



**MAR THOMA
RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
TIRUVALLA**
VOLUME 18 ISSUE 2
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2019 - 2020 II



FLARE

NEWS LETTER

THE TRUE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS

TABITHA FINNY, Special Prefect

EDITORIAL

Isaiah 9:6-For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

The most awaited season celebrating love and brotherhood is right around the corner. The true message of Christmas is not cards in the mail, nor gifts under the tree nor the presents by Santa Claus, which often overweighs the true message of the birth of Christ. People these days are so preoccupied in celebrations rather than focusing on the real purpose of Christmas

Jesus came into the world in the form of a baby boy, 2000 years ago. He went through the same tribulations just like a common man. He was tempted, humiliated and betrayed but he bore it all because of the love he had for mankind. John 3:16 which says "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life"- clearly indicates how deeply God loves us. We often become so upset to part with a materialistic object which is precious to us, while God was so gracious that he gave his only son as a ransom for the sins of mankind. Jesus died on the cross for no cause of his own but to save humanity from the ways of sin, hence bringing salvation to all of us. It was love and not nails which kept Jesus on the cross.

There will be times when we feel lost, debilitated or depressed. These situations are perfectly okay but never let these situations control you, rather you have to overrule the negative emotions and hence win over these situations. In fact, difficulties help one to emerge as a stronger person. All the situations which knock us down should inspire us to do better. God never sends challenges to break you, but it is to build you, reform you and transform you as a stronger vessel. Whenever you feel low, discouraged never curse your situations but always turn your attention to the one who sacrificed his life for you. Always realise that God never closes a door without opening a better one. You might feel that your plans are failing, but then God might be preparing a better plan for you. His plans might not be what we wished for but it is definitely better than what we ever deserve. So even if things are not going according to your will, give the authority completely to your Heavenly Father who came into the world for your sake and allow Him to design your future.

Therefore, let us look at Christmas in a new way this year, realising the sacrifice of Jesus who came as a baby boy for us rather than only being concerned about the celebrations associated with Christmas. This is a year to invite Jesus into your heart to be your constant companion. Let us always remember this true message of Christmas- the price Jesus paid on the cross for our sins and realise how valuable we are in the sight of God.



Principal Mr. Reji Mathew receives the award

IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

We are extremely glad to announce that our school is the recipient of **India School Merit Award**, rewarding excellence in education 2019-'20 certificate of achievement, India's Top Day Cum Boarding School.

Now we hold **Rank.No.1** in India for the parameter **Value for Money**.

The award was conferred by Education Today at a function in Bangalore on 13th December 2019.



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Mr. Reji Mathew, Principal

Greetings from Mar Thoma Residential School family!

It is with great joy that we are publishing the news letter of the second term 2019 -20. All the activities scheduled for the

THOUGHTS AND THROBS

second term have been completed. Our students brought laurels to school at the state level and national level. We have commenced Civil Service Foundation classes for class VII -XII.

Aakash Group has consented to conduct classes for Engineering and Medical Entrance for classes IX-XII. The details of the programme will be informed shortly. Remedial Intervention Programme for students who struggle with basic reading, writing and mathematical skills has been initiated. We have also started admissions for the academic year 2020-21.

The unexpected demise of our teacher Mrs. Annie Chacko, who served more than fourteen years in our school, has caused a great shock to the School family.

I would like to remind our beloved parents to ensure that :

- a. your ward is consistent in studies at home
- b. he/she is regular at school and reaches on time
- c. your ward is in proper uniform.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



CIVIL SERVICE COACHING

"Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached."
Swami Vivekananda

The Civil Services by quality of its knowledge, experience and understanding of public affairs support the chosen representatives to device effective policy and have great responsibility to implement these policies. For the civil service ambitious students, Mar Thoma Residential School for the first time ever in its

history came up with Friday evening CIVIL SERVICE COACHING. Students responded to the proposal with much eagerness and enthusiasm. The zeal of our students motivated the Principal Mr. Reji Mathew and Vice Principal Mrs. Anitha Susan John, to commence the coaching classes with the permission of the School Management. A team consisting of Mr. Rahul Ramanujan, Mr. J. S Abinand , Mr. Bibin Ampotty and

Mr. Rajmohan S. started coaching classes for the students on all Friday evenings. With regular and online classes, the coaching covers all topics including Science and Technology, Geography, Economics etc. The faculties appreciated the response and eagerness of the students. The students reflected on the classes being really beneficial and a great stepping stone towards attaining their dreams.

TEACHERS' DAY

The 2019-20 Students' Council conducted the Teacher's day assembly on 6th September 2019. The assembly began with a hymn, followed by the Bible reading by Daya Susan Thomas and message by Kezia Susan Sen, in which she expressed her gratitude for each teacher's dedication and hardwork. Jerin Cherian led the congregation in prayer. Further, Liz Leya Ninu and Tabitha Finny



dedicated a duet in appreciation of the ones who have put an effort in paving each student's path and shaping their lives. Soon after the song, with love and sincerity, the prefects handed over a

card of gratitude to every teacher who taught them. The assembly came to an end with the release of the school newsletter 'Flare' by Rev. Joe Joseph.

CAREER GUIDANCE



The Times of India along with Lakshya Institute conducted a career guidance seminar on the 28th of September, 2019. The speaker of the day was Mr. Sanju P. Cherian, a certified trainer. In his interactive session, he gave the

students tips on how to facilitate a dynamic learning environment in which they can grow and develop. The students found the two hour session very fruitful in planning their careers.

CSSM MISSION

CSSM School mission was conducted from 23rd to 27th September. The team was led by Rev. Reji Thomas Chacko, Secretary of SU and CSSM. The theme of this year's session was Building Character. The students were taught the importance of being responsible, pure, maintaining integrity and the significance of sacrificial love, which in turn would help in character building. The CSSM volunteers, Mr. Samuel Jaisunder



(Sam), Mr. Reuben Clement and Mr. Albert were in charge of the senior students. Mr. Anu Samuel, Mr. Rajesh P. C., Mr. Rejish Raju, Mr. Varghese Abraham, Mr. Jithin George, Mr. Soj Philip Mon, Mr. Thomas P. George and Mrs. Suji Rejesh led the junior session.

The team motivated the students through skits, stories and songs. The students were able to interact with the CSSM team members to clear their doubts. The sessions turned to be very beneficial for the students.

GANDHI JAYANTI

Guides and Nature Club, under the guidance of Mrs. Reena Elizabeth Chacko and Mrs. P. K. Mariamma, guide co-ordinator, organised an all faith prayer on 2nd October to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Principal Mr. Reji Mathew, Vice Principal Mrs. Anitha Susan John, Mrs. Reena Elizabeth Chacko and Mrs. P. K. Mariamma lighted the lamp. During the all faith prayer, the Bible was read by Helen Kurias, the Bhagavad Gita by Devananda S. and Aiswarya M. Pillai, and the Quran by Muhammed Alim: students of Std. VIII. Manuel



Monie Thomas of Std. VI recited a poem *October Randu* by Sugathakumari. Abel Aby of Std. VIII, spoke about Gandhiji and the relevance of 2nd October. Principal Mr. Reji Mathew spoke about

the importance of celebrating Gandhi Jayanthi with our heart and not by empty words. Vote of thanks was proposed by Abhishek Roy of Std. VII.

The cultural fest for the primary section was held on 4th of October, 2019.

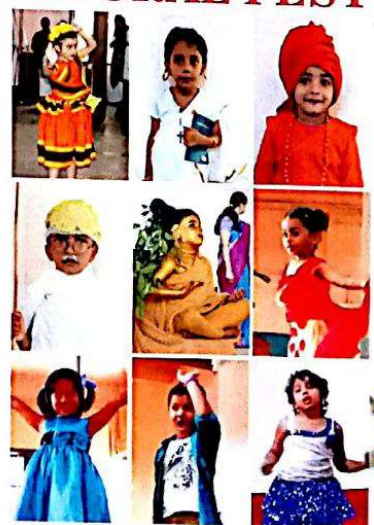
The programme was inaugurated by the Principal Mr. Reji Mathew, Vice Principal Mrs. Anitha Susan John, Headmistress Mrs. Anis Sunil Jacob and two parent representatives. Various cultural activities were conducted to showcase our students' talents which included singing, recitation, extempore, storytelling, fancy dress, painting, cinematic and folkdance.

The cultural activities and programmes not only helped students to identify themselves with the school, but also assisted

KG & PRIMARY CULTURAL FEST



students to develop themselves in a desired field and also improve skills such as organizational presentation, leadership and interpersonal communication.





ACHIEVERS



Gold Prize winners of handwriting competition conducted by International Handwriting Olympiad Organisation



Winners of essay competition conducted by Mahatma Gandhi Trust, Muthoor Thiruvalla

Rangotsav ASISC Kerala State Cultural Fest, 2019



LIZ LEYA NINU 1st prize Western solo (ISC)



3rd prize Western group song (ISC)

First prize in Manorma Saintgits BIG Q Challenge Quiz, 2019.



George K. Marret Std. XI and Mohammed Ashique Std. XII

Winners of Collins Scrabble Competition for Schools held at Lourdes Public School, Kottayam



Jonathan Jacob Koshy Std. VII,
Isaiah Sathish Thomas Std. VII,
Navneet V. Kumar Std. VIII



National Abaccus held at Chennai
Abinav Unni (2nd runner up)
Harishanker R. (3rd runner up)

Second prize in commerce quiz hosted by Placid Vidya Vihar, Changanacherry



Atul Cyriac Jijo and Mohammed Ashique of Std. XII



Principal Mr. Reji Mathew receives the award

Our school is also the proud recipient of **Brainfeed School Excellence Award**, for enriching the standards in imparting excellence in education to the **Gen Next** learners.

The award was conferred by Brainfeed, an educational magazine at a function held in Hyderabad on Thursday the 5th of December, 2019.



Inter School Athletic Medal Winners



ASISC National Basketball Tournament held at Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu



ASISC National Athletic Meet held at Pune, ANN MAUREEN



Individual Champion Inter School Athletic Meet held at Quilon, Under 17 Girls Martina Elizabeth Ignatious



ASISC Swimming Competition held at Bangalore, Under 19 Boys, freestyle swimming Jonathan C. Jacob



ASISC National Athletic Meet held at Pune, Maharashtra



Inauguration of CISCE Inter Zone Table Tennis Tournament



CISCE Inter Zone Table Tennis Tournament First Place --Cherian Ninan Kochiyil Second Place- Rehan Anil



ASISC Table Tennis Competition held at Bangalore



Inter School Team Chess Championship – 2019 Second Prize – Category 1



Medal winners in Pathanamthitta Dist. Roller Skating Championship



State Level Open Table Tennis Tournament held at Ernakulam Silver Medal in Cadet Team Championship

Crystal Blue International Aquatic Championship 2019

National Masters Swimming Competition held at Lucknow Mr. Jaison James, Our Phy. Edn. Tr. 3rd position in 50m Freestyle Swimming



Jeswin T Renjith 3rd place, 200m Free Style



POSTAL DAY CELEBRATIONS



A painting competition was held to commemorate World Postal Day on the 9th of October. Students of Std. VII A visited the Railway Station Post Office under the guidance of Mrs. Jaimy Manu Thomas. The office personnel welcomed the students and showed them stamps, letters and explained the importance of Postal week. Students were shown how letters are put into sacks for transportation and were advised to cultivate letter writing habit.

GREETINGS ON WORLD STUDENTS' DAY



Mrs. Roshin John, on behalf of the School Management, Principal and Teachers greeted the students on World Students' Day. In her words "Today the 15th of October, we Indians are privileged and honoured, as we celebrate World Students' Day in commemoration of the birthday of our former President, Late Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. He was a great leader and one of the most renowned scientists India has ever had.

Dr. Abdul Kalam has always been a source of motivation and inspiration to the student community not only in India but also all over the world. As his famous quote goes Dreams transform into thoughts and thoughts result into action; students may your zeal and efforts transform your dreams into a reality".

KERALA PIRAVI



The school celebrated Kerala Piravi on the 1st of November, 2019. The morning assembly was led by students of Std. VI. The assembly commenced with a prayer song. Students showcased their talents to bring forth the

culture of Kerala. Some students sang a melodious medley of folk songs. The other highlights were Kalari, Thiruvathira, Oppana, Pulikali and Bharatnatayam. The performance of the students were highly appreciated by the audience.

REVELATION BAND



A musical show comprising our school's alumni was conducted on October 25, 2019. Revelation band through its meaningful and energetic songs, celebrated God's glory and His greatness. They also dealt with various aspects of life, teaching the students how to tackle them and be successful in life. Their mission to reveal Christ was attained through a mime at the end.

QLEAGUE QUIZ



Qleague quiz competitions are held at three different levels. The third leg of Qleague interschool-Pathanamthitta District quiz competition was hosted in our school. Thirteen teams from different schools participated. Out of these, all the three teams from our school have been selected for the mega event to be held in Thrissur in the month of January, 2020.

LOVING MEMORY



Mrs. ANNIE CHACKO

was called to her heavenly abode on October 21, 2019. She served the school for more than 14 years. We remember her contributions to the school with gratitude.

CHILDREN'S DAY

As per tradition, teachers conducted a special assembly on 14th of November, 2019. The assembly started with a prayer song; Mrs. Betty Sabu Mathew read from the Bible and Mrs. Sunila Anna Ipe spoke on the Scripture portion. Mrs. Minu Samuel led the gathering in prayer and



Mrs. Elsy Chacko gave Children's Day message. Mrs. Cynthia Marina Varghese entertained everybody with a melodious number on melodica. The teachers sang a song in memory of our beloved Mrs. Annie Chacko who was called to her heavenly abode on 21st October, 2019. The song was written by Mr. Sajai John and composed by Mr. Samon V. Baby.

A movie clip made by Cynthia Miss was entertaining as it captured the various moods and actions in the school. Lastly, the students of Std IV presented a wonderful skit based on Aranmula Onam. It ended with a power packed dance performance by the girls of the class. The teachers once again proved their love and dedication to the children.



ANNUAL ATHELETIC MEET

The 46th Annual Inter House Athletic meet was held on 15th and 16th of November, 2019. Mr. Varghese Mathew, former National level footballer was the Guest of Honour. He stressed the importance of sports and games in maintaining a healthy life style.



Comida Fiesta' 21, the food stall was conducted by standard XI - ISC 2021. The Yellow, Red, and Green houses won the first, second and third position respectively. Mr. K Anil Kumar, District Sports Council President, the Guest of Honour for the closing ceremony distributed the prizes.



The Christmas programme was held on Friday the 6th of December, 2019. Principal Mr. Reji Mathew welcomed the gathering. His Grace Dr. Yuhanon Mar Chrysostomos, Metropolitan of Niranam Diocese, of the Orthodox Church was the Guest of Honour. He gave a wonderful message of sharing and caring by citing various examples. The profits raised from food stall by class XI during the annual sports was handed over to the

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME



representatives of various charitable organisations. Melodious carols by various sections, Joyful Jars – angels exultation and musical drama -Hope Alight enthralled the audience.



EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITORIAL ADVISOR: Mr. Reji Mathew, **STAFF EDITORS:** Mrs. Leni Abraham, Mr. Sajai John, Mrs. Bindu Oommen, Mr. Robin Mathew George, Mrs. Sumy Rachel Mathew, Mrs. Bibi Rebecca Binu, Mrs. Jaimy Manu Thomas, Mrs. Deepthi Chacko, Miss Christina Mary George, Mrs. Deepa Sara Alex

STUDENT EDITORS: Tabitha Finny, Dave Mathew Ipe, Della Richu Baby, Parvathy S Kumplayil, Jerin Cherian, Kezia Susan Sen, Lisa Rebecca Koshy, Sreenivas S

SPECIAL THANKS: Mrs. Anitha Susan John, Mrs. Anis Sunil Jacob, Mrs. Aleyamma Mathews Joseph, Mrs. Suja Mary Jacob, Mrs. Cynthia Marina Varghese, Mrs. Nirmala Sara Thomas

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