News Bulletin of St. Claret College, Bengaluru

Volume. XI | Issue 2 | January 2024

# MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

# THE POWER OF CURIOSITY IN LEARNING



ears back while spending vacation in my rural hometown in Kerala, my eight-year-old nephew who lives in a metropolitan city was also spending a few days at home with his grandparents. He saw the village life with a lot of excitement and curiosity. He had a lot of questions about a lot of things he was seeing for the first time: paddy fields, plants, flowers, fruit trees, vegetables, streams,

rivers and animals. I can recall one of his questions, "Uncle, why are all buffaloes black and cows have different colours?" I was really impressed with his curious mind, although I was not able to give him a convincing answer.

Now as an educator, I wonder if our formal education kills or encourages curiosity, creativity and passion for learning. Encouraging students to embrace their curiosity is a very important part of education at any level. Every educator should

be able to ignite student curiosity and it will surely improve learning outcomes. Curiosity most often begins with "why?" Why is blue spelt blue and not blown? Why does the wind blow? If teachers want to fire up students' curiosity, they need to encourage them to ask and try to answer—questions. It means that teachers should avoid giving dry lectures. Instead, they should design classes and pose questions, either implicitly or explicitly. And they should leave openings for students to participate and ask questions about what they are learning. Dear students, when you are curious about the world around you, you are more likely to come up with new ideas and solutions. Curiosity instils a mindset of exploration and discovery that extends beyond the classroom and into all aspects of your life. It encourages you to step out of your comfort zone, confront new ideas and perspectives, and continuously strive for selfimprovement. In a rapidly changing world, curiosity is essential for adaptability. When you are curious, you are better equipped to navigate uncertainty, embrace change and learn new skills. Curiosity is a fundamental aspect of human nature that drives learning, growth and progress in all areas of life.

Regards,

**Fr. Dr. Thomas Thennadiyil, CMF** Principal

# INVESTITURE OF STUDENT COUNCIL CONDUCTED

# Dream Big, Strive Hard

The Student Council of St. Claret College was officially invested on 03 November 2023 in a solemn ceremony held at the APJ Abdul Kalam



The newly invested student council with the Chief Guest of the event Ms. Mary Joseph, Rev. Dr. Thomas V. Thennadiyil and Dr Madesh N.

Auditorium. The college captains, sports secretaries, cultural secretaries and secretaries of various departments took oath to uphold the values and vision of the institution and to serve the student community with dedication and integrity. The chief guest for the occasion was Ms. Mary Joseph, the assistant editor of Vijaya Karnataka, a leading Kannada daily. She addressed the gathering and inspired the young leaders to dream big and strive hard to achieve their goals. She also appreciated the college for fostering a

culture of democracy and participation among the students.

# KANNADA RAJYOTSAVA CELEBRATED

# Three Books of Dr. Madesh Released

On 25 November 2023, St. Claret College celebrated Kannada Rajyotsava with a special event in the college quadrangle. The highlight



Cultural performance by students during the Kannada Rajyotsava



Pooja kunitha by a troop from Kannada and Culture department, Govt. of Karnataka

of the event was the book release of three books authored by Dr. Maadesh N., the Principal of St. Claret Evening College. The books titled "Maadiga Samudayada Sankathana", "Nelapaduke" and "Navilu Narthisuva Samaya" were released by Sri. Subbu Holeyar, a renowned writer and activist. Sri. Holeyar also hoisted the Karnataka flag and addressed the gathering, praising Dr. Maadesh for his contribution to the Kannada language and literature. The event also featured a musical performance by Fr. Joseph, the Vice Principal of St. Claret College, who enthralled the audience by singing some popular Kannada songs.

#### **FACE to FACE**

#### **Interaction with Achievers**

On 09 November 2023, St. Claret College hosted a face-to-face

enterprise from his father and turned it into a global cashew empire. He shared the challenges, the risks and the opportunities that he faced along the way, and how he managed to clear all the debts with his vision and hard work. The students and faculty members who attended the event were greatly motivated and enlightened by his words of wisdom and experience.

### **TEDx CLARET COLLEGE**

#### **TEDx Live Event Conducted**

The TEDx Program held at St. Claret College, Bangalore, on 10 November 2023, was an electrifying and enlightening event that brought together speakers and performers under the theme "Living with a Purpose." The lineup featured six distinguished speakers, among whom were notable personalities like renowned Bollywood



Dr. Rajmohan Pillai interacts with students during-Face to Face

interaction with one of the most inspiring achievers in the business world, Dr Rajmohan Pillai. Dr Pillai, who is popularly known as The Cashew King, narrated his remarkable story of how he inherited a debt-ridden

actor Mr. Milind Soman and Shark Tank India Finalist Ms. Shruthi Reddy, who shared their insights on aligning personal goals with a larger sense of purpose, and the significance of



Mr. Milind Soman shares his insights on health and wellbeing during TEDx passion and perseverance in achieving one's dreams. Complementing the inspiring talks were six captivating performances, ranging from stand-up artists to mentalists, shadow artists, and a rock band, each adding a dynamic dimension to the event and reinforcing the central message of living with purpose and passion. The diverse range of performances not only entertained the audience but also



Dance performance by Ms. Pallavi during TEDx

left them introspective and motivated to reflect on their own lives and strive for authenticity, intentionality, and fulfilment. The event served as a reminder to embrace life with purpose, embrace one's passions, and pursue one's dreams with unwavering determination.

# **CULTURAL EXCHANGE**

### **Harmony Across Horizons**

On 17 January 2024, St. Claret College Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh, brought the essence of their rich heritage to St. Claret College Bengaluru through 'Cultural Ambassadors'. Faculty and students of the sister college showcased their culture through traditional dance forms, folk songs and ritualistic performances. The exchange programme organized by the Student Core Council of created SCC opportunities participants to establish connections



Cultural extravaganza by the students of SCC Ziro



Ethnic walk by students of SCC, Ziro

and relationships with people from different backgrounds, which can lead to long-lasting friendships. It also encouraged the students of both colleges to appreciate and celebrate the richness of diverse cultures, traditions, and heritage.

# IND vs AUS CWC 2023 FINAL

#### **Live Streaming on Big Screen**

On 19 November 2023, St. Claret College hosted a special event for the cricket lovers in the campus. The



SCC screens IND Vs AUS ICC Cricket World Cup final

college arranged a live streaming of the IND vs AUS CWC 2023 Final on a big screen in the quadrangle. The event was attended by students, faculty and their families who cheered for the Indian Cricket Team. The college also provided dinner for the attendees and made the evening a memorable one.

## **CONFLUENCE 2023**

# Intra-collegiate Cultural, Arts, Music, Theatre & Literary Fest organised

The week-long annual cultural extravaganza of the college was

round. The acting competitions consisted of mono acting, mime and stand-up comedy. The writing competitions involved essay writing, poetry writing and short story writing. The sketching competitions included



Rev Dr. Thomas V. Thennadiyil inaugurates Confluence 2023

inaugurated on 13 November 2023, Monday, with a flash mob that enthralled the audience with its

pencil sketching, face painting, rangoli, pot painting, mehendi, nail art,



Students showcase their talents during Confluence 2023.

energetic moves and catchy music. The events that followed over the week showcased the talents of the students in various categories such as singing, dancing, acting, writing,



Students perform Fashion Show during Confluence 2023.

sketching, styling, comedy, and more. The singing competitions included solo and group performances in Western and Eastern genres, as well as instrumental music and beatboxing. The dancing competitions featured solo, duet and group performances in Western, Eastern and classical styles, as well as a medley and an adaptune

photography and tattoo designing. The Fest culminated on 18th November, Saturday, with a grand finale, EUPHORIA featuring western and eastern group dances and a fashion walk that displayed the elegance and glamour of the students. The events were conducted successfully with huge numbers of participants and each event had a judges panel of in-house and invited judges who were exponents in the field. The Fest was a memorable experience for all the participants and spectators who witnessed the creativity and enthusiasm of the students.

# **MANTASTIC**

# Men's Day Celebrated

On 28 November 2023, at St. Claret College, the women of the institution orchestrated a remarkable celebration in honour of Men's Day, held at the

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The men of SCC receives personalized mementos on the occasion of Men's Day

APJ Abdul Kalam Auditorium. The event was a testament to appreciation and recognition for all the male employees of St. Claret College. A series of engaging activities were meticulously arranged, ensuring a fun-filled and memorable experience for the men of the college. Each male employee was pleasantly surprised with a personalised memento, featuring their photograph alongside a heartfelt line dedicated to them, a thoughtful gesture from the organising team. The gathering was graced by Fr. Principal Joseph Thennadivil, who delivered an insightful address emphasising the significance of emotional well-being for men. He commended the women's team for their initiative in organising such a meaningful event and applauded them for setting a positive precedent within the college community. The celebration not only brought joy and camaraderie but also highlighted the importance of acknowledging and supporting the emotional health of men in the institution

#### **Internal Examinations Conducted**

From 02-08 December 2023, SCC conducted internal examinations (CIA) for all UG students. The was conducted examination prepare the students for the University examinations acquainting them with the question paper pattern, learning and answer writing skills. The internal examinations gave the students an opportunity to understand their level of learning, and competence and helped them perform well for the end-term examinations,

#### **E-CELL**

# Release of Two Books "Human Resource Development" and "Employability Skills"

The E-Cell of St. Claret College organised a book release event on 16 November 2023 at the Mother Theresa Conference Hall. The books, titled "Human Resource Development" and "Employability Skills", were designed to cater to the fifth semester NEP Syllabus. The authors of the books, Mr Jayath H. and Dr. Thomas V. Thennadiyil, who is also the Principal of the college, were present at the event. The books were published by Himalaya Publishing House and received positive feedback from the students and faculty members who attended the event.

# E-Summit organised Fueling Innovation and Inspiration

On 16 November 2023, St. Claret College hosted an E-Summit on the theme of "Fueling Innovation and Inspiration" at the APJ Abdul Kalam Auditorium. The event featured four eminent speakers from different fields who shared their valuable insights with the students. Ms. Vandana Suri, Founder of Taxshe Services, spoke about her journey of empowering women drivers and providing safe transportation for children women. Ms. Satyaprema Y, Founder of Mindfully Yours, discussed the importance of mindfulness emotional intelligence in personal and professional life. Ms. Gayathri Kamar, Co-Founder of CogniMinds,

explained how cognitive science and artificial intelligence can enhance learning outcomes and creativity. Ms. Genevieve Rosario, Founder of Mystical Rose Gardens, narrated her inspiring story of creating a beautiful and sustainable organic farm in the city. The E-Summit was a great opportunity for the students to learn from the experiences and wisdom of these successful entrepreneurs and innovators.

# BUETA - BANGALORE UNIVERSITY ENGLISH TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

# **Negotiating Different Roles: Teacher and Researcher**

Bangalore University and Bangalore City University BUETA - Bangalore University English **Teachers** Association in association with The Department of English at St. Claret College hosted a one-day national seminar on "Negotiating Different Roles: Teacher and Researcher" on 23 November 2023 at the Mother Teresa Conference Hall. It witnessed the participation of faculties from various colleges under Bangalore University and Bangalore City University. The seminar aimed to explore the challenges and opportunities balancing teaching and research in the field of English studies.

# STUDENT WELFARE OFFICE

#### **LSDP** Organised

From 11 to 12 December 2023, the Life Skills Development Program (LSDP) was conducted for the first year UG students. The LSDP was conducted to equip the students with the necessary skills related to dealing with real-life situations. The various sessions organised for the students as part of LSDP were Turning a New Leaf- Dealing with Life Transactions, Looking Beyond- Accepting Failure and Seeking Help, Mind Gym-Building Confidence, Looking into the Mirror- Self Awareness and Writing vour Story- Past Regrets and Future Plan. The Resource persons for the



Vice principal Fr. Joseph S. interacts with students during LSDP.

session were eminent faculty members of SCC's UG and PG departments who were experts in their respective fields.

Parents-Teacher Meeting Conducted On 16 December 2023, a parent and teacher meeting was held for the UG students in the respective classrooms from 11:00 AM to 01:00 PM. The meeting helped in fostering effective communication and collaboration

between parents and teachers contributing to the overall well-being and academic success of students.

# Professional Skills Development Program

# **Shaping Tomorrow for a Better Future**

On 27 November, 2023, St. Claret College organised a Professional Skills Development Program for the first year undergraduate students. The program aimed to equip the students with the essential skills and competencies required to shape their future in a dynamic and competitive world. The program was conducted in various classrooms by various faculty coordinated by, Mr. Rohith Kar and Mr. Chethan S, who shared their insights and experiences on topics such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, leadership, creativity. The students actively participated in the interactive sessions and learned valuable lessons that would help them in their academic and professional endeavours.



Students engage in group discussion during PSDP session

# **SPARKLE NIGHT**

#### **Celebrating Christmas Carnival**

On 20 December 2023, SCC celebrated the Sparkle Night from 05:00 PM onwards at the College Quadrangle, the Christmas carnival which involved fun games, carols, games, dance performances and food fest. The onstage events began at 05:00 PM with a formal inauguration and Christmas message by the Manager of Claretian Group of Institutions, Rev. Dr. Xavier Mannavath. There were also on-stage games which were conducted for the audience. The special feature of the event was extending hospitality to the members of Summanahalli. The faculty members, students, Alumni and parents came together for the event and made it a huge success. The program was organised by the Student Welfare Office. On 23rd December a dinner and celebration was organised for the faculty members which involved dance and music performances and gift exchange. The program helped to cultivate the spirit of unity and togetherness among the faculty members, students and staff of SCC.



Cultural performances by students during Sparkle Night



Flashmob by students at the onset of College election

#### **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

### Alumni Handshake Organised

Claret Alumni Association in collaboration with the Training and Placement Cell organised 'Handshake 2024' an industry orientation programme by the alumni of SCC on 20 January 2024 for the final year students of UG and PG. Claret alumni from various professions addressed the students about the needs of the industry in the current job market. Alumni talks create networking opportunities for students. Building connections with successful individuals in their field of study can open doors to internships, mentorships, and potential iob opportunities in the future.

### YUVA TOURISM CLUB

Visit to Belur and Halebid Organised On 21 November, St. Claret College organised a Heritage Walk for its Yuva Tourism Club members as part of the World Heritage Week Celebrations. The event was supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India, Bengaluru Office. The participants visited the historical sites of Belur and Halebid, which are renowned for their exquisite temple architecture and sculptures. The students learned about the rich cultural and artistic legacy of the Hoysala dynasty that ruled over the region in the 12th and 13th centuries. The Heritage Walk was a memorable

and enlightening experience for the young tourism enthusiasts.

# AMBEDKAR AND GANDHI STUDY CENTRE

# National Constitution Day Essay Writing Competition Organised

On 27 November 2023, the Ambedkar and Gandhi Study Centre organised a National Constitution Day Essay Writing Competition at the Kalpana Chawla AV1 Auditorium. The event was attended by students and faculty members from various departments, who expressed their views on the significance and relevance of the Indian Constitution in the contemporary context. The essays were judged by a panel of experts, and the winners were awarded certificates and prizes. The event was a success and generated a lot of interest and enthusiasm among the participants and the audience.

# **National Constitution Day- Reading** of the Preamble

On 27 November 2023, St. Claret College celebrated National Constitution Day with a special pledge ceremony. All the students gathered in their respective classrooms during the morning assembly and recited the preamble of the Constitution of India, reaffirming their commitment to uphold its values and principles.

The event was a reminder of the rich heritage and diversity of our country and the importance of being responsible citizens.

### LITERARY CLUB

# Movie Screening and Panel Discussions Conducted

On 02 November 2023, the Literary Club organised a movie screening and panel discussion on the movie SOUL, a Pixar animation that explores the themes of life, death and soul. The event was held at the Mother Teresa Conference Hall and was attended by students who had registered for it. The panellists were Ms. Preethi from the Department of Humanities, Ms. Lidia Fernandes from the Department of Psychology PG, and Mr. Pruthvi Bharadwaj K V from the Department of Humanities. They shared their insights and perspectives on the movie, its characters, plot and message. The audience also participated actively in the discussion, asking questions and expressing their opinions. The panellists and the audience also discussed the importance of mental health and some key life lessons that the movie conveved, such as finding one's purpose, passion and spark. Moreover, they also talked about the politics of representation in the movie, especially in the context of the Black Lives Matter movement in Hollywood and how it influenced the portrayal of African American culture and identity in SOUL.

# EXPLORING WORLDS THROUGH WORDS-MERAKI 2023

Meraki 2023 an intra-collegiate literary fest which spanned from 13 November 2023 to 18 November 2023 was a platform for the students to showcase their literary talents. Various competitions like essay writing, extempore, short story writing and versification were part of the fest. More than 150 students from various UG departments of SCC participated in the literary fest bagging numerous prizes and certificates.

#### **Exploring Artistic Skills**

The Literary Club of SCC organised a book mark-making competition on the theme "Your Favourite Cartoon" as part of the Christmas celebration on 19 December 2023. The program was conducted to encourage the creative and artistic skills of the students. A large number of students submitted their creative book marks and Ms. Devyani of I BBA A hailed as the competition winner.

#### **Muggles Reading**

The Literary Club of SCC conducted the first meeting of "The Muggle



Ms. Nirnitha the coordinator of literary club hosts the first edition of Muggle reads

Reads Society" on 12 January 2023. The autobiographical work 'Totochan: The Little Girl at the Window' was the book chosen for the discussion. The book discussion involved the active participation of enthusiastic students of the college and they shared their valuable perspectives on the book and the meeting turned out to be insightful and fruitful.

### **MUSIC CLUB**

#### **RHAPSODY 2023 Celebrated**

From 13-17 November 2023 SCC

celebrated the yearly musical intracollegiate festival, RHAPSODY 2023, which took place over four days of melodic joy and rhythmic euphoria. This year's event, which was hosted by St. Claret College, captivated both participants and spectators with a wide range of musical abilities. RHAPSODY 2023 honoured the spirit of music in all its forms with everything from riveting instrumental performances to soul-stirring vocal performances. 'Yousician,' a stage for solo vocal performances combining Eastern and Western musical traditions, opened the festivities. The audience was captivated by the participants' flawless vocal skills as they gave mesmerizing performances of both classic and modern tunes. Each performance featured a variety of musical styles, from energetic anthems to melancholic ballads, showcasing the brilliance of the collegiate community. With the 'Playback' event on the second day, the

stage was transformed into a karaoke haven.

#### NSS

### **Eye Screening Camp Conducted**

On 22 December 2023, NSS in association with Dr. Agarwals Eye Hospital organised a free eye screening test for the students and faculty members of St. Claret College at the A. P. J. A budul Kalam Auditorium. From 09:30 AM - 03:30 PM. The screening test is helpful for various reasons, as it helps identify and address potential vision issues early on by detecting vision problems, prevention of learning and academic challenges, and overall maintenance of eye health.

#### **Republic Day Celebrated**

The 75th Republic Day was celebrated at St. Claret College on 26 January 2024 in association with N.S.S., N.C.C., and Sports Club. The Principal Rev. Dr. Thomas V. Thennadiyil was the Chief Guest and Fr. Vice-Principal



SCC celebrates 75th Republic Day

Joseph S. was the guest of honour for the program. The Republic Day celebration included flag hoisting followed by patriotic dances and a speech by the chief guest. Dr. Safeer Pasha, Staff Coordinator, Dr. Madesh N., N.S.S. Officer, Dr. Muniraju, Physical Education Director, Dr. Lt. Prakash Behra, N.C.C. Officer, Students, faculty and staff of St. Claret College were present and witnessed the celebration of 75 th Republic day.

#### **CSA**

#### The Joy of Giving

On 18 December 2023. CSA & AICUF in association with NCC initiated a charity event where the students contributed the essential provisions and food items to the people in need. The program was conducted to propagate the ideals of peace, joy, love and care on account of the celebration of Christmas month. The collected items were handed over to the inmates of old age homes and orphanages.

### **Annual Retreat Organised**

On 06 January 2024, the Catholic Students Association (CSA) organised its Annual Retreat, led by Fr. Reji Koodappattu, from 9 am to 1 pm. The retreat took place in APJ Abdul Kalam Auditorium, providing a serene and spacious environment for reflection and spiritual growth. Attendees were engaged in various activities, including prayers, meditation on the word of God, and group songs, aimed at deepening their faith and fostering a sense of community. Fr. Reji Koodappattu's insightful teachings and guidance were instrumental in inspiring participants to strengthen their relationship with God and live out their Catholic values in their daily lives. Overall, the retreat was a profound and enriching experience for all who participated, leaving a lasting impact on their spiritual journey.

### YRC AND RRC

# **Awareness Program Organised**

HIV infection is entirely preventable through awareness raising. Therefore, awareness raising about its occurrence and spread is very significant in protecting the people from the epidemic. To create awareness on AIDS and its prevention the Youth Red Cross and Red Ribbon Club commemorated World AIDS Day with an awareness rally on 01 December 2023 from 12:30 PM to 01.30 PM. A total of 44 students took part in the awareness rally.

### Nasha Mukth Bharath Abhiyan

The Youth Red Cross Club in association with Art of Living, Bangalore organised an Expert Talk on Nasha Mukth Bharath Abhiyaan for all BBA Students on 16 January 2024 from 11.15 AM to 12.15 PM. A total of 351 students attended the session. Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan intends to reach out to the masses and spread awareness about substance abuse through various activities like awareness programs. The resource persons from Art Of Living with great expertise reached young minds and also made students understand the need to be free of substance abuse.

# **ROTARACT CLUB**

### Otta from Your Thota Organised

The Rotaract Jalahalli with Hosachiguru organised "Otta from Your Thota" on 03 December 2023 from 10:00 PM to 08:00 PM at HMT Ground. It hosted various events like organic terrace gardening, gardening workshops, and home composting workshops. E-waste management and several other programs for promoting a greener and healthier Bengaluru.

# CONSUMER RIGHTS CLUB

## Consumer Rights Awareness Program Conducted

On 15 December 2023, the Consumer Rights Club conducted "Consumer-The Avenger" (An intra-club mystery-solving quiz competition) on Consumer Rights awareness for students. The quiz masters of the competition were the club representatives. The competition was to educate and motivate the club members about the rights and responsibilities of consumers, creating knowledge on filing cases in consumer court.

### Claretines' Visit to the Court

The Consumer Rights Club of St Claret

College took students to the civil court of Karnataka on 23 January 2024. The educational visit provided them with a rich learning experience that extends beyond textbooks and classrooms, offering practical insights into the functioning of the legal system and its relevance to society. Exposing students to the workings of the civil court system can provide them with a first-hand understanding of legal proceedings, the roles of various participants (judges, lawyers, plaintiffs, defendants), and the importance of the rule of law in society. Encouraging students to observe civil court proceedings can foster a sense of civic responsibility and engagement with the legal system. It helps them understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens. Students develop a greater awareness of their rights and responsibilities as citizens, as well as the importance of the rule of law in society.

### **ENVIRONMENT CLUB**

#### Swatchatha 2024 Organised

The Environment Club of St. Claret College in association with the NSS unit organised outreach activity under the theme of "Swachhata hi Seva" on 19 January 2024 at Khatanagar. Environment club representatives along with 20 NSS volunteers cleaned the vicinity of the village. The outreach activity aimed to foster a sense of cleanliness, social commitment and community building in the students.

# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT CLUB

# Cervical Cancer Awareness Program Organised

The Women Empowerment Club of St. Claret College organised a session on Cervical Cancer Awareness on 04 January 2024 from 02:00 - 03:00 PM in the APJ Abdul Kalam auditorium. The resource person Dr. Shobha K., a gynecologist from Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology addressed the second-year girls UG students of SCC. The program aimed to provide accurate and accessible information about cervical cancer, its causes, risk factors, and symptoms to increase public knowledge.