

ANNUAL REPORT: 2017-'18

GETTING STARTED

The new academic year 2017-'18 started with a staff meeting on 24 May 2017, presided over by Fr Roy Plathottathil, School Principal. Present on the occasion were Fr Subin Puzhakkara, Vice Principal, Fr George Vattappara, school administrator, Fr Sibi Manickathan, and all teaching staff. The meeting began with a short prayer which was followed by a word of welcome to all newly appointed teachers by the Principal.

An election was conducted to choose the staff secretary and the assistant staff secretary. Mrs Leelamma Thomas and Mrs Pramila P S were declared elected to these two posts. The academic coordinators chosen for the year are Mrs Lizy Sunny Stephen, Sr Seleen Michael, Mrs Maria Abraham and Mrs Marykutty Joseph. Fr Roy provided some instructions for the smooth functioning of the school in the new year before ending the programme at 3.00 pm.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING

An in-service program for teachers was conducted on 25 May at the school. The resource person on this occasion was Shri Vinod Ignatius from Macmillan publishers. The following day also witnessed another training session, this time conducted by Prof Mathew Joseph Kanamala, a resource person from Ratnasagar publishers. Shri Kanamala spoke on the transformation of the teacher from *adhyapak* to *guru*: *'My effective journey as a teacher; where am I?'*

(1) FR SUBIN'S BIRTHDAY

The academic year 2017-18 got off to a flying start on Thursday, 01 June 2017, with a formal inaugural meeting which also clubbed the birthday celebration of Fr Subin, the vice principal. It also served as the occasion to formally welcome the new administrator of the school, Fr George. Fr Jose Parappillil, school manager, was the chief guest. During the theme song, students displayed in bold letters the theme for the year – *Perform, Reform, Transform*. Fr Parappillil also presented mementoes to Fr Roy and Mrs Lizy Sunny Stephen who had won awards for the best principal and best teacher from international rating agencies.

THEME FOR THE YEAR

Fr Roy focused on the relevance of the theme – perform, reform, transform

(2) WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

The world environment day was celebrated at 9.30 a.m. on 05 June. The chief guest on this occasion was Shri Kareem K Puram, former president of Jaiva Karshika Samithi, and now district coordinator of Sarojini Damodaran Foundation. He spoke on the importance of maintaining the environment in pristine condition. Fr Roy presented a memento to Shri Kareem and thanked him for his inspirational talk. Tree planting was an important message derived from this celebration.

(3) LAUREATE 2017

The merit day celebration titled Laureate 2017 coupled with the class XI inauguration was held on Wednesday, 07 June. Dr Prameela Devi, PhD, member of Kerala Women's Commission, was the chief guest on this occasion. She delivered the keynote address and released the school magazine *Fransalian Fragrance*. She also distributed awards to school toppers at the AISSCE and AISSE examinations.

(4) SCHOOL PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS

The 'Meet the Candidates' program prior to the election of the school parliament was held on 13 June. As many as 15 candidates faced the students and cajoled them to vote for them on the following day. The head boy, head girl, vice head boy and vice head girl chosen for the year are Sebin Sebastian Joseph and Philomina Dantise of std XI, and Mohit Joseph and Cheryl Abraham of std IX.

(5) INVESTING WITH BADGES

The investiture ceremony for the newly elected school parliament members was held on Tuesday, 20 June, under the chairmanship of Shri C J Martin, circle inspector of police at Ettumanoor. He inaugurated the function and presented sashes and badges to the students concerned. The teachers presented the same to the house captains, house vice captains, and club captains. The school flag was handed to the new head boy by his predecessor last year.

(6) KNOW YOUR BLOOD GROUP

Along with the care assistants at the Mediline Laboratories at Ettumanoor, the Hindi department organized a visit to Charis Nikethan, Athirampuzha, on 15 July. The lab personnel conducted a blood group test for the inmates of the Nikethan while the students spent a day with them telling stories and singing songs to entertain them.

On 20 July, as part of the Nallapaadam project, our students visited the cancer ward at the Medical College Hospital, Kottayam.

(7) WELCOME, FR MIJO

Following the unexpected transfer of Fr Subin to SFS School, Kengeri, Bangalore, Fr Mijo Kulamkuthiyil came to take his place here as the new vice principal on 24 July. At a meeting in this connection, Fr Roy introduced and welcomed him into the community while Fr George vested him with a shawl as a gesture of welcome. Jowan John spoke on behalf of the students while the staff secretary presented him with a bouquet. Fr Mijo spoke a few words expressing his sentiments on the occasion. The vote of thanks by Jis Jojet was followed by the singing of the school anthem.

(8) DESALITE YOUTH FEST

The Desalite Youth Fest, under the banner "Conquer New Horizons" was organized at 10.00 a.m. on 27 July. The initial programme was held on two days for Category I and the Primers. The formal opening ceremony was held on Thursday, 27 July.

Shri Arun Guinness was the chief guest on the occasion. Along with him was also Anoop Pala, a singer and comedian of repute. The dignitaries lighted the lamp to inaugurate the meet. The chief guest declared the youth fest open and delivered the inaugural address. The chief guests performed on the stage, showcasing their inimitable talents. The song-mixed comedy was unparalleled in entertainment value. The school Fathers were present on all occasions. They presented mementoes to the chief guests.

Following the inaugural function, various competitions took place on different stages. The students utilized the opportunity to display their fantastic talents and skills.

The closing ceremony was held on 28 July with Fr Joby Mattathil as the chief guest. He is the rector and superior at SFS Seminary. Krista Joseph delivered the welcome speech and Mrs Swapna A M announced the results. Emerald House won the first place, followed by Topaz second and Sapphire in third place. Fr Joby spoke highly of the meet and felicitated all participants. After Fr Roy presented Fr Joby with a memento, the singing of the national anthem marked the conclusion of the youth fest.

A dengue fever awareness program was set rolling as part of Nallapaadam project, by Dr Sobhasree, of Community Health Care, Kadaplamattom, on 01 August. Students distributed notices to the general public and placed flexes at the bus-stands in the town.

(9) ADIEU TO FATHERS

Fr Subin and Fr Sibi were given a formal sendoff on 04 August at the school. The program started with a prayer song. Alma Annette Stanley delivered the welcome speech. The chief guest on the occasion was Shri James Thomas Plakkithottiyil, municipal chairman of Ettumanoor municipality. Fr Jose Parappillil gave the presidential address. Shri James addressed the gathering and spoke highly of his contacts with both the Fathers.

Following the farewell song by the school choir, Fr Roy recalled his close association with the Fathers and thanked them for their support and cooperation at the school. Mrs Leelamma Thomas, staff secretary, also spoke on the occasion. A dance by the students of class X mesmerized the audience. Dr Joji T Sebastian, PTA president, too spoke, recalling the services of the Fathers. A couple of students spoke on behalf of the students and expressed their gratitude. The meeting concluded with a rendition of the national anthem.

(10) RECALLING INDEPENDENCE

The Independence Day celebration was held in the afternoon of 14 August with Fr Jose Parappillil presiding. Class VIII students were in charge of organizing the program. Both Fr Parappillil and Fr Roy spoke at length about the history of independence and the price our forefathers had to pay for our political freedom. They urged the students to appreciate the freedom they enjoy today. A thematic dance by the students created the right mood for the celebration.

The first PTM of class XII was held on Thursday, 10 August.

As part of the Nallapaadam project, students of class IX B visited an old age home, Jyothis Nilayam, at Amayannoor. They provided an Ona *sadya* for the 25 inmates there. This was on 29 August.

The anniversary of Fr Peter Marie Mermier, the founder of the MSFS congregation, was observed on Wednesday, 30 August. A film based on the life of the holy priest was exhibited for students of classes V-X. Fr Roy urged the students to watch the film with interest as a quiz that would follow carried attractive cash prizes. After the movie, students were provided with *payasam*.

(11) ONAM AND TEACHERS' DAY

The same day students of KG and classes I-IV were also given *payasam* to celebrate Onam. Different cultural programs entertained the students. Fr Roy delivered the Onam message. Teachers' Day too was clubbed with the Onam celebration with traditional pomp on that day. It culminated in the distribution of *payasam* for all.

Classes V-XII had their teachers' day celebration on Thursday, 31 August. The students welcomed the teachers with flowers and cards bearing their photos. The prayer song and welcome speech moved the teachers. They were seated department-wise on either side of the quadrangle. Students sang to show their love and respect for the teachers. They bowed and paid obeisance to the teachers who blessed them. Following a dance, a draw was taken to choose the luckiest teacher from each department. Mrs Priya Ameer Sait and Fr Mijo got the chance to showcase their singing talents. Shri Sunny Kurian, staff representative, felicitated the gathering. The programme ended with a vote of thanks.

The Onam celebration followed immediately, with the Most Rev Dr Philipose Mar Chrysostom as the chief guest. He, along with the other dignitaries on the dais, lighted the lamp and inaugurated the function. The students had an opportunity to interact with the chief guest. Among those present on the dais was also the lovable *Mahabali*, one of the students. Winners of a tug-of-war won prizes distributed by Mar Chrysostom. During the *sadya* that was served to the teachers, they were also given special gifts.

(12) ADMINISTRATOR'S BIRTHDAY

The school administrator's birthday was celebrated on 22 September. As usual, a prayer and a welcome speech preceded the main event. The chief guest was Fr Jose Parappillil, school manager. He felicitated Fr George on his first birthday here at SFS.

After Fr George cut the birthday cake, the school choir sang a song to wish him long life and good cheer. He was presented with a gift from the school manager, and a special card from the staff secretary. The Principal's speech followed. Mrs Jyothimol T R, teacher representative, also felicitated Fr George. In his reply speech, Fr George thanked everyone around for the function they arranged in his honour. The vote of thanks was proposed by Aleena Binoy, a student.

Before concluding the meeting, prizes were distributed to the winners of the quiz on Fr Mermier's life, held earlier. The celebration ended at 12.30 pm.

(13) ANTI-RUBELLA DRIVE

An awareness class on measles and rubella vaccine was conducted at the school on 23 September by Dr Asha Sukumaran who informed the teachers that the MR campaign would start in the school on 03 Oct. After the teachers got their doubts clarified, Mrs Nirmalakumari made a short speech thanking the doctor for her informative talk.

The same day and also on 25 Sept, the school conducted the offstage items in connection with the district-level youth festival held at Mangalam English medium school, Ettumanoor, named 'Sarga Sangamam'. The onstage items were staggered between 03 and 05 Oct. Our students won several prizes.

Again, on 23 September, our students travelled to Labour India Public School, Marangattupilly, to participate in a football match. The result wasn't anything to write home about!

(14) TALK ON CYBER CRIMES

As part of the Nallapaadam project, a cyber crime awareness class was conducted on 25 September by Shri Manoj Kumar V S from Cyber Cell, Kottayam. It started with a prayer song at 10.30 and a welcome speech by Emmanuel Thejus Zacharia. The keynote lecture was delivered by Shri Manojkumar who expatiated on the dangers associated with cyber crimes. Fr Roy too spoke on the occasion. Fr Mijo presented a memento to the chief guest. After the vote of thanks by Aleena Dennyson, the program ended with the school anthem.

The first PTM of class XI was held on 25 September. This was followed by the PTM for classes IX and X the following day.

(15) EDU EXPO

Edu Expo 2017 was held at the school quadrangle on 27 Sept. It was an exhibition of art, craft and science by the students. The organizational responsibility was entrusted to the students of classes VII and VIII. The highlights of the expo included simple experiments, still models, working models, vegetable carvings, craft works, paintings, charts, collections of stamps and coins. The function was inaugurated by Fr Roy who also explained the purpose behind the Expo. A panel of teachers judged the exhibits.

(16) 'ONE MILLION GOALS'

As part of the under-17 FIFA World Cup campaign, the Kerala State Sports Council and the directorate of sports and youth affairs of the Govt of Kerala, in association with District Sports Council, Education Dept, and LSGD organized the mega event "One Million Goals" from 3 to 7 pm. Shri James Thomas Plakkithottiyil, municipal chairman of Ettumanoor, chief guest at the event, inaugurated it by striking the first goal. The Fathers too participated in the event which had the students of class IX as co-participants.

As part of the Gandhi Jayanti celebration on 02 Oct, the students of class IX cleaned the premises of the Ettumanoor police station.

The MR vaccine was administered to the students of KG to class X at the school under the guidance of doctors, nurses and staff from the PHC at Ettumanoor, on 06 Oct.

(17) FLAMBOYANCE FEST

The Desalite kids' fest "*Flamboyance*" was held from 10 to 12 Oct. The inaugural function was held under the chairmanship of Fr Jose Parappillil, school manager. After the welcome speech by Agnesa Clara Binoj, Fr Parappillil and other invitees lighted the lamp and spoke on the importance of *Flamboyance*. Fr Roy's speech was preceded by a solo by Namitha Mariya Joseph and followed by a vote of thanks by Karthika Jiju.

(18) SPECIAL SMILES

The annual program *Buoyancy* was organized on 13 Oct, jointly sponsored by the Govt Dental College, Kottayam, Special Olympics Bharat, and Malayala Manorama's Nallapaadam. Participants from 24 special schools in the district took part in the sports meet and won prizes for different items. The opening ceremony began at 9.30 with the arrival of chief guests and a march-past 10 minutes later. Fr Roy delivered the welcome speech. Shri Sunish Thomas, chief sub editor, Malayala Manorama, inaugurated the medical camp "*Special Smiles*". Fr Jose Parappillil declared the meet open and hoisted the school flag. Dr Bindhu Bhaskar, senior lecturer in public health dentistry at the Dental College, felicitated the gathering. After the participating schools were introduced, the oath-taking ceremony took place. Various track and field events began at 10.30 a.m.

(19) BUOYANCY 2017

The afternoon session started at 3 pm with the awards presentation ceremony at the school quadrangle. Mrs Mini T Soman delivered the welcome speech. Shri Cyriac Pattani, deputy general manager, Malayala Manorama, inaugurated the function. Fr Parappillil delivered the presidential address. The keynote address was presented by Shri Shihabudeen M, lecturer in Kristhu Jyothi College, Changanassery. The overall championship this time went to Asha Nikethan special school, Ayamkudy, which was presented with a trophy and cash prize. The runner-up trophy went to Deepthi DCMR, Teekoy,. The prize for the best march-past was won by Sanjos Vidyalaya, Kanakkary. Fr Parappillil honoured 18 doctors by presenting them with mementoes on the occasion.

Among the speakers were Fr Roy, Sr Rani Joe SCC, principal, Holy Cross special school, Mannackanad; Sr Flower Jose SH, principal, Sevaniketan, Thiruhrudaya Nivas special school, Parel, Changanassery; and Dr Joji T Sebastian, PTA president. The vote of thanks at the end was proposed by Mrs Blessey Johnson, teacher representative.

The KG kids had their one-day picnic to Uncle John's Park, Kottayam, on Tuesday, 17 Oct. The school principal and the KG teachers accompanied them to the picnic spot.

(20) FIGHTING INTOLERANCE

Is India becoming increasingly intolerant of dissenting voices? This was the topic of an English debate held at Excelsior English School, Illickal, Kottayam, in which our students participated on 20 Oct.

On 02 November our students travelled to Good Shepherd Public School, Thengana,

Changanassery, to participate in an all-Kerala inter-school quiz contest. It was titled "Mind Quest 2017".

The Sahodaya district sports meet was held on 6-7 November at Labour India Public School, Marangattupilly, where our student Vipin Raju got the first prize in long jump and triple jump and received certificates and two gold medals.

An exam-orientation class was conducted for Std X students on Tuesday, 07 November, by Shri Nandalala, a motivational speaker. It helped reduce students' exam fear. A memento was presented to the chief guest by the school's staff secretary.

(21) ATHLETIC MEET

The annual athletic meet was held on four days from 07 to 10 November. There was no individual champion in the primers section. Jewish Joji of Topaz House and Amjatha K Anwar of Emerald House became individual champions in Category I. The heats in different competitions were conducted on 09 November and the finals the following day.

The opening ceremony was conducted on Friday, 10 November, under the chairmanship of Shri Eudric Perera, an international basketball player. The march-past was led by the captains of the various houses with house members in tow. The Olympic torch was lighted by Vipin Raju who had won two gold medals at the Sahodaya district meet at Marangattupilly in long jump and triple jump.

After the welcome speech by Lakshmi Nethra of Std IX, Fr Jose Parappillil, school manager, addressed the gathering. Mr Perera hoisted the school flag and declared the sports meet open. Both Mr Perera and Fr Parappillil released a dove to symbolize the spirit of sports. Irin Philomina Dantise, school head girl, administered the oath which was followed by a yoga display by the students. Then the class V students performed a free-hand exercise display which was thrilling.

The food stalls put up by the Nallapaadam workers of the school added colour and flavour to the meet and satisfied the food needs of the students. Varieties of ice cream and other victuals were on offer. Soon after the vote of thanks proposed by Annjela Manoj track and field events took off with vigour.

The closing ceremony starting at 2.30 pm began with a welcome speech by Brijith Cyriac. Prizes were given away by Fr Mijo and Fr George.

The champions of Category II were Aby Mathew Ambooken of Topaz house and Alpha Biju of Ruby House. Abjo M Joseph (Emerald house), Rose Philip (Emerald House), Aleena Theresa Siby (Ruby) and Anchal Elizabeth (Sapphire) were declared champions in Category III. The champions in category IV were Francis P Philip (Emerald) and Raveena Raphy (Sapphire). The overall champions of the meet were the Emerald House with 247 points. The first runner up was the Sapphire house with 231 points, followed by Topaz house with 223 points.

SFS students participated in the inter-school commerce fest 'Optazia' held at BMM Senior Secondary School, Pothampuram, Pampady on 09 November. Jis Jojit Thomas and Athira Biju got the second prize for Brand Race, and received certificates, medals and 1,000 rupees.

(22) CHILDREN'S DAY

Children's Day was celebrated with pomp and flair on Tuesday, 14 November. Class teachers greeted their students with decorated cards and toffees. The teachers sang a prayer song to mark the start of the celebration at 1.30 pm. The welcome speech was delivered by teacher Angel Mary. One of the students, dressed as Chacha Nehru, delivered the children's day message. Fr Roy added his own message for the occasion.

The dances led by Ms Divya Krishnan and Ms Divya Pankajakshan and performed by the teachers wowed everyone. A musical performance under the guidance of music teacher Ms Sujatha kept everyone spellbound. A skit performed by the teachers and the Fathers highlighted the teacher-student relationship. A melodious song rendered by Ms Sumi George took the audience to a realm of transcendence. Mrs Swapna A M announced the prizes. Fr Mijo and Fr George gave away the mementos, certificates and cash prizes to the winners. The vote of thanks was proposed by Ms Sigimol Augustine. The singing of the national anthem marked the end of the programme.

(23) BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

As part of the Nallapaadam project, parents, teachers and non-teaching staff donated blood to the Medical College team in the forenoon on 15 November at the school.

The 'Think and Learn Examination' conducted by Asianet for students of Stds IV-X was held at the school from 1.30 to 2.30 pm on Friday, 17 November. The same day, our students went to participate in the Sahodaya science exhibition held at Bapuji Central School, Peruva.