपने ज्ञान और काबलियत के बल पर हिंदी पद के लिए चयनित अध्यापिका मोनिका खन्ना ने जुलाई 2020 में अपने कार्यकाल के 25 साल पूरे किए। इसी खुशी में सेंट जॉन्स हाई स्कूल ने 15 अगस्त 2020 में अध्यापिका मोनिका के लिए रजत जयंती समारोह आयोजित किया, जो उनके अब तक के सफर की तरह बहुत शानदार रहा। इस समारोह में उनकी तुलना प्रांगण में उड़ती उस तितली से की गई जो बच्चों के मन को हर समय हरषाती है, जिनके कार्य की मुख्य अध्यापिका कवितादास और कोऑर्डिनेटर नीलम मैम सदैव ही प्रशंसा करती हैं। मोनिका खन्ना अपने से वरिष्ठ और कनिष्ठ सभी अध्यापकों से सीखने और सिखाने के लिए सदैव तत्पर रहती हैं। श्रीमती मोनिका खन्ना को उनके कार्यों के लिए सम्मानित किया गया। इस अवसर पर उनकी सहअध्यापिका निशा तथा अध्यापिका जिनोबिया ने अपने विचार साँझा करते हुए बताया, कि श्रीमती मोनिका खन्ना बहुत ही साहसी, समझदार धैर्यवान तथा सहनशील अध्यापिका हैं। उन्होंने जिंदगी में अनेक उतार - चढ़ाव देखे, परंतु उन्होंने यह समझने में तनिक भी देरी न की, कि संघर्षों से शक्ति मिलती है, नई राहें मिलती हैं। उनका हँसता मुस्कराता चेहरा जीवन में खुशी से जीने तथा आगे बढ़ने की सीख देता है। इस अवसर पर उनके लिए अन्य अध्यापिकाओं ने मीठी आवाज़ में प्यारे गीत गुनगुनाए, उन्हें गुलदस्ता और एक चेक भेंट किया गया तथा एक सिल्वर ट्रॉफी से नवाजा गया। अध्यापिका मोनिका खन्ना के रजत जयंती समारोह पर श्रीमती मुख्य अध्यापिका कविता दास, कोऑर्डिनेटर नीलम मैम, ब्रदर तथा सहअध्यापिकाओं ने उन्हें बधाई देते हुए जीवन में सदा मुस्कराते रहने की शुभकामनाएँ दीं।





# पोषण माह

# उत्सव

पोषण अभियान की शुरुआत नीति आयोग द्वारा राष्ट्रीय पोषण नीति के तहत की गई है, जिसका उद्देश्य 2022 तक भारत को कुपोषण मुक्त करवाना है।

जैसा कि सब जानते हैं पोषण अभियान की शुरुआत नीति आयोग द्वारा राष्ट्रीय पोषण नीति के तहत की गई है, जिसका उद्देश्य 2022 तक भारत को कुपोषण मुक्त करवाना है। इस अभियान के तहत गर्भवती महिलाओं तथा कुपोषित बच्चों के लिए सुपोषण की व्यवस्था करवाना है। इसी उद्देश्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए 29 सितंबर 2020 को सेंट जॉन्स हार्ड स्कूल में पोषण माह उत्सव मनाया गया।

इस कार्यक्रम को मुख्य अतिथि डॉक्टर जी दीवान तथा डॉ. मनीषा अरोड़ा की देखरेख में आयोजित किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत प्रार्थना के द्वारा की गई। बच्चों को डॉक्टर दीवान ने पोषण माह से अवगत करवाया तथा उन्हें सुपोषण का महत्त्व समझाया।



उन्होंने कहा कि हमारा भोजन सभी प्रकार के विटामिन, कार्बोहाइड्रेट्स तथा प्रोटीन से युक्त होना चाहिए। उन्होंने बच्चों को किचन गार्डन का महत्त्व बताया तथा फल व सब्जियाँ लगाने के लिए प्रेरित किया। बच्चों को पोषण से संबंधित अधिक से अधिक जानकारी हो इसके लिए छोटी सी प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। इस प्रतियोगिता में बच्चों को किचन गार्डन से संबंधित उनके मानस पटल पर अंकित चित्र को पोस्टर पर बनाने के लिए कहा गया। इस कार्यक्रम से बच्चों को पौष्टिक भोजन की महत्ता भी पता चली तथा सभी बच्चों और अध्यापकगण ने देश को सुपोषित देश

बनाने का संकल्प लिया। डॉ दीवान ने बच्चों को संतुलित आहार खाने के लिए प्रेरित किया। ऑनलाइन आयोजित किए गए इस कार्यक्रम के द्वारा बच्चों तथा अध्यापकगण को डॉ मनीषा अरोड़ा और डॉ दीवान से खूब जानकारी हासिल हुई। सभी ने भारत को स्वस्थ व सुपोषित देश बनाने का प्रण लिया। इससे बच्चों को बहुत कुछ सीखने के लिए मिला। अंत में मुख्य अतिथि द्वारा दी गई जानकारी के लिए धन्यवाद करते हुए कार्यक्रम का समापन किया गया।





**14-9-2020**

सर्वविदित है कि प्रत्येक वर्ष भारत में 14 सितंबर को हिंदी दिवस मनाया जाता है। इस उपलक्ष्य में सभी स्कूलों में कहानियों, कविताओं, वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिताओं तथा भाषण प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया जाता है। इस संदर्भ में सेंट जॉन्स हाई स्कूल ने भी इस प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया। कोरोना काल को देखते हुए यह प्रतियोगिता ऑनलाइन कक्षाओं के जरिए आयोजित की गई। कक्षा प्रेप से पाँचवी तक के सभी विद्यार्थियों ने बड़े उत्साह के साथ प्रतियोगिताओं में अपनी भागीदारी की। इस प्रतियोगिता में सभी कक्षाओं द्वारा अलग-अलग विषय पर बच्चों से स्वयंरचित कविताएँ सुनी गईं। प्रतियोगिता दो भागों में आयोजित की गई। पहली बार में कक्षाओं के सभी बच्चों ने भागीदारी की दूसरी बार केवल चयनित बच्चों में फिर से प्रतियोगिता हुई और उनके आत्मविश्वास, जानकारी, लय, उच्चारण के आधार

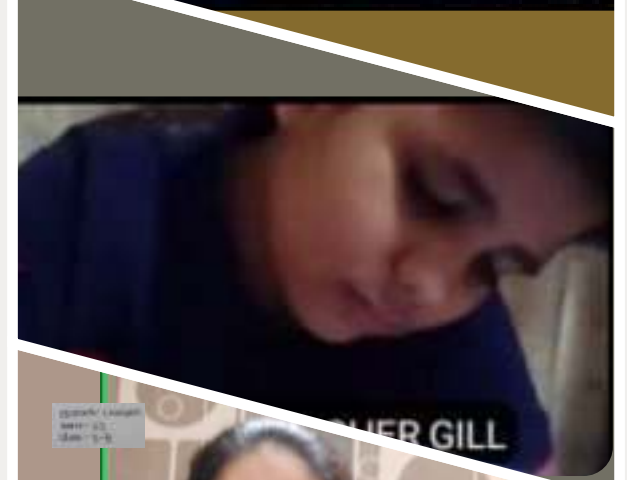
पर बच्चों का प्रथम, द्वितीय व तृतीय स्थान निर्धारित किया गया। इस प्रतियोगिता में बच्चों को अपने विषय के साथ-साथ अपने साथियों से भी सीखने का अवसर मिला। हास्य कविताएँ सुनकर बच्चों ने प्रतियोगिता का खूब आनंद उठाया। फल, सब्जियों तथा पर्यावरण से संबंधित कविताओंको सुनते सुनाते हुए उन्होंने पर्यावरण की स्वच्छता तथा फल व सब्जियों को खाने के फायदों के बारे में भी जाना। बच्चों के लिए ऑनलाइन प्रतियोगिता का अनुभव काफी रोमांचक था। स्कूल की मुख्याध्यापिका श्रीमती कविता दास तथा कोऑर्डिनेटर श्रीमती नीलम भण्डारी ने प्रतियोगिता को सफल बनाने का हर संभव प्रयास किया। समय-समय पर उन्होंने अध्यापकगण और विद्यार्थियों को प्रोत्साहित किया उनके मनोबल को बढ़ावा दिया। मुख्याध्यापिका, सभी विद्यार्थियों, अध्यापिकाओं तथा अभिभावक गण के सहयोग से हिंदी दिवस प्रतियोगिता का यह कार्यक्रम पूर्णतः सफल रहा।



Jaishnav Chhabra-3B



Aditya Sood



Shreya Gill



**पहली बार में कक्षाओं के सभी बच्चों ने भागीदारी की दूसरी बार केवल चयनित बच्चों में फिर से प्रतियोगिता हुई और उनके आत्मविश्वास, जानकारी, लय, उच्चारण के आधार पर बच्चों का प्रथम, द्वितीय व तृतीय स्थान निर्धारित किया गया।**