



# NAVA SPURTHI



## Bangalore Region

Vol. XII/ II

NEWS LETTER

April - June : 2022

### Message from the Regional Superior

Dear Sisters,

Warm greetings! The new academic year has started and I wish all of you in the community and all our teachers and students God's abundant blessings and good luck.

Pope Francis says, "Education is the key to growth, progress and development making us real human persons. School is one of the educational environments where one grows by learning how to live, how to become grown-up, mature men and women. This implies forming the head, hands and heart, together in harmony by enhancing the link between learning, doing and feeling in the noblest sense". Our schools need to focus on: 1. Human Formation coupled with deep faith. 2. Upholding family values 3. Women empowerment. 4. Sensitivity to the ecology and environment. We cannot always build the future for our youth but we can build our youth for future.

Remember the words of Mahatma Gandhi, 'I have always felt the true text book for the students is his teacher'. We the Ecclesial leaders are the Bible for all those who come in contact with us. I appeal to each one of you to be a message and a messenger of transformation. May the Lord bless us all!

### Maria Sadan Regional House, Bangalore

We were happy to have the presence of Srs. Jency and Isilda IBVM to celebrate Easter with us. Bangalore Region celebrated the Golden jubilee of our sisters Gladys, Basilia, and Cyrilla in Alakode community. The presence of Srs. Daisy, Anisha and Suchita added to the joy of Jubilation.

In the month of May, Sr. Christine, joined our community replacing Sr. Vidya and Sr. Smitha, our new superior of the regional house, in place of Sr. Suchita.





From our Region, Srs. Daisy, Anisha and Mahima participated the COIN arranged 'Becoming one with CJ/IBVM' second programme at Naini Tal.

We were delighted to have some of our sisters from the other provinces visiting us after having attended some renewal and training programmes in various institutions in Bangalore. The short visit of Fr. Kuriakose SVD from Africa, Sr. Daisy's brother was a joyful event. Maria Sadan Hostel for the students was renovated and so now we have more space to accommodate them.

Another joyful and exciting occasion was the presence of our 20 Vibrant Wisdom Group Sisters



from different provinces in India and Nepal.

## St. Mary's Convent, Mulund.

The month of April was very busy with exams, open days, and New admissions, etc. We bade farewell to Sr. Christine, our superior and the manager of the school. Holy Mass and a get together with the priests and the CTC sisters of our parish was organized.



Sr. Anisha, our new superior, accompanied by Srs. Daisy and Mercy arrived and she was installed on 4<sup>th</sup> May. Srs. Cyrilla and Georgia joined us for the same. Sr. Anisha went to Nainital for CJ – Loreto gathering and returned with lovely fruits.

The Orientation for the teachers was organized. Fr. Nitin OFM. Cap. stressed the importance of Duties, Responsibilities, Commandments and Sins of teachers. It was much appreciated and in their own words, "The hammer was hit on the right spot".

The school reopened for the new academic year, for teachers on 13 June and for students on 15th. A short welcome program was held for the new students. According to the Govt. scheme, free text books were distributed to the students of classes 5 - 8. The result of class 10 students was excellent. Miss. Raizel Russel D'Souza, our Head Girl and our parishioner was the topper, with 97.6%. Congratulations, Raizel!

Sr. Anisha, our new manager, was welcomed by the teachers and the students with a virtual prayer service and two of our supportive staff were given farewell on their retirement from service.



21<sup>st</sup> June was 'International Yoga Day'. The school arranged for a vaccination camp with BMC for our students between the age group of 12 – 14 years.



On 23 June, one of our auditors, Mr. Bharat Vepari passed away suddenly, some of our sisters visited the family and attended his funeral Rites. May his soul rest in Peace!

### A Peep into the ICSE section



The month of June was full of excitement not only for the management, but also for the teachers, children and parents. After two years of long waiting, on 15 June, the School opened for the new academic year 2022-23. Pupils came to school with joy and happiness also some came with tears rolling down due to the painful separation from their parents.

We too celebrated International Yoga Day. We have 215 students from LKG to Grade 1 this year. The ICSE premises have a new look with their new uniform.

## St. Mary's Convent, Alakode

Our summer holidays and the Holy Week preparations began with an eight day retreat at the Ignatian Retreat Center, Pariyaram, Kannur. Renewed in Spirit and relaxed in body, we were ready to enter into the Holy Week and Joyful Easter celebrations. We were blessed to have short visits from some of our sisters from the other provinces.

Sr. Nelcy attended a basic course in finance management for five days, organized by ISI, Bangalore, after which she proceeded to Nepal along with Sr. Mercy to be part of the CJ –IBVM 'Journeying Together Group' which was very enriching.



In the month of April, St. Mary's Convent and St. Mary's Forane Church Alakode, were all set to celebrate the dedicated Golden years of religious life of our dear sisters, Gladys, Basilia and Cyrilla. Our joy was doubled to have the presence of the relatives of the Jubilarians, our sisters, teachers and supporting staff.

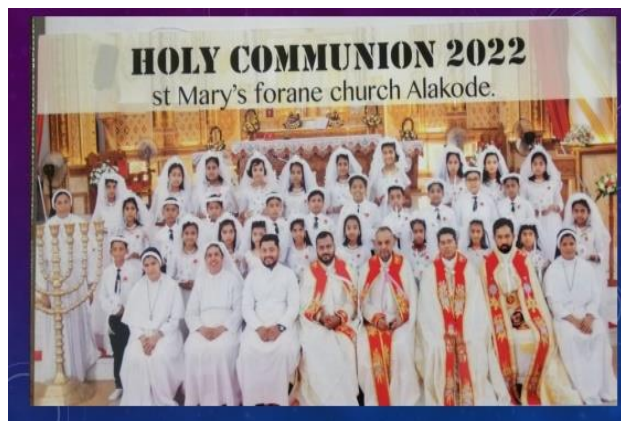
On the eve of the Solemnity of the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we joined the Sacred Heart Sisters of Alakode for their festal celebrations. It was indeed a time of sharing our joy and happiness with them.

### Faith Formation and Pastoral Ministry

Srs. Thomasina & Nelcy took an active part as animators in '*VISWASOLSTAVAM*'- the festival of faith. A four day course was conducted for the catechism students by the diocese of Tellicherry during summer holidays. They were given various activities like skits, action songs, games, mimes etc. to gain knowledge of the Bible and also to deepen their faith. It was really a wonderful experience of being with the children and an opportunity to share our faith experiences, knowledge and time, in faith formation of the catholic students.



Sr. Thomasina gave an intensive training programme for two weeks to the children, in preparation for their First Holy Communion which took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> April.



Sr. Thomasina excelled in the Advanced Self-study Programme for Catechism Teachers (ASPCT) conducted by the diocese for the catechism teachers. She is the topper in the Forane with 98% and was awarded a certificate.

## School Activities

After the long two months of holidays the school re-opened on 1 June. All the students came with vigour and enthusiasm to start their studies in the new academic year. The year started with an inaugural prayer service, blessing of the school, school premises and the students, by our parish priest and his assistant. Sr. Sherly, the principal welcomed the new students to the school.



On 6 June the LKG classrooms and the auditorium were decorated with balloons, flowers and streamers to welcome the tiny tots to the school. The *'PRAVESHANOLTSAVAM'* - the entry of the little ones to the school, was one of the highlights. They were welcomed with flowers and badges, and sweets were distributed to make them happy. We also observed 'The World Environment Day' on the same day. Various programmes like songs, recitations, speeches and dances were organized to highlight the theme of the year **'ONLY ONE EARTH'**. At the end of the Assembly all the students along with their teachers took the pledge, promising to value and save the resources of the earth by the careful use of them.

The school bade farewell to the outgoing batches of students. **Master & Miss St. Mary's** were chosen after a few rounds of competitions and were crowned by Sr. Basilia, the manager of the school and Sr. Sherly, the principal. Every student was given a memento.

June 19, the National Reading Day was observed in the school. On the 20<sup>th</sup>, a meaningful assembly was conducted by the students of the Language Club with many poems, skits and speeches, bringing home to the students the value of reading and the need for developing this good habit. We were also delighted to welcome the new batches of class eleven on the same day. They were welcomed before the common assembly with special badges lovingly prepared by the students of class ten and made to sit on chairs, specially decorated for them.

The International Day of Yoga was observed, Sr. Sherly spoke to the whole school of the advantages of yoga and the importance of doing it on a regular basis. All the students were made to spend some time of the day as classes or groups, doing a few yoga exercises.

## Mary Ward Illam, Mittapalli

The month of April was a busy time for the students, getting ready for their Board Exams. We were happy to welcome Sr. Divya, our new principal to our community. On 3 April most of us in the community attended the CRI Meeting during which Sr. Auxilia accepted the responsibility to be the Secretary of the CRI, Dharmapuri unit.



Representing the CRI unit of Dharmapuri, Sr. Auxilia attended a debate on the topic “The Catholic today Continues to Exist”, is it because of the consecrated persons or lay faithful?’ It was organised by the Bishop of Dharmapuri. The eminent speakers were selected from among priests, religious and lay faithful. The speakers kept the audience glued to the stage with their fiery speeches. The event was an eye-opener to all gathered there to realise the inevitable role of both the consecrated and the lay persons to live our life according to the teachings of Christ.

Sr. Mercy had the privilege of flying to Kathmandu to be part of Journeying together, ‘**Becoming one with CJ/IBVM**’ First programme at St. Mary’s.

On 12 May the school bade farewell to Sr. Smitha as she completed her service as principal in Mittapalli. The students expressed their gratitude by a well prepared cultural programme, and the community had a thanksgiving Mass for her. We thanked God for all the blessings the community and the school received in and through Sr. Smitha. Her generous service to the community and the school will always be remembered.



On 31 May Sr. Auxilia went to Harur to give a motivational talk to the young boys at the Vocation Camp organized by the Jesuit Fathers.

An Orientation programme for the teachers was conducted by Rev. Fr. Denis SJ. They felt more energized and enthused to exercise their profession as teachers.

June 13 was a very special day for us as we welcomed our Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Lawrence Pius, the Bishop of Dharmapuri and his secretary. They joined us for lunch. The bishop was very interested in listening to us speaking about our Foundress. In the evening he joined the Parish for the celebration of the feast of St. Anthony. 26 Catechism students of Sr. Auxilia received the Sacrament of Holy Communion and Confirmation.

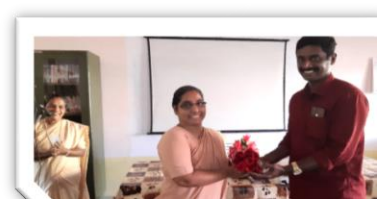
## MARY WARD CONVENT, PIZHAKU.



The month of April began with an orientation programme for teachers by Sr. Jane C.J.(Alld) for two days. The main theme of the seminar was fostering CJ school culture among the staff with the characteristics of Venerable Mary Ward and St. Ignatius. The staff enjoyed the programme thoroughly as they were having such a seminar after a gap of two years due to the Pandemic.

The teachers were busy with the open day, giving result to the students, after which they had a picnic to Thommankuthu waterfalls in Thodupuzha along with the sisters, non-teaching and supportive staff. All were indeed happy and were refreshed. Workers' Day was celebrated on May 2 with a sumptuous lunch for them in the convent as a token of gratitude for their hard work in the school and convent.

Sr. Suma was given farewell by PTA executive members who thanked her for her support and guidance especially during the pandemic.



The school and the convent bade farewell to Sr. Suma, expressing their gratitude for her untiring services. We welcomed Sr. Suchita to our community and the school welcomed her, the new principal.

We began the academic session with the Blessing of the entire school in the presence of our students by our Parish priest. Class X students organized a '**Praveshanolsavam**' with a well planned prayer service.

We were privileged to attend the golden jubilee celebrations of Srs. Pooja and Lucina from Patna province organized by their family members as their homes are close to our convent.

The school celebrated the World Environment Day on 5 June. The primary students planted sapling at home and posted pictures in their WhatsApp groups. The high school students brought saplings along with them and planted them in the school campus.



This year we have 55 young buds in our LKG. They came along with their parents. Our teachers along with Class IX students prepared a programme to welcome and entertain them.

During the Investiture Ceremony, all the student council members were wished and prayed over that they foster better discipline in the school and inculcate a sense of responsibility in the students.

On the Reading Day, the students highlighted the importance of reading. The Librarian was wished with a bouquet of flowers and the Head Boy and Head Girl, along with Principal, inaugurated the reading day by distributing books to the students and all of them took their turn to read them in the library. 21 June was observed as International Yoga Day. Sr. Theresa taught yoga to our students by showing them many Asanas.

We celebrated the International Olympics Day in our school which was on 24 June, by having March Past and conducting different Games for the students. They felt that they were taking part in World Olympics.

### **Mary Ward Sadan, Puthenvelikara**

We were privileged to have Sr. Jane C.J from Allahabad Province with us for the orientation for our teachers. She helped them to be aware of the importance of knowing oneself. She stressed on Mary Ward and C J Education and how we can motivate our students in our day today teaching, etc.

In the first week of May, the feast of our Parish Church was celebrated. We took part in the Novena and Holy Mass and three days' retreat in preparation for the feast. Many of our sisters from other provinces visited us. We bade farewell to Sr. Susan as she moved to Thuruthipuram. We welcomed Sr. Vidya as our new community member.

The community had unanimously agreed to pray the Rosary on Saturdays in the campus for protection and to get a good number of students, and the Lord blessed us with many admissions.

Just before the school reopened, Sr. Deepti took Orientation for our teachers on our Vision Statement, the spirituality of Mary Ward, child centered education and a session on better English and some improved methods in teaching. An orientation programme was conducted for all the children and their parents.

In preparation for the opening of the new academic year, the teachers decorated their class rooms and the school campus. The noise and the excitement of our children rejuvenated us all. Their beaming and joyful faces assured us that they are very happy to be back in school. In order to invoke God's blessing, we had the Holy Eucharist in our school. The entire school and its campus and the newly constructed basketball court were blessed.



The newly constructed basketball court was inaugurated by Fr. Dais Antony



The little buds of Mary Ward School arrived on 6 June. A welcome dance by the students of class V was appreciated by all. All our new comers were given balloons in their hands and as they let them fly high in the sky, they beamed with joy.

The school celebrated the **Environment Day**. A beautiful programme was prepared by the students of class IX. A random **quiz competition** was conducted on the same day. Puthenvelikara Panchayat provided most of our students with saplings to plant in their homes and they were asked to take a photo of their planting and send it to the school.

Anti-drug Cell is created in our school. The members include police personnel, PTA representative, two auto drivers, two shop keepers, teacher representative and two student representatives. From Puthenvelikara police station, police officers enlightened us on how children can get trapped by drug sellers and of the importance of keeping vigilance on the children.

As part of the awareness programme on Sustainable Development Goals a **quiz competition** on the theme '**Only One Earth**' was conducted by JCI (Junior Chamber International) for the students of classes 8, 9 & 10. The winners were given prizes.



At the **Investiture ceremony**, Sr. Rosemary instructed the newly elected captains on their duties and responsibilities and the importance of inculcating leadership qualities in them.

**The International Yoga Day** was celebrated. In order to give awareness on the importance of Yoga, a speech was given by one of the students. On this occasion, Sr. Deepti brought awareness on how daily yoga practice can bring more energy, enthusiasm and good health in their life.

As part of the **International Day of Anti-Drug Abuse**, the DGP of Ernakulam District organized a Zoom Meeting for 275 schools in which our school also participated. The police Personnel instructed the participants on the importance of safe guarding our children from such abuses. All our students took **anti-drugs oath** on the same day.

Sr. Deepti participated in a meeting on Synodality – Communion, Participation and Mission – organized by the Kottapuram Diocese.

Our students are eagerly waiting for the monsoon season to end in order to begin games like football, volleyball, skating ...etc.

## SHANTISADAN CONVENT, BEGUR

**Personal Renewal:** Sisters Usha and Shradha made their Annual retreat in Mount St. Joseph. Sr. Mahima attended "Becoming One" programme in Nainital. We were delighted to meet some of our

sisters from other provinces. Sunil Sir and family (Alakode) came to Maria Sadan and Srs. Daisy and Christine brought them to visit us. Sr. Daisy and her priest brother, Fr. Kuriakose dropped in on their way to Maria Sadan.

### Wisdom Group's visit to Begur:



COIN had organized a wisdom group gathering at Prerana, Bangalore. A team of 20 sisters paid us a short visit. Sr. Daisy, the regional superior, Srs. Smitha and Christine from Maria Sadan also joined us. Everyone had a relaxed time going around the campus followed by high tea. Everyone expressed their joy and happiness and renewed their friendships.

### School Activities: NEW WEBSITE:

We at St. Mary's are happy to share the launch of our school website with new features, look and feel. We thank the CJ Generalate for the inputs received on Mary Ward and Susan Daily IBVM for generously sharing her art work. Kindly Visit: [www.stmarysbegur.com](http://www.stmarysbegur.com)



**New academic session 2022-23:** After the Pandemic once again normal school year began in the month of June for KG to class 10. Keeping the Lauda to Si' 7 goals, this year we have taken “**Adoption of Simple Life Style**” as the theme of the year. We hope to educate the parents and students through this theme. The students and parents were equally excited to come back to school. We could feel life and energy back in the campus with lots of hopes. We pray that the school year remains uninterrupted.

**Holy Mass and Blessings:** Holy Mass was offered in the school praying for the staff, students, parents and stake holders. Our Parish priest Fr. Shanta Kumar along with Fr. Emmanuel offered the Mass and blessed the school.

**World Environment day :** Class 10 students conducted a special assembly on the occasion of World Environment Day. Through songs and mime display, they inspired others and drew their attention on the need of the hour -to take responsibility for the Planet we live in.

**Investiture Ceremony:** The new Student Council teams was appointed and were inducted ceremoniously on the Investiture Day. The student leaders were guided to practice their leadership skills. The Manager of the school, Sr. Mahima invited the leaders to be an example for other students and carry on the school mandate with responsibility and precision.

**Choral Recitation:** A Choral Recitation competition conducted on the theme of the year “Adoption of Simple Life Style”. The teachers prepared the students well. The Recitation and the Poems chosen were very inspiring and was presented very creatively.

**KG activity – No bag day:** We have begun a new concept called No Bag Day for KG students on 2 Saturdays of the month where they are engaged in creative activity and learning through experience. In the month of June they had ‘Plant a Garden’ & ‘Green Day’. The children were taught to plant saplings and on Green Day, they came in green attire. They were taught to make different animal figures in their scrap books with the help of leaves.



**JPIC Activity:** As part of GREEN CAMPUS activity the JPIC Club conducted ‘*Mat making*’ for classes VI to X. The students learnt to produce the best out of waste materials.



## **JYOTHIR BHAWAN, THURUTHIPURAM**

Sr. Susan was extremely busy in preparing the children for their First Holy Communion & Confirmation.



**NAVA SPURTHI**  
*Wishes all our readers*  
*A Very Happy Feast of*  
**St. Ignatius of Loyola**