

THEOPHILIAN TRAILBLAZERS

DR. MAR THEOPHILUS SCHOOL

July 2023

Issue #02

Gender Equality

Theme for the month.



ACTIVITIES

Monthly Handwritten Magazines

5th July

The inter-house competition of monthly handwritten magazines continued with the four houses submitting their editions based on June's theme-Educational Justice.

The magazines were compiled with articles that students had written in the month which included writeups on the month's celebrations, current affairs and their perception of educational justice.



Visit to a Market Place 14th July

As part of non-scholastic activities, the students of grade 9 visited the Reliance Mart in Vishrantwadi. The students reported to the mart at 10:20 a.m. and explored its premises, observing the products, displays, offers, and facilities in the mart.



Mr. Babusaheb Raman Shetty, the storehouse manager for the branch, briefed the students about the structure, the staffing, and the working, giving the students an insight into the working of a retail store, its personnel management, and its functioning as a business unit.

ACTIVITIES

Card Making for Parents' Day 14th July

Students in grades 1–10 devoted an hour to designing greeting cards to present to their parents on Parents' Day. They brought out their creative best as they smudged the blank papers with hues of love, transforming them into tokens of their affection.



The Theophilian Herald 17th July

The School Radio Station, The Theophilian Herald, resumed its functioning post-exams, providing an exciting and engaging medium for the students to improve communication skills, develop team spirit, build confidence, and discuss relevant issues.

CAMPAIGNS

Oxford Big Read Global

The school library, which houses around 5,000 books of various genres, witnessed a frenzy of exuberant readers as the students prepared to participate in the Oxford Big Read Global, a reading competition for primary and secondary school students within which students are expected to read books published by Oxford University Press and express their observations creatively by writing book reviews, book appreciations, and designing illustrated dust jackets.



Fundraiser

The staff of the school joined its efforts to extend its empathy and support to a colleague's family in their time of distress. The staff was able to raise and gift an amount of 74,200 towards medical expenses, which we hope will bring some hope and respite. We wish them strength of mind, body, and faith, and we hope for their speedy healing.



CAMPAIGNS

Nirbhaya Vidyarthi Abhiyan

The Pune City Police, in conjunction with social organisations, launched the Nirbhay Vidyarthi Abhiyan in an effort to improve the safety of students and citizens in Pune.

Ms. Parul Pethe and Ms. Siddhi Jadhav represented the school in an interactive session organised by the Core Committee on July 14, 2023. The session was presided over by dignitaries including Deputy Commissioner of Police (Mr. Shashikant Borate), Additional Commissioner of Police (Mr. Ranjan Kumar Sharma), Assistant Commissioner of Police (Mr. Sanjay Patil), Deputy Director of Health Education Department (Dr. Kailas Baviskar), Education Officer of Secondary Education Department of Pune Municipal Corporation (Ms. Asha Ubale), Head of MM Infoweb Foundation (Mr. Ali Merchant), and Director of Muktagan Sanstha (Ms. Mukta Puntambekar), who interacted with representatives of various schools and social organisations.

During the session, Mr. Shashikant Borate provided insights into the various programmes that will be undertaken as part of the Nirbhay Vidyarthi Abhiyan, such as Police Kaka, Police Didi (sister), Damini Squad, Body Cop, Parivartan, and other collaborations with social organisations to guide and educate students, like counselling services by Nirbhay Mitra and Nirbhay Sakhi. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Sharma emphasised the significance of this programme in combating addiction and crime and guaranteeing student safety.



COMPETITIONS

English Extempore (Secondary Section) 15th July

An English Extempore competition was held in Mar Coorilos Hall for the students of grades 6 to 9. The participants chose their topics based on various social issues including gender discrimination, through a lucky draw and were given a few minutes to arrange their thoughts. Their performance was judged by a panel that evaluated them on their knowledge of the subject and their oratory and presentation skills.

The inter-house competition saw the young speakers present their thoughts with confidence and enthusiasm.



English Elocution (Primary Section) 21st July

Aiming towards developing public speaking skills and enhancing knowledge, an elocution competition was held in English for grades 1 and 2. Out of the 32 participants, the finalists spoke on a variety of topics, from the importance of education to the importance of festivals.

The inter-house event witnessed tough competition as the participants went all out to accumulate points for their respective houses.



COMPETITIONS

Science Quiz

20th July

With the objective of developing scientific temper and awareness and making the learning process more interesting and challenging, the Science department organised the first round of the Science Quiz.

The participants, students from grades 6 to 10, tackled questions based on various branches of science to qualify for the next round scheduled for the months to come.



Hindi Elocution (Secondary Section 21st July

The finalists from grades 6 to 9 stood with fervour to voice their views on various topics. The aspirants who cleared the prelims proudly represented their respective houses in the Hindi Elocution Competition organised in Mar Coorilos Hall.

These contestants' performances were judged on their fluency, content, confidence, and presentation. The competition helped participants polish their oratory and presentation skills.



COMPETITIONS

Hindi Elocution (Primary Section) 27th July

The young contenders of grades 3 and 4 stood up with zeal to express their opinions on the month's theme amongst topics. The aspirants who passed the preliminary examinations enthusiastically represented their respective houses in the Hindi Elocution Competition held at Mar Coorilos Hall.

The performances of these contenders were evaluated based on their fluency, content, confidence, and presentation. The tournament assisted participants in honing their oratory and presentation abilities.



Marathi Recitation (Secondary Section) 28th July



An Inter House Poetry Recitation Competition was held for students of grades 6 to 9 in the Bishop's Hall. The finalists who were shortlisted during the preliminary rounds presented popular works of famous Marathi poets.

Judged on the basis of choice, intonation, expression and presentation, the students understood the relevance of poetry as a medium of expression and to appreciate fine poetry.

COMPETITIONS

ASISC Zone II Sub-Junior Declamation Competition 27th July

The Association of Schools for the Indian School Certificate plans to conduct a series of Literary Events. As part of the same, a Declamation Competition was held at Hutchings High School, with contestants coming from schools across Pune.

Vedant More (Grade 8) participated in the competition under the sub-junior category, performing an excerpt of the famous speech 'I Have a Dream' by Martin Luther King Jr.



ASISC Zone II Creative Writing Competition 31st July



As part of the Literary Events organised by the Association of Schools for the Indian School Certificate (ASISC), a Creative Writing Competition was organised at Caelum High School.

Priya Mourya (Grade 8) and Anant Pandey (Grade 9) participated in the competition.

COMPETITIONS

ASISC Zone II (Junior) Declamation Competition 31st July

A junior-level declamation competition was organised by ASISC at St. Mary's High School.

Ayushi Kedar (Grade 10) contested participants from other schools of Pune, in the competition, presenting an excerpt from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's speech,



EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS

Guru Purnima 5th July

The students celebrated Guru Purnima during the assembly. They showed their respect and gratitude to their teachers for one day by felicitating them.

The students also spoke about the various aspects of the celebration.



I Unit Tests 6th- 12th July

The students faced their first hurdle of the academic year in the form of the First Unit Test. The tests were attempted by the students with a mix of zeal and anticipation.

The time prior to the examinations witnessed anxious discussions of revision and the time after saw excitement for the discussion of the answers of the examination. The examinations ended on the 12th, with the students giving a huge sigh of relief and waiting for their results.

MEETINGS & INTERACTIONS

Introduction to Robotics 6th July

Robotics being a trending field of interest for the current generation, the school management arranged an interaction with Mr. Vinay Kunwar, Founder of IndiaFIRST Robotics and President of the Indus Robotics Society, to brief the staff on the interest and curiosity that children show about Robotics. He also spoke about the skillsets that students acquire through the learning of robotics and how other subjects like IT, mathematics, and science are integrated into it. Mr. Kunwar demonstrated a few models made by students and how the kits available through his concern can help foster logical, analytical and innovative thinking in students.



MEETINGS & INTERACTIONS

Inspection by the Education Department 11th July

Mr. Subhas Swami, Block Education Officer, Education Department, Pune, visited the school with the objective of assessing and inspecting the school's adherence to the norms established by the state Education Department. Upon his arrival, he met the Principal, Mrs. Roshni George, to discuss various aspects of the school's programmes and activities, including the school infrastructure, compliance with norms, curriculum, teaching Staff, student-teacher ratio, safety measures, co-curricular and extracurricular activities, School committees, etc.

Mrs. George provided a comprehensive overview of all the aspects, curricular and extracurricular initiatives undertaken by the school, demonstrating a deep commitment to fostering a holistic learning environment for the students. In the observation statement, Mr. Subhas Swami wrote that his visit to Dr. Mar Theophilus School was a positive experience. His remark qualifies the school as a well-managed educational institution that effectively adheres to the norms set by the Education Department. He also added that the school demonstrates a commitment to holistic development, safety, and parental involvement. Furthermore, the cleanliness and discipline displayed by the students reflect a well-maintained and disciplined environment. He wished the school all the best for the academic year and expressed his appreciation to the Principal, Administrator, and all the staff members for their cooperation during his visit.

Parent Teacher Association 25th July

The newly constituted Parent-Teacher Association's Executive Committee met for its first formal meeting to discuss matters pertaining to the better operation and smooth functioning of the school. The parent and teacher representatives, along with the Principal, the Administrator, and the coordinators, discussed matters regarding the safety of students, the educational facilities they could avail of, and the achievements of the students.



MEETINGS & INTERACTIONS

ZP Sports Meeting 24th July

District Sports Office, Pune, organised its yearly Sports organising meet to inform and discuss the various events planned for the year. Mr. Suraj Pawaar represent the school at the meet which was presided over by the District Sports officer, Mr. Mahadeo Kasgawde and attended by Physical Education instructors and representatives of various schools.



SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

Teacher's Seminar 5th July

Hindi and Marathi language teachers of the Secondary section conducted a seminar on the topic 'Gender Equality', exploring aspects like the meaning, importance, relevance, practicality, and measures taken by the government to implement gender equality.

The interactive session following the seminar had the staff sharing their ideas, opinions, and suggestions for the same.



Summit on Implementation of NEP 2020 11th July



Akshhar Publication, in association with Maharashtra Rajya Shikshan Sanstha Mahamandal, Pune, organised a one-day Leaders Leap Summit based on NEP 2020 at Yashada Auditorium, Pune. Rev. Fr. John Mathai, the Administrator, and Mr. Jobin Jose attended the Summit. The Expert speakers on the topic were Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and an ex-member of the Rajyasabha; Dr. Neha Belsare, Deputy Director SCERT Maharashtra, Pune; and Dr. Nitin Karmalkar, the Vice Chancellor of the Savitribai Phule University, Pune. The Summit helped in understanding NEP 2020 and its effective implementation.

SPORTS

Exhibition Football Match 11th July

A friendly football match was played between Dr. Mar Theophilus under-17 boys' team and players from Dino Academy. The match commenced at 7:00 a.m. on the school ground, with both teams putting up fair play. The power-packed match closed on a 2-2 score, followed by a tie-breaker that resulted in the Dino Academy winning 3-1.

The students gained experience and learned their strengths and weaknesses to work on through the warm-up match.



CISCE Regional Level Karate Championship 11th July



CISCE conducted its regional-level Karate Championship at N. L. Dalmiya School, Thane. The championship witnesses maximum participation from Zone 2 (Pune, Nashik, Baramati, and Pimpri).

The young Theophilians, coached by Mr. Akshay Sarode, represented the school and brought multiple accolades to the school, including seven gold medals (Aditya Shinde, Dheeraj Chaudhary, Naga Nidhish, Rajeshwari Nimbolkar, Sharayu Nangare, Shriyash Patil, and Trishala Singh) and 17 silver medals (Aarohi More, Aayush Raut, Aditya

Shinde, Anitya Gaikwad, Ansh Mishra, Anushka Dhasal, Anushka Mishra, Avanti Dolas, Gargi Bhavsar, Kartik Mote, Kritika Sangam, Lekhraj Girase, Nitya Patankar, Parth Sapkal, Sanskar Yadav, Shlok Bhujbal, and Vedant More).

The school won the Under-19 Girls' Winner Trophy, the Under-19 Boys' Runner-up Trophy, the Under-17 Girls' Runner-up Trophy, the Under-17 Boys' Runner-up Trophy, the Under-14 Girls' Runner-up Trophy, and the Under-14 Boys' Runner-up Trophy. 14 students qualified for the National-level tournament.

SPORTS

National Level Road Race 22nd July

On the occasion of the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. Ajit Pawar's birthday, the Cycling Association of Maharashtra organised a national-level road race.

Aditi Shinde (Grade 9) participated in the cycling event where the cyclists raced from Malegaon to Baramati.



CISCE Zonal Taekwondo Championship 23rd July



Three students represented the school in the CISCE Zone 2 Taekwondo Championship conducted at Vidya Valley School, Sus Gaon, Pune.

Prasad Thorat won the Bronze medal, and Arnav Nikam qualified for the Regional Level Championship.

SPORTS

CISCE First Zonal Swimming Championship 22nd July

Nine students participated in the CISCE First Zonal Swimming Competition for Zone 2, organised by the Bishop's Education Society, Pune, at the District Sports Complex, Yerwada, Pune.

While all the swimmers put up stiff competition, Indraneel Barge won the Silver Medal in the U-12 Boys' category.



SPORTS

Chess Championship 30th July

A chess championship was held at the G. H. Rasoni College. The event was conducted by the Royal Sports Club, an organisation recognised by the Pune District Chess Circle. 35 students represented the school. Muzelfa Shaikh (grade 2) the gold medal and a trophy. Insha Mahat (grade 8) won a silver medal, Virajsingh Patil (grade 7), Soham Patil (grade 5), Anagha Patil (grade 4) and Tejas Sangam (grade 4) won a bronze medal each.



AWARDS

Silver Zone Olympiad's International Olympiad Examination 2022-23.

The results of the International Olympiad Examinations conducted by the SilverZone Foundation in 2023 were declared.

- **International Olympiad for Mathematics:** 147 students participated. Students won 6 golds, 6 silvers, and 6 bronze medals.
- **International Olympiad for Science:** 95 students participated, and 14 students won gold, 10 silver, and 10 bronze medals.
- **SilverZone STEM Innovation Olympiad:** Four students participated, out of whom 3 earned gold and 1 received a silver medal.
- **Akhil Bhartiya Hindi Olympiad:** 11 students participated in the exam. 5 students won the gold medal, 2 won the silver, and two received bronze medals.
- **International Informatics Olympiad:** 31 students participated. 7 students won gold medals, 7 silver medals, and 2 bronze medals.
- **International Olympiad of English Language:** 57 students participated in the exam, out of whom 19 won the gold medal, 7 won the silver medal, and seven received bronze medals.
- **International Reasoning and Aptitude Olympiad:** 25 students participated. 7 won gold, 5 won silver, and 3 won bronze medals.
- **Little Star Olympiad:** Conducted for Nursery and Kindergarten students, the exam saw the participation of 1 student who also won the gold.
- **International Social Studies Olympiad:** 14 students participated. 15 won the gold medal, 2 won the silver medal, and 2 won the bronze medal.
- **Smart Kid General Knowledge Olympiad:** 44 students participated; 7 won gold, 6 won silver, and 5 won bronze.

NELTAS ECAT's 12th International English Language Competition 2022-23

The NELTAS' English Language Competition was conducted for grades 6 to 8. A total of 358 students participated, out of which a total of 29 students own medals and achievement certificates. 64 students won medals and merit certificates, and 265 students received participation certificates.

AWARDS

Humming Bird Olympiads' International Spell Bee Competition 2022-23

The Humming Bird Olympiads' International Spell Bee Competition 2022–23 was held for students in grades 1–9. 11 students won gold medals, 12 won silver, 14 won bronze medals, and 30 students received a merit certificate.



Dear Teachers & Students,

As we turn the pages of yet another remarkable chapter in our school's journey, I am overwhelmed with pride and gratitude for the incredible efforts put forth by all of you. The latest edition of our monthly Newsletter "Theophilian Trailblazers" stands as a testament to the remarkable talents and dedication within our school.

The theme for July's Newsletter, "Gender Equality," provided a platform for our students to explore and address various forms of inequality and the challenges associated with it. Thoughtfully designed programs and activities, helped in educating and allowing our students to become supporters for a more just, inclusive society and promotes equal opportunities for all.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our students' remarkable success and achievements in the intra school competitions, ASICS competitions and the CISCE Zonal and Regional competitions, they have truly made it a reflection of our vibrant and diverse Theophilian family. Also I would like to congratulate the diligent students, whose creativity and enthusiasm have breathed life into the pages of this magazine.

Equally deserving of the praise are the teachers, their guidance and mentorship have been instrumental in shaping the young minds that have now flourished on these very pages. Together, let us continue to inspire and support one another, striving for excellence in all our endeavours.

With warm regards,

Mrs. Roshni George
Principal