



VINCENTIAN

IN A CLASS OF IT'S OWN

St. Vincent's School, an eminent academic institution, completes 140 years.

Vincenti Dabatur! Vincenti Dabatur! To Dare and Do and Win ... is how the anthem of St. Vincent's School goes. And that is what the institution has successfully taught its boys for more than a century, going by its excellent record of academic success, its exemplary achievements in school sports and its hard won reputation.

Located on St. Vincent's Street in Camp, the school is a landmark in the education scenario. Today, as the school completes 140 years, it is only aiming at reaching greater heights in making fine gentlemen out of boys. Managed by the Poona Jesuit Schools Society, the school was started in 1867, initially with the purpose of educating Catholics in a Catholic environment. Eventually, because of its excellent academic standards, it became a haven for non-Christians. Prominent among the alumni are spiritual teacher Meher Baba, Sardar Moodliar, his son Rao Bahadur N.S. Moodliar and K.K. Framji.

As an eminent academic institution in the city, St. Vincent's students have always excelled in the Secondary School Certificate Examination (SSC) and the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) Examination. The first matriculation batch of the school passed out in 1875.

Along with academics over the years, students have excelled in co-curricular activities as well. Since 1941, the school has held the championship of the Poona Schools' Athletic Association. For years, the school team has also won the Daruwalla Hockey Cup in inter-school tournaments. In fact, billiards stalwart Wilson Jones is an alumni of the school.

Laying thrust upon education for service and leadership, the Scouts Movement was introduced in the school in 1949. Likewise, the Road Safety Patrol (RSP) took off in 1962.

The Army Wing of the NCC began its march in 1956, while the Navy Wing was floated in 1964.

And for the scores of ex-Vincentians spread all over the country and

abroad, who want to give back to their alma mater in some way, there is the VOBA (Vincent's Old Boys Association). The association provides a network to its members, to stay in touch with old friends, as well as support the school system through scholarship programmes. The school also has an active Parents Teachers Association (PTA).

Prominent alumni

- Bishop Valerian D'Souza
- Dr. K.B. Grant
- Mohan Dharia
- Wilson Jones

(Taken from The Indian Express)

... class no bar



Fr. Andrew our role model, teacher and friend with boys from Class I to Class XII



Vincent's Vincent's (1867-2007)

In the XVIIIc Providence raised up St. Vincent de Paul, who contributed abundantly to the evangelization of the poor and to the development of the priestly virtues, through the Congregation he founded under the title, Priests of the Mission, to establish everywhere seminaries in order to give good priests to the people.

In order to help poor people, foundlings, young girls whose virtue was exposed to danger, and others insane, invalid or sick, in conjunction with St. Louise de Marillac, he founded the Sisters of the Poor. St. Vincent de Paul is special patron of all charitable associations since his death in 1660.

When St. Xavier's Parish, Pune, was well established after 1862, the parishioners began to feel the need of a school of their own. Regimental and other schools were a danger to the faith of their children. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, under the presidency of T.C. Loughman, Esq. once Sessions Judge of Poona and Collector of Dharwar, set up an Education Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Charles Cook. They were then able to help the Parish Priest, Fr. Joseph Brunner SJ to start a small school with five pupils on April 9, 1867, which progressed so rapidly that by 1873, classes were conducted upto matriculation (Std.VIII). Soon, nearby additional plots were acquired and construction erected, which resulted in the present impressive campus of St.

Vincent's High School, with a higher secondary section added in 1970.

Fr. Pius Geisel SJ was Superior of the Poona Mission during the decade when after independence, the country launched its programme of national reconstruction. In 1950, Fr. James Alt SJ started St. Joseph's Night School, which was upgraded to a high school in 1952, for poor working students, together with a hostel for them. In 1959, Fr. Paul Haefeli SJ started St. Joseph's Technical Institute with courses in motor mechanics, carpentry, welding skills, primarily for students who did not make the grade.

The imposing wing with the statue of the patron saint was constructed by Fr. Maxmilian Riklin SJ from 1933 to 1935, and 25 years later, Fr. Rudolph Schoch SJ replaced the original red building with the present office block, library, laboratories and classrooms, which were completed in 1963. Soon after, the A.V.Room was furnished and the stadium built in time for the centenary celebration in 1967, presided over by the Vice President of India, Mr. V.V. Giri.

Objective

The original purpose of the school was to educate Catholics in a Catholic environment. Hence, the spiritual formation of the students was taken up quite seriously right from the beginning. This emphasis on spiritual formation through periodic confessions, special student Masses, recollections and annual retreats, continues to our present

time. It is not surprising that many vocations to the priesthood and religious life were fostered in this environment. Bishop Valerian D'Souza of Poona is a striking example.

In spite of the obvious Christian character of the school, non-Christians flocked to it from the beginning. Though religious instruction was given to the Christians, respect for the religious sentiments and traditions of the others, have always characterized the attitude of the staff and of the management. It was in this background that the late Aga Khan wrote in his Memoirs, "It may seem strange that my family turned to the Jesuits for my education in western matters, but both in Bombay and in Poona, there are big and important Jesuit schools, and both quite near to where we lived - St. Mary's in Bombay and St. Vincent's in Poona. All the children of our considerable household - the ever multiplying descendants of grandfather's hangers-on, pensioners, relatives and old soldiers - went to those Jesuit schools. The whole household knew the Jesuit Fathers well, and nothing was easier than to get their advice and help. There was never a hint by the way of their attempting to convert any of our Muslim children to their own creed. They respected Islam and never by open argument, by suggestion or insinuation, did they seek to weaken a Muslim's faith. This is one of the clearest recollections of my childhood, and I have seen the same phenomenon repeated in contemporary Egypt and Pakistan."

St. Vincent's can count many other prominent non-Christians among its alumni. To mention only a few more



recent names - the revered Meher Baba, Sardar S.C. Moodliar and his son Rao Bahadur N.S. Moodliar, K.K. Framji, Director General of Ordnance Factory, Mr. A.B. Setna.

The academic standard of the school has always been remarkable. The first batch of students appeared for the matriculation in 1875 and did creditably. Hence the school can count hundreds of competent professionals and even renowned people among its former students: Dr. K.B. Grant, Admiral B. Samson, Governor Anthony Dias, Wing Com. Clarence D’Lima, Mr. Praxi Fernandes, former Chief Secretary to Goa, Mr. Angelo da Fonseca the artist, Lt. Gen. N.S. Cheema and his brother Mr. H.S. Cheema of ONGC, Mr. Mohan Dharia, Mr. Tarlok Singh, members of the Planning Commission.

In keeping with the objective of all-round development, St. Vincent’s promoted and excelled in many co-curricular activities. Since 1941, it has held the championship of the Poona School Athletic Association. For many years in succession, the school has won the Daruwalla Hockey Cup in the inter-school tournaments. As a result of the attention paid to sports, some of our alumni have won international laurels. e.g. Dinshaw Irani (shot put), Wilson Jones (billiards).

Progress

With a view to education for service and leadership, the Scouts Movement was introduced in the school in 1949 and Fr. Lovett D’Souza SJ worked hard for its development until his premature death in 1966. For the same purpose, the Road

Safety Patrol (RSP) was started in 1962, the Army Wing of the NCC in 1956, and the Navy Wing in 1964.

The origins of St. Vincent’s are closely linked with the arrival of the Jesuits to the Northwest region of India. It was to start an educational institution in Poona that Bishop Anastase Hartmann brought the Jesuits to the Vicariate of Bombay in 1853. The first Jesuit, Fr. Walter Steins, SJ (later Archbishop of Kolkatta) however, thought otherwise and instead started St. Xavier’s in Bombay.

The Bombay Gazette of Jan.14, 1868 reports, “The new school-room of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was blessed and declared open a few days ago. It is a spacious, elegant and substantial structure, and has sprung up as it were, by the touch of a magical wand. Wonderful people these Jesuits! Nothing appears to checkmate their progress. The word ‘impossible’ after the great Napoleon is not to be found in their vocabulary. Within the period of a few years, look at their convents, chapels, schools, etc. Certainly their energy is exemplary, for they fully demonstrated the saying of the great Prince of Painters - “nothing is denied to well-directed labour and nothing can be attained without it.” Naturally, the same year, the Government recognized the school and sanctioned grant-in-aid.

Fr. Joseph Brunner, SJ writing to Bishop Leo Meurin, SJ on April 10, 1867, “Helas, the days are so short here in our St. Vincent’s School, and yet to complain, rather give thanks to God that however short they are ... I hope we’ll go on well and the school will be a success.”
Vincenti Dabatur!

List of Principals:

- 1867 Joseph Brunner SJ
- 1872 Henry Depelchin SJ
John Lauder SJ
- 1873 Anthony Schumacher SJ
- 1879 George Wenigner SJ
- 1880 Ignatius Kunzler SJ
- 1881 Joseph Nuckel SJ
- 1883 William Althoff SJ
- 1886 Bernard Beider-Linden SJ
- 1887 Ferdinand Hillenkamp SJ
- 1889 Kilian Hahn SJ
- 1890 Joseph Willy SJ
- 1895 Julius Mayr SJ
- 1903 Kilian Hahn SJ
- 1908 William Windhausen SJ
- 1914 Francis X. Larbolette SJ Anil
Soares SJ
- 1915 Ernest Hoogewerf SJ
- 1916 Thomas Barrett SJ
- 1918 Charles Ghezzi SJ
- 1929 Maximilian Riklin SJ
- 1950 Anton Rehm SJ
- 1955 William Clement SJ
- 1957 Rudolf Schoch SJ
- 1966 Edmund D’Souza SJ
- 1967 Romuald Schoch SJ
- 1973 Rudolf Schoch SJ
- 1977 Edmund D’Souza SJ
- 1982 Kenneth Misquitta SJ
- 1992 Bertram Rozario SJ
- 1998 Kenneth Misquitta SJ
- 2003 Mario Fernandes SJ

Fr. T. Ambrose SJ



**Saint Vincent de Paul
(1581-1660)**

Life: Vincent de Paul, patron to the Sisters of Charity and Brothers of Charity, was born on April 24th, 1581 to a peasant family at Pouy, Landes, Gascony in the southwest of France. He graduated in theology at the University of Toulouse. He was ordained a priest at the age of 20. He was sold as a slave by Turkish pirates to Tunis. He escaped in 1607 and converted one of his masters to Christianity. Returning to France, he served as a parish priest near Paris, where he started organizations to help the poor, nursed the sick and found jobs for the unemployed. The Apostle of Charity, the immortal Vincent de Paul, breathed his last in Paris at the age of 79. He is the patron of many charitable societies. He was canonized a saint in 1737 at Paris, France by Pope Clement XII. He died on 27th September 1660.

Work for the poor: Along with Louise de Marillac, he founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Charity. He always worked for the poor, the enslaved, the abandoned, the ignored and the pariahs. Vincent de Paul secured for the poor, the services of the Ladies of Charity, at the request of the Archbishop of Paris. In 1634 he grouped some 20,000 or 25,000 pious women annually, who were determined to nurse the sick and poor entering the Hotel Dieu and also the prisons.

In 1649 Vincent de Paul redoubled his efforts to lessen the evils of the war in Paris, where his advice was not heard by Anne of Austria. On behalf of the people of Paris, he boldly advised her to sacrifice at least for a time, the cardinal in order to avoid the evils which the war threatened to bring on the people. Through his care soup was distributed daily to 15,000 or 16,000 refugees or poor. 800 to 900 women were sheltered in the parish of St. Paul. The Sisters of Charity distributed soup every day to 500 poor and 60 to 80 sick people, but these honours did not alter Vincent's modesty and simplicity.

Vincent founded the hospice of the name of Jesus. This is the present hospital for the incurable. His zeal for souls know no limits. All occasions were to him opportunities to exercise it. When he died, the poor of Paris lost their best friend, and humanity, a benefactor unsurpassed in modern times.

*Arnold Fernandes
IX-A*

St. Vincent de Paul - Patron of the Poor and Underprivileged



St. Vincent was born of poor parents in the village of Pouy in Gascony, France, about 1580. He enjoyed his first schooling under the Franciscan Fathers at Acqs (France). In 1596, he went to the University of Toulouse for theological studies, and there he was ordained priest in 1600.

In 1605, on a voyage by sea from Marseilles to Narbonne, he fell into the hands of African pirates and was carried as a slave to Tunis. His captivity lasted about two years, until divine providence enabled him to escape. After a brief visit to Rome, he returned to France, and entered the services of the Gondi, an illustrious French family, to educated the



children of Philippe-Emmanuel de Gondi, who was the Count of Goigny and General of the galleys of France. He also became the spiritual director of Madame de Gondi. In 1617, he began to preach, and in 1625, he lay the foundations of a



congregation which afterward became the Congregation of the Mission or Lazarists, so named on account of the Priory of St. Lazarus, which the Fathers began to occupy in 1633.

It would be impossible to enumerate all the works of this servant of God - St. Vincent de Paul. Charity was his predominant virtue. It extended to all classes of persons, from forsaken childhood to old age. The Sisters of Charity also owe the foundation of their congregation to St. Vincent. In the midst

of the most distracting occupations, his soul was always intimately united with God. Though honoured by the great ones of the world, he remained deeply rooted in humility. The Apostle of Charity, the immortal Vincent de Paul, breathed his last in Paris at the age of eighty. His feast day is September 27th. He is the patron of charitable societies. On 13th August, 1729, Vincent was declared Blessed by Pope Benedict XIII, and then canonized by Pope Clement XII on 16th June 1737. In 1885, Pope Leo XIII declared him as patron to the Sisters of Charity.

We are fortunate to be a part of this school, which is named after this great saint, St. Vincent de Paul.

Ms. V. D'Souza

The Vincentian

The Vincentian began almost 50 years ago. Initially, it consisted of hand-written articles by the senior students and these were displayed on the notice-boards. Thus the Vincentian was born. About 1960 the Vincentian was circulated in the form you have today. It comprised about 10 pages and was a bi-monthly magazine. We accepted articles, jokes, short stories and interesting facts from all classes. There were certain guidelines given to the students. First and foremost, contributions submitted had to be the work of the students. If someone wished to share some information he'd come across, then

it was published under the caption 'compiled by'. Under no circumstances did an article borrowed from another source and passed off as the work of a student, appear in the magazine, for that would have been piracy.

The boys, young men now, who were part of the editorial team then, have done well for themselves. One is a journalist, and another is an upcoming film director and script writer. Their stint with the Vincentian helped them in their chosen professions. They helped in the editing, the format and in the proof-reading.

May the good work continue and may the Vincentian bring joy and a sense of belonging to the present students, as it has done for those who have passed out of the school portals.

Vincenti Dabitur!

*C.M. D'Sa
V.O.T.A.*





Leadership

Just imagine a world without leaders. It's as good as calling it a world without righteousness, integrity and respect. In an era that bears host to so much diverse talent and thought, the confusion that slowly rises due to the clash of mental perception, is amicably resolved by the influence of leadership.

Leadership is a quality that takes



experience, devotion, understanding and a lot of patience. Some are born leaders, while some develop their potential along the way. When one talks about leadership, the first thought on everyone's mind is 'Power', 'Fame' and 'Money'. Yes, these incentives are complimentary to a leader's recognized talent, but a true leader is a person who brings himself/herself to the status of a commoner. To be perceived by the people as a humble, honest and helpful person, is the real reward of bring a leader.

To be a firm leader is to lead by example, and if you are living proof of your ideologies and beliefs, your people will have no reason not to follow your instructions. Domination and control in a peaceful and constitutional manner is the most effective way to promote one's

sense of leadership. Thus, I would like to conclude by saying that "leadership is a quality that is prevalent in all of us; its vision and potential can be uncovered only if we realize the capability, responsibility and dedication that comes along while practising it in our lives."

*Karl Santos
XII-A*

On Independence Day

We gather around to celebrate
On Independence day
Pay homage to our country
As the children run and play.

With barbecues and picnics
And fireworks in the air
The flag we own is proudly flown
To show how much we care.

The flag spells freedom
She waves upon the breeze
While bursts of colours can be seen
Above the towering trees.

This is all quite wonderful
We revel in delight
But God above in divine love
Has brought this day to light.

With just a stroke of liberty
A touch of his great hand
He gave democracy to us
And helped this country stand.

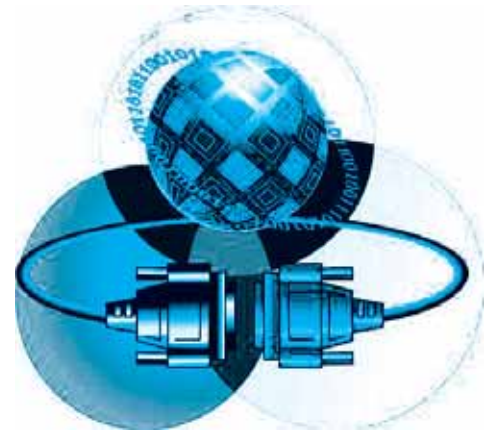
So as you turn to face the flag
For battles that were fought
Be filled with pride for those who died
And freedoms that were brought.

But don't forget to thank the one
That gives the bright display
The reason why we paint the sky
On Independence Day.

*Alister D'monte
XII-A*

Into the 21st Century

Columbus discovered America. A similar Columbus resides in every human heart. 'This Columbus' seeks to discover new



horizons of happiness, pleasure, enjoyment and satisfaction.

The core of these widening horizons will be scientific breakthroughs. Machines will dominate every minute activity of man. However, this over-dependence on machines will be at the cost of environmental balance, because electrical appliances and machines consume energy resources like crude oil, gas etc. But, man being a part of nature, cannot live happily when the other components of nature like air, trees, water bodies etc. are damaged. So, for a smooth navigation into the 21st century, our first challenge would be to harness the inexhaustible source of energy i.e. solar energy.

Similarly, computers would become an indispensable part and parcel of our lives in the 21st century. Computer applications have already spread their tentacles to fields as varied as education, medical science, manufacturing units, transport and communication,



entertainment and so on. In the 21st century, students will enroll in 'virtual schools' i.e. websites will impart lessons and thereby replace conventional schools. Examinations will be on-line and scores will be given instantly.

With computers and internet spanning the



surface of the earth, and countries becoming increasingly interdependent, physical boundaries will collapse. Hopefully, this will end the strife and terrorism between nations. Diversity of language and culture will flourish. Barriers of race and religion will fizzle out and humanity will become the religion of the world.

With marvellous advances in medical sciences, man will not just live longer, but maybe he would be able to increase the span of youth. However, the greatest challenge for man in the 21st century will be increasing the quality of life and finding satisfaction and peace in human relations, be it family, neighbours, friends or co-workers. Thus, my idea of the world in the 21st century is a very rosy picture, because only when we dream of and aim towards good things, can we materialize them into reality.

Leadership

*"Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.
Footprints that perhaps another
Sailing o'er life's solemn main
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother
Seeing shall take heart again."*

- H.W. Longfellow

Indeed, what we need today are great men who can leave their footprints on the sands of time for us to follow. Leadership does not depend on what one has or what one is. It is just that in order to lead, one has to know the way and be prepared to guide others along. The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality, the last is to say 'Thank you'. In between the two, the leader must become a servant. Leadership cannot be bought. It cannot be conferred. It cannot be inherited. It knows no divine right. It cannot be passed on by any process of succession. It is acquired only by the personal mastery of each individual aspirant.

Professional knowledge and competence is the most important requisite of a good leader. One is not born with these qualities, but has to achieve them through hard work. Leadership is stirring people so that they are moved from inside themselves. It is stating goals that excite them and lift their sights. It is setting the personal example, putting enthusiasm into the operation, communicating both ways - listening as well as talking. A leader should leave behind in other men the same conviction and the will to carry on.

It is required of a leader to be absolutely just and impartial in his dealings with

others. Only then will he be loved and respected by all. A leader should possess moral courage, which is the ability to distinguish right from wrong and to say so, no matter what the consequences are. In spite of being honest and sincere, he experiences hardships and misunderstandings. But in the long run, he will find that the troubles he bore, are small compared to the sense of personal fulfillment and achievement or the good of all. You do not lead by hitting people over the head - that's assault, not leadership.

Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done, because he wants to do it.

*"And the world will be better for this,
That one man scorned and covered with scars,
Still strove with his last ounce of courage
To reach the unreachable star."*

Though leadership may be hard to define, the one characteristic common to all leaders is the ability to make things happen. A leader's success as a motivator is directly related to his sincerity in showing concern for his subordinates. For a visionary leader to require loyalty is cult-like and dangerous. Be willing to make decisions. That's the most important quality of a good leader. Don't fall victim to what we call ready-aim-aim-aim syndrome. You must be willing to fire. Leaders who develop people, add. Leaders who develop leaders, multiply.

So, my dear friends, think like leaders. Guide like leaders. Walk like leaders and **YOU WILL BE LEADERS.**

Jason D'Mellow
X-C



St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent, the son of a Gascony peasant, was ordained to the priesthood at the age of 19. After a period of five years he was captured by Turkish pirates, but after two years of slavery in Tunis, he escaped along with his converted renegade Christian master. He was made General Almouer by the King Louis XIII. This post enabled him to improve the miserable conditions of the prisoners and the slaves. He thus established hospitals and by his bodily and spiritual ministrations, won their



hearts and converted many.

The year 1626 saw the founding of the 'Congregation of Priests of the Missions' by which Vincent and a number of zealous secular priests bound themselves to the salvation of the poor and to life devoted in community. At the request of certain Bishops, his priests also undertook the direction of seminaries and were so successful, that at the outbreak of the French Revolution, they were in charge of one-third of all such institutions in France. He was the founder of the

'Lazarists', a missionary order famed for benevolent work.

Along with his spiritual work, he played an important role in practical charity among the less privileged. He made the noble women in Paris conscious, and organized them into the 'Ladies of Charity' and with their enormous contributions, operated one city hospital. The great general hospital of Paris, where thousands of destitute people were sheltered and given different work to do, was started by him. Besides this, he also started a founding home, an old people's home, an asylum for the insane, and an institution for the care of lepers. St. Vincent, along with St. Louise de Marrillac, organized the 'Daughters of Charity' to whom the actual nursing of these unfortunates was entrusted. Breadlines and soup kitchens were established, and for these he gave personal instructions as to the nourishing ingredients which were to be used. Needy peasants received seeds and money.

'Those who have loved the poor, will meet death without fear.'

Prayer, meditation and ascetical exercises continually nourished St. Vincent's ardour and boundless charity. He died on 27th September, 1660 and was canonized by Pope Clement XII in 1737.

As founder of organized social service, St. Vincent de Paul has been declared the official patron of all societies devoted to works of charity.

Derric D'souza
X-C

My Experience at St. Vincent's

Finally, the year has come when I have to bid farewell to the school. I am excited about going to college, but sad about leaving this wonderful institution. Even today, the memory of my first day in this school, is fresh in my mind. I remember stepping through the huge gates of the school and seeing the huge school building stand in front of me like a palace. I saw the ground stretch in front of me like a wonderful green carpet sparkling with dewdrops. I felt comfortable with the friendly atmosphere in class and guidance of a caring teacher. I enjoyed my first day. I enjoyed the guidance and support of my teachers over the last 10 years. Here, not only have the teachers given me academic support, but also moral and physical support. I will always be proud to be a part of this institution.

Vincenti Dabitur!

Delwin John

X-C

What I Think Of My School

My school has been for me the temple wherein I was guided, instructed and moulded. It has been the garden in which I flowered. The playground was the place where my body gained its physical powers, the classroom where my mind was nurtured. My teachers were the ones who introduced me to new ideas, concepts, discoveries and inventions. They inspired me to cultivate a healthy attitude that gave me a broad outlook on life. The Principal



and Management of this school were the benign creators of the various opportunities for personal growth that I was provided here. My friends, fellow-seekers like me, grew and developed side by side with me.

My heart fills with deep gratitude for this wonderful place, this huge storehouse of knowledge, that I had the good fortune to be associated with. The playground, the silent walls, the pictures in the classrooms will always be a part of me. And although it's said that nothing lasts forever, my school will always be in my heart, wherever I go, whatever I do. This is the one place that shall live in my memory forever.

Vincentian Forever!

Sharon R. Gaikwad
X-A

Beauties of Nature

Nature is an infinite source of beauty. Sunrise and sunset, mountains and rivers, lakes and glaciers, forests and fields provide great joy to the human mind and heart. Everything in nature is splendid and divine. Every passing day, every season of the year, unveils some special aspects of natural beauty. Only one should have



the eyes to behold it, and a heart to feel it, like the English poet Wordsworth, who, after seeing the daffodils said: "And then my heart with pleasure fills And dances with the daffodils."

Nature is a great teacher. Early man was thrilled by the beauties and wonders of nature. Shakespeare in one of his poems found sermons in stones and books in running brooks.

Sadly though, people today have no time for enjoying the beauties of nature. People are too busy to look at a flower or to play with a squirrel.

Today when towns and cities are planned, certain pockets are kept aside for parks and fountains. Trees are planted along roads. When people plan holidays or picnics, they go to beaches, gardens, parks or places where natural surroundings are in plenty, for everyone knows that we cannot live without nature around us.

Vipul V. Pawar
IX-A

60 Years of Indian Independence

Every year, we celebrate our Independence Day on 15th August, a very regular event resulting from a geographical phenomenon. But this year, this phenomenon of revolution of earth, which resulted in the cycle of days, did bring great significance for all Indians, as it was the 60th one since our independence. I surely am referring to Indian independence becoming 60 years old!

Let us go a bit back in history to just have a look at our past! It was 14th of August 1947. All were waiting for the most important and significant moment in their lives! When the clock ticked 12 o'clock, the Union Jack was lowered, and in its place was raised the Indian Tricolour. Each and every Indian who was present there to be a part of this joyous moment, stored this picture in their hearts and kept it in their memories. Freedom meant a lot to all Indians. It ended the tyrannical British rule, but let to the beginning of a great revolution - a revolution towards development and progress.

We now live in an India which has been transformed, not completely, but partially, from the conditions which prevailed in the pre-independence period. We live in a country which has shown an amazing degree of development in a short time.





India has succeeded in leaving its own mark in every field. India's being among the first 10 industrially developed nations in the world, and it being recognized worldwide as a developing nation having great potential, stands testimony to its great progress. India's being one among the group of nations called BRIC (where 'B' stands for Brazil, 'R' for Russia, 'I' for India and 'C' for China), emphasizes this point.

The spectacular progress India has made in the field of sports and science is, as well, noteworthy. Our scientists and players have forever been raising the Indian flag to the optimum limits. India has also been credited for having discovered the number 'zero'.

India is recognized as the largest democracy in the world, inspite of its diverse culture. Its 'unity in diversity' has set an example before the whole world.

India's developmental process, which began in 1947, has now increased manifold. Although so many tasks have been accomplished, much more is still left to be done. Problems like poverty, unemployment etc. are proving to be barriers in our progress. It is our responsibility, the responsibility of the future citizens of India, to ensure the eradication of these problems. Even if we contribute towards India's development by doing small tasks like tree plantation etc. we can make a great difference, and if India's billion people contribute, the difference will be great, greater, greatest!

*Rohit Suresh Patil
IX-B*

Mind Your Tongue

- a) It so happens that after a tiring period or play, we are stressed out and anything going out of our minds is worse than that of a petrified mind. Blank thoughts is a sign of dullness, but it is much better than the abusive words and hurting mind and piercing expressions.
- b) A day of goodness will arrive only when the dark black thoughts will perish and glory will be in the hands of every person.
- c) It's not possible to remove those thoughts from another's mind but you can always keep your mind away from such filthy thoughts.
- d) Mind your tongue and utter what is necessary. Consider every word to be expensive and in such a case, give out your best with least expense.



- e) Your partner in eternity will wait in heaven for you; so learn to be satisfied and make use of life given to you, to the best you can.

f) Mind your tongue because all those thoughts coming to your mind are unfiltered; so develop your mind's best filter and be the best of mankind.

g) You sustain; you retain. It's your life, make it large.

h) Though people in this world will not remember you, but God's felicitation in heaven is our aim.

i) God is faith; and one who is never wrong and perfect in everything he does, is closest and next to God.

j) We yet don't know who God is but have sensed him as a perfect image of live.

k) It's only you who can change today, create tomorrow and be the perfect picture of God; so strive for it and you are done.

l) That's the magic of your tongue; so strive from today to mind it.

m) Rise up from your petty desires; aim higher. Make your life better than the best; livelier than the rest.

Ganesh Chaturthi

You love Ganpati, don't you? Who doesn't? After all, which other God is elephant headed, loves sweets and rides on a little mouse? And is clever and smart as well.

I'm sure you know that Ganesh has a festival all to himself. Ganesh Chaturthi comes in the Hindi month of Bhadrapad i.e. the beginning of September and lasts for 10 days.

The festival is celebrated all over India, but in Maharashtra, it is celebrated with a special excitement.



He is the God of wisdom and prosperity, and remover of all obstacles. In his four hands he holds a chakra, shell, lotus and mace. Earlier this festival was purely celebrated at home, till Bal Gangadhar Tilak made it into a community affair, where rich or poor could worship alike. That's when it came to be known as the Sarvajanik Ganeshotsav.



A clay idol of Ganesh is brought home and worshipped. This could be from one and a half days to a maximum of 10 days. Puja and arti is performed for him every day and since Ganesh is the elephant God, durnea and garlands of bright red shoeflowers are part of the offerings.

Ganesh loves sweets and offerings of modaks, ladoos and other mithais are made to please him. Panchamrit is another favourite of Lord Ganesh. And then it's time for his immersion. He's seen off in style, with the clashing of cymbals and beating of drums to the loud cries of Ganpati Bappa Morya Pudchya Varshi Lavkar Ya.

*Ali Janoos
IX-B*

Inspiration

Up! Up! My friend, and quit your books
Oh, surely you'll grow double
Up! Up! My dear friend and make up
your looks
Why so much hard work and trouble?

The sun above
the mountain's
head
Like a freshening
shine mellow
Through all the
long green fields
has spread
His first rays of
evening yellow.

*Murtaza M.
VIII-D*

Gems of Wisdom

The following gems of wisdom were gleaned from test papers and essays from elementary, junior and high school and college students of U.S.A.

- 1) Blood flows down one leg and up the other.
- 2) Dew is formed on leaves when the sun shines on them and makes them perspire.
- 3) Mushrooms always grow in damp places and so they look like umbrellas.
- 4) To prevent milk from turning sour, keep it in a cow.

- 5) The parts of speech are lungs and air.
- 6) The inhabitants of Moscow are known as mosquitoes.
- 7) Most of the houses in France are made up of Plaster of Paris.
- 8) The spinal column is a long bunch of bones. The head sits on the top and you sit on the bottom.

9) Syntax is the money collected in the church from sinners. ('Sin'-Tax)

10) The word trousers is an uncommon noun. It is singular at the top and plural at the bottom.

11) The sun never sets on the British Empire because the British Empire is in the east and the sun sets in the west.

12) Iron was discovered because someone smelt it.

*Aditya Pardeshi
VIII-B*





Simple Questions, Complicated Answers

1. Why is abbreviated such a long word?
2. Why is a carrot more orange than an orange?
3. Why are they called apartments when they are stuck together?
4. Why do scientists call it a research, when they are looking for something new?
5. Why do they call it a building? It looks like they've finished. Why isn't it 'built'?
6. Why is it that when you transport something by car, it's called shipment, but when you transport something by ship it's called cargo?
7. If vegetarians eat vegetables, what do humanitarians eat?
8. If price and worth mean the same, why are priceless and worthless opposites?
9. Is there another word for synonyms?
10. Is it possible to be totally partial?

Aditya Pardeshi
VIII-B

Raksha Bandhan

Raksha Bandhan means when the sister affirms her love for her brother, and he in turn, promises to protect and cherish her forever.

This is an emotional and sentimental festival, where the sister ties a silken thread on her brother's right wrist. This thread serves as an amulet guarding the bearer from all evils.

The ritual is observed on the full moon day of the Hindu month of Shravan, on

which sisters tie the sacred Rakhi string on their brother's right wrists and pray for their long life. This ritual not only strengthens the bond of love between brother and sister, but also transcends the confines of the family.

The reference of Rakhi can be traced back to the olden days, where the 'strong bond' has resulted in innumerable political ties among kingdoms and princely states. The pages of Indian history testify that the Rajput and Maratha queens have sent



R a k h i s
e v e n
t o
M u g h a l
k i n g s , w h o ,
d e s p i t e
t h e i r
d i f f e r e n c e s ,
h a v e
a s s u a g e d
t h e i r
R a k h i
s i s t e r s b y
o f f e r i n g
h e l p
a n d
p r o t e c t i o n

at critical moments, and honoured the fraternal bond.

History has it that the great Hindu King Porus refrained from striking Alexander the Great, because the latter's wife had approached this mighty adversary, and tied a Rakhi on his hand, prior to the battle, urging him not to hurt her husband.

Rituals like Rakhi bring joy into our mundane lives.

Emmanuel Samudre
VI-B

Ganesh Chaturthi

People living in Maharashtra know all about Ganesh Chaturthi, for this festival is celebrated with great pomp and rejoicing all over the state. It begins on the fourth day of the month of Bhadrapad in August or September. The celebrations last for eleven days. Musical concerts, dramas and other programmes are arranged during these days. This makes it joyful for all of us. The public celebration was started by Lokmanya Tilak during the time of the freedom struggle. He used it as a means to bring people together. Today it is celebrated in a very big way.

Ganesha or Ganpati is the elephant headed God of wisdom and the son of Goddess Parvati and God Shiva. He is worshipped whenever any work, programme or function is to be started. The last day is the day of immersion. People take out processions carrying statues of the deity to the site of immersion. On their way they shout, "Ganpati Bappa Morya, Pudhachya Varshi Lavkar Ya" This means "O Lord Ganesha, we bid you farewell now, but do come back soon next year." Great crowds are seen on the streets of Mumbai and Pune on 'Anantchaturdashi Day'.

Today, Ganesh Utsav is celebrated in other states of India too, with a lot of joy and peace.

Huzeer Shaikh
VII-C



Global Warming

There are many places on the earth which are affected due to global warming.

The main cause of global warming today is pollution gases emitted by cars, trucks, industries etc. Together with other polluting gases, a dense polluting layer blankets the atmosphere, which traps the extra heat caused by UV rays etc. making the earth warmer.

There is one such case of global warming. The people in the Amazon River



Basin are cutting trees for the production of charcoal which is also leading to global warming.

Due to global warming today, places like Russia, Bombay, New York etc. and the places on the coast will be submerged under water. India's economy will also be affected. The rice production of India will drop by 12% and the wheat production by 3%. The ice on the poles will melt. Places like Antarctica etc. will melt and soon the sea level all over the earth will increase by an inch, therefore submerging the earth completely below water.

If global warming continues it will be a disastrous end of the world, although we can stop it by preventing use of pollutants

and other gases. Scientists refer to their research and guarantee us that if we reduce the use of pollutants, the global warming effect will collapse by the year 2050.

Thus we should reduce the use of pollutants to save our 'Mother Earth'.

*Anmol Patwardhan
IX-B*

A Light Heart Lives Long

With lies you may go ahead in the world but you can never go back.

The road to a friend's house is never too long.

When the heart is full, the eyes overflow.

The three best things in life:

1. A little seed in a good soil
2. A few cows in good grass
3. A few friends in a tavern

The truth may walk around naked; the lies has to be cloaked.

*Prathamesh Nair
VIII-C*

Work Smart

Discipline is a word that we hear many times a day. Self discipline, road discipline, social discipline, discipline in educational institutions. But what is discipline? It is the systematic manner of carrying out our daily activities which leads to success in life. It is a necessity in every walk of life.

Discipline helps in character building. Personal discipline in a student's life makes life less stressful. A student who

is regular in his work will find that tasks don't pile up. When he studies the lessons for the day, he will find what was taught that day is firmly entrenched in his mind. This way he will be working smart. He will experience the joy of keeping up to commitments. Life will be more



enjoyable.

It is not just about study either. In the playground too, discipline is a must. Regular hours of consistent practice is what makes a champion. This includes proper and wholesome meals and exercise done in a methodical manner.

The lives of many luminaries are worth looking at. Tireless hours of disciplined research and study have given us innumerable inventions and discoveries. Take our sporting heroes. Did Sachin and Dravid get to where they are doing systematic work?



Even the tiny ant has something to teach those of us who shy away from hard work and discipline. Proper utilization of time is a product of discipline and personal development.

If we as students, are able to make discipline our way of life, then that word will no longer irritate us. Instead that quality will pave the way for a better tomorrow not only for each one of us, but also for the whole world!

Kirtisagar K. Sharma
VI-A

India - A Secular Nation

In India we find many people of different castes and religions. There are Sikhs, Marathas, Gujratis, Bengalis, Muslims, Hindus. So they follow their own religious festivals like Idd, Janamashtami, Ganesh Chaturthi etc. But most of all on these occasions we deserve love and understanding among them. On Idd, Muslims invite other people of other religions to their homes. On Ganesh Chaturthi, people invite others for puja and offer sweets. Christians too, invite all when they celebrate Christmas.

This shows how they appreciate and tolerate all religions. I am glad the government has adopted a secular system for I enjoy celebrating all these festivals.

It not only makes it colourful, but a time to celebrate and enjoy life between work.

Amir A. Memon
VII-B

Shri Krishna Jayanti

This year on the 3rd of September, we celebrate Shri Krishna Jayanti.

On Krishna Jayanti, we celebrate the birth of Lord Krishna with pujas and prayers. The house is decorated by



drawing the shape of Krishna's baby feet from the door, to show that Krishna has actually entered the house and has filled the house with happiness. Sweets and delicacies are prepared and offered to the image of Lord Krishna. In many places, a pot full of curds is hung at a height, and young boys form a pyramid to break it. This is called 'Dahi Handi'.

Krishna Jayanti is a time to have fun with family and friends, and also remember Lord Krishna's teachings which are given in the Bhagwad Gita.

Rishabh Auti
VI-C

The Very Expensive Coconut

Chandrakant was a real miser who hated spending money. One day he was invited to a wedding where he ate delicious coconut fudge, or as we Indians call it coconut burfi. He liked it so much that he asked his wife to make him some. She said, "You give me hardly any money to cook plain dal and rice, so how do you expect me to make such burfi? At least go to the market and buy a coconut."

So Chandrakant set off to the market. There he saw a coconut vendor and asked him the price of one coconut. The vendor replied, "Three rupees". "Three rupees?", hearing the price, Chandrakant almost fainted. He said, "I want the coconut for one rupee." The vendor said, "Walk 10 km from here and you will reach a coconut grove where the owner will give you for one rupee." So Chandrakant learned how he could save two full rupees! So he trudged on and finally reached the grove. When he asked the price, the owner replied, "Very cheap - one rupee." Chandrakant felt that even



one rupee was too much. So he asked the man, "Can you give me a coconut for free?" The owner was upset and replied,



“Walk 10 km from here and you will come to a beach where there are coconut trees, and you will get a coconut free.” “Free!” (happily) Chandrakant would walk to the end of the earth to get anything for free. So he started walking till he arrived at the beach. There were coconut trees and he started climbing one. As he reached the top and was about to pluck the largest coconut, a sharp gust of wind shook the tree and Chandrakant hung on to the coconut for dear life. Suddenly, losing his balance he slipped and fell down. He fractured both his legs because of the heap of coconuts that fell on him.

Of course he got a free coconut, but ended up paying Rs.10,000 to the local hospital.

From that day, he swore never to be penny-wise and pound-foolish.

Harshwardhan Pandhare
V-B

Ganesh Chaturdashi

Ganesh Chaturthi comes in the month of Bhadrapada. In Maharashtra, this festival is celebrated by large numbers, especially in Pune city. This festival was started by Lokmanya Tilak about 110 years ago in Pune.

Ganesh festival is celebrated for ten days. During these days, every morning and evening the poojas and aarthis of Ganesh are performed. During these ten days, different types of social programmes are held. At night the people rush to watch the different types of decorations of Lord Ganesh.

Ganesh is the Lord of knowledge. He gives us good knowledge and helps us to think. All the troubles come to an end due to his worship.

Lord Ganesha loves the red shoeflowers, durvas, and the modak. On Anant Chaturdashi, all the people take the Ganesh idol to immerse it in water, and all of us bid him goodbye with the loving message, “Ganpati Bappa Morya Pudchya Varshi Lavkar Ya”

Rishikesh Avinash Thorat
VI-C

Raksha Bandhan

The word itself means ‘Protection’. This day is celebrated by all Indians. It is a day for brothers and sisters, where each shows their love and affection for the other. The sister on that day ties a sacred thread on her brother’s wrist and asks for his protection in return. It is a day of fun and frolic, celebrated with lots of gifts, sweets and chocolates. In the end it is the selfless love of the brother and sister that is celebrated on this day.

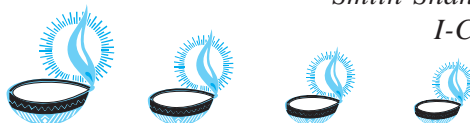
Tushar N.R.
I-C

Diwali

Diwali is a festival of the Hindus, but in India we all celebrate it. It comes in the end of October or the start of November. Kids enjoy most, because they buy new clothes and burn crackers. They make forts.

Diwali is a festival of light and colourful colours of rangoli. In every home and office, people do Lakshmi Pujan. In this way Diwali makes our life colourful, bright and beautiful.

Smith-Shah
I-C



School Is Best

I like to go to school
My classroom is nice and cool
My teachers are so kind
Many friends I can find
There’s never a day
We all do not play
Though there’s always some test
Mother won’t let me rest
Still I always try
To do my very best.

Ronell Faria
II-A

Teacher’s Day

We celebrate Teacher’s Day on 5th of September. It is Dr. Radhakrishnan’s birthday. He was the President of India. He was a great teacher. We celebrate Teacher’s Day to honour him.

Teachers are the builders of the nation. I love my teachers. They impart knowledge to me. They discipline me. I am proud of my teachers.

Happy Teacher’s Day!

Shreyan Jabad
II-A

Raksha Bandhan

Raksha Bandhan is the festival of brother and sister. It is celebrated in the month of Shravan. On this day the sister ties ‘Rakhee’ on her brother’s hand and prays for him. In return the brother gives her gifts and promises to protect her throughout his life. Mother prepares sweets on this day. Raksha Bandhan is a festival of love and sentiments.

Prassanna S. Khivansara
II-B



Teacher's Day

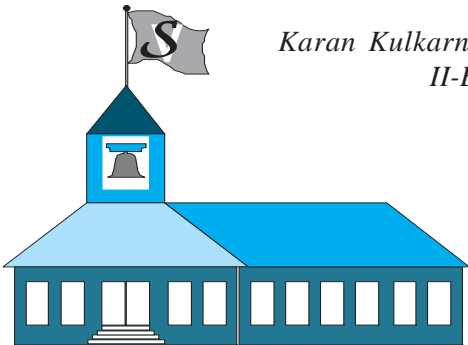
Teacher's Day is celebrated on 5th September. Dr. Radhakrishnan was a teacher. His birthday was on 5th September. In his memory we celebrate this day as Teacher's Day. On this day children take bouquets of flowers and gifts to their teachers and wish them Happy Teacher's Day. Teachers also entertain their students by playing games, dramas etc. Students are given sweets. On this day both students and teachers have lots of fun in the school.

Prassanna S. Khivansara
II-B

My School

My school's name is St. Vincent's High School. My school is very big. Our ground is also very large. We have a nice stadium to watch sports. There are two halls for indoor sports. Our school buildings are old and beautiful. We have very big and nice classrooms. Our teachers are very nice and lovely. My father was also a student of this school. He was the captain of the sports team and won many prizes. He was good at studies too. Father Schoch and Father Oesch loved him very much. I love my school very much and I want to become popular like my father.

Karan Kulkarni
II-B



St. Vincent de Paul

Paul was the third child of a family of six children. During his life he worked hard to improve the condition of the poor people. He founded the Congregation of Priests of the Missions. He also organized the "Ladies of Charity". He spent a lot of time in prayer and meditation. He was a humble man who lived a simple life.

St. Vincent de Paul died on 27th September 1660 in Paris. Our school, St. Vincent's, has been named after this great saint. Let us Vincentians follow in the footsteps of St. Vincent de Paul.

Vincenti Dabatur!

Ansel Mendonca
II-C

Feasts and Festivals of India in August and September

India is a land of festivals. Feasts and festivals continue all year round. Since people of many different religions live in India, we have many cultural festivals. Here are some festivals which are celebrated in the months of August and September:

1. Parsi New Year: Parsi people celebrate their New Year in the month of August. They wear new clothes and go to the Agiary (Fire Temple) to pray.

2. Raksha Bandhan: This is a Hindu festival, but people in India of any religion fondly celebrate it. This is a festival for brothers and sisters. All sisters tie a colourful thread called Rakhi to their

brother's wrist as a sign of love.

3. Ganesh Chaturthi: This is a Hindu festival of the elephant God Ganesh. Huge public displays of Ganesh are set up on streets, and prayers are offered every morning and evening for ten days. The Ganesh idol is merrily immersed in a lake or pond on the tenth day.

Anand Athawale
II-C

My School

The name of my school is St. Vincent's High School. It is one hundred and forty years old and is located on St. Vincent's Street.

My school has two major buildings, one each for the primary and secondary. The school has a big playground where we play many games. It has a large stadium which can seat lots of people. My school has two halls. Fr. Oesch Hall is where we eat our lunch and play when it is raining outside. The Gulati Hall is a big hall where all major functions are held. Our school has a beautiful basketball court where we can practice basketball. It also has a library which has a huge collection of books. My school is surrounded with trees and plants which give it a scenic look. Over and above, we have a wonderful Principal in Fr. Mario Fernandes. We also have efficient teachers who guide us with sincerity and zeal.

But most of all I like the school atmosphere where hundreds of children come together in all their innocence and naughtiness. Thus I am proud to be a Vincentian.

Noel Paul
III-A



My School

My school's name is St. Vincent's High School. It is an English medium school founded in 1867 and named after Vincent de Paul, a saint well known for his love for the poor.

My school is a boys school. It has classes from Std.I to XII. Our Principal's name is Fr. M. Fernandes. All the teachers are very kind, talented and energetic. My school has a big playground, a very good auditorium, singing room, computer lab, and a library. The classrooms in my school are very spacious and airy.

St. Vincent's has a good name in the field of sports and studies. Many children try hard to obtain admission in my school, and I'm proud to be a student of this famous school.

*N. Sai Krishna
III-A*

Happy Teachers Day

5th September every year is celebrated as Teachers Day. It is an acknowledgement and appreciation of the hard work that is put in by teachers throughout the year. It is also the birthday of a great teacher, Dr. Radhakrishnan. He was the second President of India. This day is also a reflection of Sarevepalli Radhakrishnan's love and attachment to the teaching profession.

An ideal teacher is one who is an embodiment of intelligence, capabilities, patience, honesty, sincerity, punctuality, service-mindedness and a source of inspiration, and having a compassionate approach towards the problems of

children can be a reality only with teachers of good character and values.

We must love and respect all teachers.



Teachers guide, teach and even encourage us to become good human beings. Teachers give us remarks and shout at us for our own benefit. They help us not to repeat any mistakes.

On this day students offer cards, flowers or gifts to their teachers. It is a day of joy and happiness for all.

My teacher is the best because she is:

- T - talented
- E - enthusiastic
- A - always ready to help
- C - cheerful and caring
- H - helpful
- E - encouraging
- R - rebuild our confidence

*Prathamesh V. Utture
III-B*

Feasts and Festivals in August and September

As the name by itself the month of August has the grand festive celebration of our Independence Day on 15th. This year we celebrated the 60th Independence Day on 15th August.

Pateti marks the beginning of Parsi New Year. Pateti usually comes in the month of August. All the Parsis, small and big, gather at the 'Agyari' the fire temple, to offer their prayers to Zartusht.

The sacred month of Shravan according to Hindu Panchang i.e. calendar also normally begins in the month of August. Shravan is dedicated to the worship of God Shiv Shankar. In this month of Shravan special poojas are organized on Mondays in the temple of Lord Shiva.

Festival of Nag Panchami celebrated by women to worship the snake god. Women believe the snakes to be their brothers. Girls and women draw Mehendi on their hands and play swings.

Narali Pournima is celebrated on the full moon day of the month of Shravan. It is said the the Sea God is pacified by offering a golden coconut and is prayed by the fishermen that the waters should be calm and quiet so they can go in deep waters with their fishing boats and have a good catch of variety of fishes.

Raksha Bandhan is celebrated in token of love and affection of sisters and brothers. Sisters tie Rakhi on the hands of their beloved brothers on this day.

Janmashtami is the birth anniversary of the legendary Lord Shrikrishna. On the second day the Govindas i.e. the youth



folks make a pyramid like arrangement to break the Dahi Handi tied on a height.

September starts with fond remembrance of the birthday of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan which is celebrated on the 5th of September as Teachers Day.

The much awaited glorious 10 day festival of Ganapati Bappa starts from Ganesh Chaturthi. It is a 10 day fun and frolic time. In between these ten days, a three day Gauri festival is also celebrated. This festival comes to a memorable end on the 10th day by the Visarjan or the immersion procession on Anant Chaturdashi.

27th September is annually remembered by us as the feast of St. Vincent de Paul. Our school is named after this great Christian saint who strived to spread education of children and upliftment of the poor.

I wish Seasons Greetings to all my teachers, staff and friends and also to all the readers of our school magazine 'Vincentian'.

Yashodhan S. Kadam
III-B

My School

My school's name is St. Vincent's High School. It is located in Camp. My school has big and spacious classrooms. My school has one of the biggest playgrounds. My school has a garden where we can play. Our school has 100% results for standards ten and twelve. In sports we are first in inter-school competition for last sixty years. In our school there are PTA meetings in which parents help out teachers in all activities. Since last two years our school children have been helping out the traffic police for smooth and safe traffic flow outside the school. My school is one of the best schools in Pune.

Mohd Usama Shaikh
III-C

My School

My school's name is St. Vincent's High School. It is for boys. St. Vincent's is a very big school. It has four buildings. One is for the high school and the second one is for the primary school. The other two are halls. There is a big football ground. The school was founded in 1867 and is managed by the Poona Jesuit Society. My school is recognized by the Government of Maharashtra.

I like my school because importance is given to both studies and extra-curricular activities. In sports our students have won many prizes in football and inter-school competitions. Chess, poetry, and singing competitions are held every year. St. Vincent's students secure good marks. I am very proud to be part of such a famous and good school.

Amir Y. Nowgaonkar
III-C

My Hobby

Everybody has a hobby. A hobby is a fine pastime. It gives pleasure to a person if it is practised joyfully. It is not done for money or for a living. My father's hobby is reading. My mother's hobby is shopping.

Gardening is my hobby. I have grown grass and an orchard on the patch of land in front of my house. I spend two hours everyday watering and manuring them. I feel delighted to see my plants and flowers grow. I find my hobby quite worthwhile.

Chaitanya Khinwasara
IV-A

Swami Vivekanand

Swami Vivekanand was born on 12th of January 1863 in Calcutta. His father's name was Biswanath Dutta and his

mother's name was Bhubaneswari. Narendranath was his childhood name.

Narendra was helpful right from childhood. Once he gave away his new clothes to a beggar. He could not bear the pain which the poor went through. He wiped the tears in their eyes and helped them generously. He always spoke the truth.

Narendra also had very good concentration. Once while praying, a huge snake passed him, but Narendra did not



even notice it and continued praying.

At the age of 18, Narendra met Shri Ramakrishna at Sakshineswar. Shri Ramakrishna became the teacher of Narendra and taught people different ways to reach God. After the death of Shri Ramakrishna, Vivekananda started a pilgrimage all over India.

Swamiji had love and respect for India. He established 'Ramakrishna Math' and 'Ramakrishna Mission' in India. Swamiji also gave a speech in America. In his speech there, he called the



Americans his brothers and sisters and thus gained the respect of Americans.

Swamiji took samadhi at Calcutta on 4th July 1902. Swamiji will always be remembered and respected by all Indians.

*Rohan K. Gujarathi
IV-A*

Exams

Exams are near
It's time to fear
No television
But only one mission
To get good marks
And not just to pass
My Marathi is weak
English is on the peak
Maths gives me tension
Hindi needs preparation
History is boring
Geography is scoring
Science has many experiments
Civics is full of political elements
All my subjects are indeed tough
But I like exams all the very much.

*Aditya Jadhav
IV-B*

Our School

A Dream, Now a Reality

To get admission in a reputed school is always a wish of every parent. But with increasing competition, limited seats, tough entrance exams and pressure rising interviews, acquiring one seat in a good school has become just an impossible dream.

But, my mom's dream came true. 2003, a year full of activities and tension. I was

interviewed in March 2003, for which preparations had begun from past two years. Maths and English were being taught in such a way as if I were to appear for a board exam. My diction, my pronunciation, my entry, my exit, every minute detail and mannerism was checked by mom, whose only dream was to see her son in the one and only, best institution, St. Vincent's High School.

And then the big day arrived, 1st of May 2003. There was an air of silence, hearts throbbing, prayers on the lips, ears waiting to hear the result. Mom's pressure had shot up, but dad maintained the equilibrium. I still remember mom was not ready to enter the school gate, when dad went in to check my number. And there it was! What a shock! Our dream had come true. A wave of happiness and achievement just gushed through our bodies. And we all went down on our knees in thanksgiving!

*Aditya Jadhav
IV-B*

The Creation of the Teacher

The Good Lord was creating teachers. It was his sixth day of overtime and he knew that this was a tremendous responsibility, for the teachers would touch the lives of so many impressionable young children. An angel appeared to him and said, "You are taking a long time to figure this one out". "Yes" said the Lord. A teacher ... must stand above all students, yet be on their level! must be able to do 180 things not connected with the subject being taught! must run on coffee and leftovers! must communicate vital knowledge to all students daily and be right most of the



time!
must have more time for others than for himself!
must have a smile that can endure through paycuts, problematic children and worried parents!
must go on teaching when parents question every move and others are not supported
must have 6 hands
And that's exactly how God made teachers!

*Sukhdeep Singh
IV-B*

Global Warming

Global warming is a topic that is often talked about today. Whether it is about the Kyoto Accord or the melting of polar ice caps, it is impossible for a person who is not deaf or blind and has an IQ higher than a chimpanzee, to miss it. However, before we jump to conclusions, we must first know the details of global warming.



First of all, we must know what global warming actually is. Second, we must know what causes it. Third, what it does, both good and bad. Fourth, how it influences us, and fifth, how to stop it from continuing.

Global warming, otherwise referred to as the greenhouse effect, is the absorption of energy radiated from the earth's surface. This results in the overall increase in the temperature of the earth. Scientists say that the earth's temperature naturally increases by about 1 degree Fahrenheit every century, but with the pollution that is being caused by humans, the temperature could rise 5 to 10 degrees by the middle of the next century.

The increasing globalization and development of the world has serious ramifications with respect to the impact on environment. Global warming is a concept that refers to the build-up of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The build-up of carbon dioxide, causes sea levels to rise, and the carbon dioxide is absorbed by the ocean, acidifying the water.

Global warming poses a serious threat to life on earth. Although scientists are unclear about the exact implications of global climate change, most experts agree that plant communities, tropical landscapes, wildlife habitats, sea levels, weather patterns, and human mortality would be impacted. Despite these findings, industrialized nations are reluctant to curb their dependence on carbon based fuels which contribute to an intensified green house effect.

Though no one knows for sure the impact of global warming in future, they know for sure it exists.

Abdul Hiroli
IV-B

Ganesh Chaturthi

Ganesh Chaturthi is a Hindu festival. It is celebrated all over India, but on a large scale in the state of Maharashtra. It was started in Pune by Lokmanya Tilak for unity of people.

Ganpati, the son of Paravati and Shiva, is honoured as the God of learning. He is specially worshipped at the start of new projects or opening ceremonies, during which his blessings are sought for progress and prosperity.

People begin to prepare for Ganesh festival many days before. People build temporary shrines or pandals. They are very attractively decorated. On the first day of the festival, the idol of Ganpati is brought with great gusto and music and placed in the pandals. There he is worshipped daily at a certain fixed time with very popular bhajans and aartis.

On the last day of the festival, the idols are taken ceremoniously with music and dance in huge processions, to a nearby lake, river or sea to be immersed. This ends the very popular festival of Ganesh Chaturthi.

Praj Shete
IV-D

The Magic in Number Seven

No.7 has many wonderful facts attached to it:

- a) We have seven continents:
Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Europe, Antarctica, Australia
- b) A group of seven days in a week:

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

c) There are seven colours in a rainbow: Violet, Indigo, Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, Red

d) There are seven wonders of the world.

e) There are seven swars or notes in classical music:

Sa - Re - Ga - Ma - Pa - Dha - Ni

f) According to Hindu mythology the Sun God rides on a chariot driven by seven horses.

Akshay Gugale
IV-D

Exam Tension

Exams are coming, there is plenty of tension

No time for cricket and no time for relaxation

No time to touch my bats

Because of division, multiplication in Maths

Why should we remember History?

To me it's just a great mystery

In computer there is project submission

And we don't know what's going on, on television

Oh God, I wish I stood first in examinations

To release my manic tension.

Shivraj Nimbalkar
IV-D





Dear Teachers,

Happy Teachers' Day.

Teachers are angels who have to earn their wings! - Linda Grayson

Now, to business. Education is the concern of teachers, students, parents and the government. The last does precious little to improve it, but calls the shots!

As if the ever increasing numbers of students was not enough, we have now gone back to the 4 Unit Tests and 2 Terminals. Our officials never learn from past mistakes. The Unit Tests were reduced as they were found to be disruptive instead of helping both, teachers and students. The recent case of a student who left the school premises when she had been caught copying is a case in point. Surely it was the stress that forced the poor child to resort to unfair means to make the grade. We have many cases where students have taken the extreme step when stress and pressure mount.

Yes, the increasing numbers of students per class adds to the teacher's burden. Is it possible to give individual attention to the students? Is it possible to know the names of the students they teach, if they face two or three divisions each day? Is it possible to complete the units for each test if the teaching time is curtailed by the Unit Tests as well as the orals in each subject, which have been introduced? Is it possible for the children to digest, absorb what has been taught in class if there is no time to consolidate and revise the work covered? Is it possible that those who have finalized the new programmes have not tried them out physically? Is it

possible they have not experienced teaching in a school under the circumstances they have prescribed for the teachers today?

Our education system is among the best, for it has been proved time and again that students, who found it difficult to cope with our standards, topped the classes when they moved to other countries. The basic training in the primary sections has paid huge dividends, for if the foundation is secure, then the sky's the limit. Our IT wallahs have proved this without a doubt.

The cutting, adding, chopping, is lowering the standard of education. Children do not read today; they have no time to play as they have homework for the next day. Their school days are now a horror with projects that are a farce. More often than not, the project is done by parents or is ordered from art shops that are only too willing to help and thus earn a hefty sum of money. After all, the project has to be submitted in time and that is a commodity that is priceless. Yes, the educational authorities are robbing our children of their childhood.

Formerly, there were never any vacancies in a school for teachers. Why is it that today schools find it difficult to find teaching staff? The salaries are fairly good, so that's not the problem. Maybe, just maybe, individuals are wary of taking up this monumental task. Teaching is a noble profession, so there should be many eager to fill the posts, but the amount of work and the extra paper work involved is probably a deterrent. If each teacher had a PA to do the paper work, just as our babus have, then maybe they'd be able to spend more time on quality teaching.

Recently, teachers have been in the news for all the wrong reasons. Some have succumbed to the stress and pressure and used corporal punishment to deal with students. This, as we all know is taboo. The teachers' actions cannot be condoned, but it is also a reality that must be addressed.

The numbers in our classes must be reduced if we want good results. We should have student counselling in every school so as to avoid student problems. Teachers, too, should have refresher courses on psychology so that we have no more cruelties in school.

Parents today come in tow categories - there are those who take an active interest in their wards by way of checking and also explaining the work given. Then we have the other group who are too busy to take on an active role in the education of their children beyond engaging tutors to do the needful. True, in some cases, if the parents are not able to tackle the work, then, tuitions can help.

The authorities must see that educationalists are in the driving seat; persons who have the welfare of teachers and students in mind. Proper infrastructure, basic facilities, must be provided if teachers and students are to give of their best.

*Mrs. C.M. D'Sa
VOTA*

Vincent's Old Teacher's Association





My Sweet Teacher

My sweet, sweet teacher
 Who shares my future
 Smart with a bright smile
 She has a lovely style
 She teaches us good manners
 And give us knowledge
 Fills us with courage
 To face the outside world
 She tells us stories
 And frees us from worries
 Her teaching is fun
 Which is liked by everyone
 She is our guide
 And the school's pride
 When she give me something good
 I am the happiest child
 She is the best teacher in the whole world
 My sweet, sweet teacher
 Who shapes my future
 As she makes me unprofitably gay
 I want to wish her a very
 Happy Teachers Day.
 Jestin Jiju
 V-D

Teachers' Day

September 5 is Teachers' Day all over India. It is the birthday of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the first Vice-President of India, who was a great teacher himself.

We have a class programme on this day. We call all our teachers and give them cards or flowers. Some of the children give speeches or recite poems. On this day the teachers do not teach. The Prefects take care of all the classes. It is fun to see our friends as teachers.

Abhijeet Bodke
 V-D

Teachers' Day

Dear loving teachers,

It is a very special day at school today, to celebrate Teachers' Day.

Would you like to know why this particular day has been chosen as Teachers' Day?

Because it marks the birth anniversary of one of the greatest teachers, Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan.

On behalf of all the students, I would like to express our deep gratitude to all the teachers of my school for the love and care they give us.

They teach us perfect manners and how to be happy and healthy. They give us every opportunity to bring out our talents and skills. Our teachers also are always at hand when we need them to guide us through our problems. I thank all the teachers who changed my life.

Thank You.

Emmanuel Samudre
 VI-B

Teachers' Day

5th September is a day for teachers and the children to celebrate as Teachers' Day. This is celebrated in memory of our past President and great teacher Shri Radhakrishnan.

On this day the children express their love and respect towards their teachers by giving them flowers. The children also realize the hard work put in by the teachers, when they play the role of a teacher on this day.

This is the most awaited day for children as they can express their good wishes and gratitude towards their teachers.

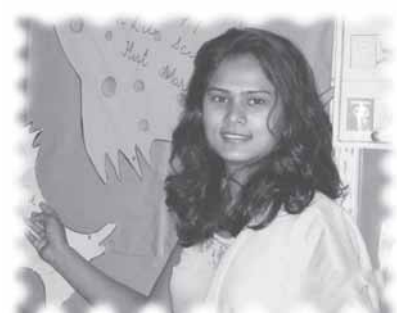
Yeshrajsingh Kirad
 VI-C

Perfect Teacher

A teacher is ...
 Someone who is wise ...
 Who cares about the students,
 And wears no disguise.
 She is honest and open,
 And shares everything from her heart,
 Not just lessons from books,
 But life in which we are.
 A teacher takes time,
 To help, teach and tutor,
 With English or Maths or Sports,
 Or even on a Computer.
 It's the teacher who is patient,
 Happy and content, even if in stress,
 And it's not that
 We as students are perfect,
 But it's them,
 Because they are perfect teachers.

Khuzema Shipchandler
 VIII-D







Ode to my Teacher

Excuse me miss, can you tell me what is this?

Says a voice, amidst all the noise

And then the teacher, a brilliant explainer

Tells the student in a manner very pleasant

Solves the problem

It is a teacher, a mother in a sense

Who teaches her child his ways to mend

And how to mend.

She is a teacher who teacher us all

Just have a peep from A for 'apple' to Z for 'zip'.

She is the one who cares for our future.

So, with all respect, let us make her a bit gay

By wishing her a Very Happy Teachers' Day!

*Chirag Karnavat
VII-B*

Teachers' Day

India is a land of fairs and festivals. Many festivals are celebrated in India every year. The day which I like the most and wait eagerly for every year is 5th September, that is, Teachers' Day. We celebrate Teachers' Day in India since 1962.

Since times, India have respected their teachers. Earlier we used to call our teacher 'Guru', and now it is the modern 'Sir' or 'Madam'. Nevertheless, the role of teachers has remained the same.

Teachers' Day in India is a tribute to the hard work that is put in by teachers all year long to educate a child.

In India, Teachers' Day is on 5th September. Indian Teachers' Day is dedicated to Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan who was a staunch

believer of education and was one of the greatest scholars and teachers of all time, apart from being the President of India. As a tribute to this great teacher, his birthday is observed as Teachers' Day in India.

We strongly believe that teachers play a key role in every individual's development and evolution. Showing appreciation to them is therefore a fair reward and an act of gratitude that will also make you feel better.

Teachers are that special part of the community, helping us all to grow up and be better citizens. This is why most countries celebrate either the World Teachers' Day (WTD) or their own national equivalents. I love Teachers' Day very much.

*Atharva Lanke
VI-B*

Teachers' Day

Dear Teacher,

The day which I like the most and wait for eagerly every year is 5th September, that is, Teachers' Day. Since 1962 India has celebrated this day.

We strongly believe that teachers play a key role in every individual's development and evolution.

Teachers' Day in India is a tribute to the hard work that is put in by the teacher all year long to educate a child.

You are the best teacher in this world. Wherever I may go in my life, I will always remember that I had an excellent guide in the form of a teacher, 'You'.

I found guidance, friendship, discipline and love, everything, in one person, and

that person is you.

Without you, we would have been lost. Thank you teacher, for guiding us, inspiring us and making us what we are today.

We will always be thankful to you for all the hard work and efforts you have put in, for educating us.

You are not only our teacher. Rather, you are a friend, philosopher and guide, all moulded into one person. We will always be grateful to you for your support.

I may not say it always, but I mean it whenever I say it. Thank you teacher for all the things you have done for us.

*Atharva Lanke
VI-B*

Poem

Teachers

Paint their minds

And guide their thoughts

Share their achievements

And advise their faults.

Inspire a love

Of knowledge and truth

As you light the path

Which leads our youth.

For our future brightness

With each lesson you teach

Each smile you lengthen

Each goal you help reach.

For the dawn of each poet

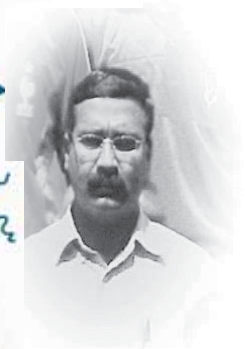
Each philosopher and king

Begins with a teacher

And the wisdom they bring.

*Atharva Lanke
VI-B*







Teachers' Day

Teachers are the most unique gift of God. The teachers mould the lives of the children entrusted to their care. Teachers, like mothers, nurture every child in the overall development. The children learn values that help them to face all challenges in life boldly, and to overcome all trials and tribulations of life.

T - Talented
E - Efficient
A - Adorable
C - Charming / Courageous
H - Honest / Helpful
E - Enchanting
R - Respectful

Ashley Pereira
VII-C

Teachers

My life begins in her hand
So tender and caring
Tending to my every need
Patience as ever sobering
Under her watchful eyes
Was learnt the first word
Years passed and time just swiftly flew
As under the shadow of her love
In age and mind I grew
Her support like no other preacher
She may be unknown to you
But to me she is my teacher.

Chirag Ranawat
VI-B

A Teacher For All Seasons

A teacher is like spring
Who nurtures new green sprouts
Encourages and leads them
Whenever they have doubts.

A teacher is like summer

Whose sunny temperament
Makes studying a pleasure
Preventing discontent.

A teacher is like rainfall
With methods soft and clear
Lessons in bright colours
And a happy atmosphere.
A teacher is like winter
While it's snowing hard outside
Keeping students comfortable
As a warm and helpful guide.

Teacher, you do all these things
With a pleasant attitude
You're a teacher for all seasons
And you have my gratitude!

Vishal Dubey
XI-B

Teachers

Our teachers make us better
To achieve something greater
They give us support
In whatever we do
They are our guiding light
To show us what's right
They are our direction
And our pathways to correction.
Happy Teachers Day!

Zen Pochkhanawala
VII-A

Teachers

They paint our minds
Guide our thoughts
Share their achievements
And advise our faults.

They inspire
Love for knowledge and truth
As they light the path
Which leads today's youth.

For our future brightness
With each lesson you teach
Each smile you lengthen
Each goal you help reach.

For the dawn of each poet
Each philosopher and king
Begins with a teacher
And the wisdom they bring.

Akash Oswal
X-C

Teachers' Day

Teachers' Day is celebrated on every 5th September. This year it was a big one. We came into school and decorated the board. We gave flowers to our dearest teachers. Teachers were very happy and showered us with their blessings.

Then we had our assembly and were taken to the ground. On the ground we had Students Vs Teachers match. The team of boys was pinned on the notice board but the teachers' team was kept a top secret. After all, teachers are teachers. They had to win the match. The match was very interesting. We all had great fun. Our Principal Father Andrew also played very well. All the boys were cheering for his play.

We had great fun and will never forget this Teacher's Day as it will be the last Teachers' Day for us. We will keep this memory forever.

Vincenti Dabitur!

Mayur Dongre
X-C







Tribute to Teachers

John Ruskin was once walking with his friend on a Sunday evening. As they were talking, they saw in the distance a street lighter who was turning on the gas lights, so that passersby would not lose their way. Ruskin and his friend were in the plain below, and all they could see was the silhouette of this man and his torch. That was when John Ruskin remarked to his friend, "There lies a true citizen of the world, who lights up the way for others to follow, and then carries on to spread his light elsewhere, for newer pathways and inroads."

With all the celebrations of 5th September, I take this opportunity to thank and appreciate all those true citizens who lit my road of life and handed me the torch to spread this light for new pathways.

Yes, they are MY TEACHERS.

I carry a special image of teachers in my heart. According to me they are beacon lights for their students who walk on the road of life.

They are towers of strength when their students find that the going is hard and difficult.

They are guides pointing to the heights that their students must reach ... heights of intellectual and moral excellence.

They are builders, developing their students into integrated personalities.

They are moulders, moulding the characters of their students by instilling in them principles of morality.

They are sowers, who sow the seeds of values in the receptive minds of students.

They are harvesters, who gather the good in their students' hearts to make them better.

They are men and women of a special class, who work for their students, without looking for rest or seeking a reward.

They have different roles to play throughout the course of a day. They are called upon to be a friend, actor, doctor, judge, examiner, coach, architect, newsreader, peace maker, psychologist and a substitute parent.

They are brave soldiers, daily fighting against jealousy, despair, hatred, criticism, shyness, guilt, negativity, fear, impatience, ignorance and apathy. But they have great allies like hope, love, peace, faith, compassion, patience, intelligence, creativity, confidence and individuality.

Blessed are you teachers, for the influence you wield on the young minds, hearts, spirits and lives of those whom you educate, is immense and incalculable.

I pray and thank God every day for my teachers. Today I bear the torch which my teachers have passed on to me. The words of my teachers sets the tone of what I feel strongly as I hold this torch - "Teachers are those whose names and faces will be forgotten, but their lessons and values will always be remembered in the accomplishments of their students."

Ms Manisha Dethe



Respected Principal, teachers and my fellow students,

We have gathered here to celebrate 60 glorious years of Indian Independence. On August 1947 at the stroke of midnight, the British flag was lowered. The very first minute of August 15 saw the Indian tricolour unfurled with pomp and glory, signifying the independence of India from foreign rule. We were born to freedom and independence. It was a moment in history when we became masters of our own destiny. In the words of our first Prime Minister of independent India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, "Long years ago, we had made a tryst with destiny and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly but substantially. At the stroke of midnight when the world sleeps, India will wake to life and freedom." He also appealed to the people to take a pledge at that moment, to devote themselves not only to the service of Indians, but also to that of entire humanity. The struggle of freedom fighters and their sacrifices gave us a deep value for independence and freedom. Political slogans often outpace reality. When Rajiv Gandhi was campaigning in the late 1980s, he liked to say "Mera Bharat Mahan". A TV advertisement put the phrase to a catchy tune. But few Indians had TVs in those days, and while millions appreciated it, not all believed it. It makes more sense now. Sixty years after Independence, India is beginning to deliver on its promise. Over the past few years, the world's biggest and rowdiest has matched its political freedoms with economic ones, unleashing a torrent of growth and wealth creation that is transforming the lives of millions. India's economic clout is beginning to make itself felt on the international stage, as the nation retakes the place it held as

a global trade giant, long before colonial powers arrived here. And here we are 60 years hence, making good progress on the long, winding road to success. Well, success has different interpretations. For me, India breaking out of the shackles and becoming a free economy is a success, that we are among the fastest growing economies in the world is success, that we have become an important factor in the IT revolution is success, that some of the richest people are Indians is success and that we are moving towards an unmanned mission to the moon is also success. But as we look at the progress, we do have to look at the areas we lag behind in. India still needs to be liberated from corruption, injustice, exploitation and high-handedness. While we build and provide for ourselves, we have to have the spirit of sacrifice and courage to provide for those who suffer injustice and harassment. Unless this is achieved progressively, India cannot be truly free. We have to address ourselves to these problems to usher in a truly meaningful independence. But for today, let us first bask in the glory of the nation that we love dearly - India, the cradle of civilization and culture. Let us all celebrate this joyous moment of independence with unparalleled enthusiasm.

Jai Hind!

*Huzaiifa Shipchandler
XII-B*

From the Sports Field

1. P.S.A.A.
St. Vincent's boys did very well at the P.S.A.A. Inter-School Football Tournaments. Our U-16 and U-18 boys won the titles in their respective age groups. The U-12 boys were runners-up.
2. Subrotto Soccer
Our U-17 boys won the Subrotto Soccer

Title here at Pune and went on to win the Divisional Title at Ahmednagar. After winning the Divisional Title at Ahmednagar, the U-17 boys went on to the State level Subrotto Soccer, where they fared exceptionally well. The beat Mumbai 1-0, Aurangabad 7-0, Latur 3-0 and went down fighting in the final to Krida Prabodhini 3-2. Thus they had to rest content with the Silver.

3. Royceton Memorial Invitational Tournament - Belgaum.

The U-14 boys of our school, created history, when for the first time, St. Vincent's entered the Finals of the 11 year old Royceton Memorial Invitational Tournament. Our boys went down to Loyola High School, Margao, two goals to one. On the way to the finals, St. Vincent's defeated Manovikas High School, Goa, Islamia School, Belgaum, St. Stanislaus High School, Bandra (Holders) and St. Paul's High School, Belgaum. Samarth Salvi with six goals, won the Top Scorer Trophy, and Moniz Bandoorkwala won the Best Player Award.

4. Chess

In the Inter-School Chess Championship conducted by the Poona Schools Athletic Association, our boys did the school proud by winning the overall Team Championship. Well done boys! Hope one day a Vincentian will do a Vishwanathan Anand.

5. The Bishop's Invitational Football Tournament

At the Bishop's Invitational Football Tournament, both our teams U-12 and U-14 took part. The U-12 boys lost in the quarter-finals, but the U-14 boys who were fresh from their Belgaum exploits, won the title, defeating the hosts two goals to one. The Captain Dwayne Pereira won



the Best Player Trophy and Yashraj Sawase won the trophy for the highest goal scorer with six goals.

6. The Zilla Parishad Soccer Tournament
The year 2007-2008 has been a very special year for the U-14 Vincent's team in soccer. After skipping the Subrotto Tournament, our U-14 boys were runners-up at the Royceton Memorial Invitational Tournament at Belgaum, in which teams from Goa, Bombay, Belgaum and Pune participated. Then they went on to win the Bishop's Invitational Tournament, and to put icing on the cake, St. Vincent's U-14 boys won the Zilla Parishad Title, in which 64 teams from Pune participated. A wonderful performance! Vincenti Dabitur!

Desmond Sagar

Why We Live As Long As We Do

On the first day, God created the cow. God said, "You must go to the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer. I will give you a life span of sixty years."

The cow said, "That's a kind of tough life you want me to live for sixty years. Let me have twenty years and I'll give back the other forty."

And God agreed.

On the second day, God created the dog. God said, "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. I will give you a life span of twenty years."

The dog said, "That's too long to be barking. Give me ten years and I'll give back the other ten."

So God agreed. (sigh)

On the third day God created the monkey. God said, "Entertain people, do monkey tricks, make them laugh. I'll give you a twenty year life span."

The monkey said, "How boring, monkey tricks for twenty years? I don't think so. Dog gave you back ten, so that's what I'll do too, okay?"

And God agreed (again).

On the fourth day God created man. God said, "Eat, sleep, play, do nothing, just enjoy, enjoy. I'll give you twenty years."

Man said, "What? Only twenty years? No way man! Tell you what, I'll take my twenty, and the forty the cow gave back, and the ten dog gave back and the ten monkey gave back. That makes eighty, okay?"

"Okay", said God, "You've got a deal."

So this is why for the first twenty years we eat, sleep, play, enjoy, and do nothing. For the next forty years we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years we do monkey tricks to entertain our grandchildren, and for the last ten years we sit in front of the house and bark at everybody.

Compiled by
Mrs. H. Faria

Tree Plantation Drive by the N.C.C.

The P.T.A. of St. Vincent's had organized a tree plantation and awareness drive on the 1st of September 2007. The N.C.C. played a major role in this programme. Present with us were the teachers, Mr. Vilas Chakranarayan and Mr. Ajay Nirmal. The beginning of the day

witnessed us planting Silver Oak trees in the school campus. After this, we boarded the school buses around 10 o'clock and left for Bhosle Nagar in Hadapsar. On reaching the spot, we discovered around a hundred saplings waiting for us. Each cadet was entrusted with a sapling and soon we began our hard work of digging. By around 11.30, all the saplings were secured and watered. We refreshed ourselves with some snacks provided to us and then assembled in a small hall.



There, we were addressed by Mr. Bhanudas Chavan, who worked with the Medicinal Plants Conservation Centre - Rural Communes, and had taken his valuable time to speak with us. We learnt quite a lot about medicinal plants and their uses, and discovered that many of the plants in our home and backyard, also have medicinal uses. Later, we were also told about tree plantation and the important role they play in reducing global



warming and pollution. After the entire programme, we were addressed by the Mayor of Pune, who congratulated us on the wonderful job which we had done. She too explained to us the importance of trees, and the part they play in reducing pollution. We returned, exhausted and stressed out, to the school by 1.30. All in all, it was a very enjoyable experience and we hope that we had contributed to making a cleaner and greener Pune. We thank the P.T.A. and all the organizers for making this possible, and also the garden department of the P.M.C. for providing us the saplings. Our efforts would have been futile without their help.

*Ahbimanyu Sarkar
IX-A*

Why God Made Teachers'

When God created Teachers,
He gave us special friends
To help us understand his world
And truly comprehend,
The beauty and wonder
Of everything we see,
And become a better person
With each discovery.

When God created teachers,
He gave us special guides
To show us ways in which to grow
So we can all decide
How to live and how to do,
Whats right instead of wrong
To lead us so that we can lead,
And learn how to be strong.

Why God created teachers,
It His wisdom and His grace,
Was to help us to learn to make our world
a better, wiser place

*Vishal Dubey
XI - B*

Down Memory Lane





Champion Staff



Under 14

- Winners of Bishop's Invitational Cup
- Winners of Zilla Parishad Tournament
- Runners-Up - Royceton Memorial Cup-
Belgaum



Under 17

- Winners of Subroto Divisional Title
- Runners-Up - State Level Tournament
- Winners of P.S.A.A.



OY_mi>r

Amë`m XæmV AZH\$ gU gmOao Hôbo
OmVnV. È`m gUmVbo H\$nrh gU Anhv:
aj m-ÿZ, JUe MVWu, OY_mi>r. `m
gUmVrb OY_mi>r hm_mPm AndSvm gU
Anho
OY_mi>r l mdU _{hY`nV gmOar Hôbr
OmVo



OY_mi>rbm H\$UUmM OY_ Pnbm hnb/m.
H\$Urbm {dîUUm AnR`dm Advna g_Obo
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OY_mi>r hm gU Xnz {Xdg gmOam Hôbm
OmVno EH\$Xm Oôhm H\$UUmM_WwV H\$nrS`V
OY_ Pnbm Vôhm An(U bJM Xugè`m {Xder
Oôhm Zÿ`enkÀ`m Kar H\$U gms`bohnb/o
`nbm Zÿnâgd âhUVnV.
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Anho bnb\$ AJXr OëbnfV Vr gmOar Hôbr
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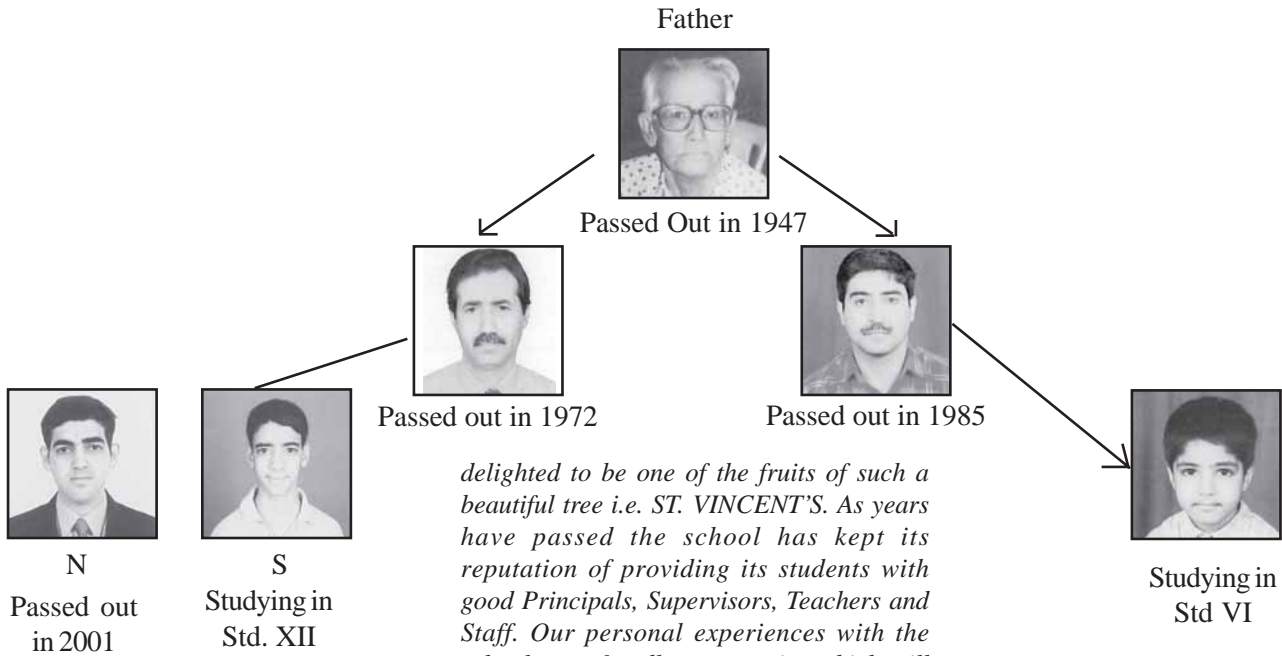
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Three Generations in St. Vincent's High School



delighted to be one of the fruits of such a beautiful tree i.e. ST. VINCENT'S. As years have passed the school has kept its reputation of providing its students with good Principals, Supervisors, Teachers and Staff. Our personal experiences with the school are of endless memories which will be always remembered by us all through our lives. May GOD always shower his blessings on the SCHOOL and help it in continuing its achievements and inspiration to its students

It gives me utmost pleasure to say with pride that our family is very lucky to be a part of an institution which is imparting education, sports and human values to its students for so many years. We are VINCENTIANS are

to become good and responsible citizens of our country.

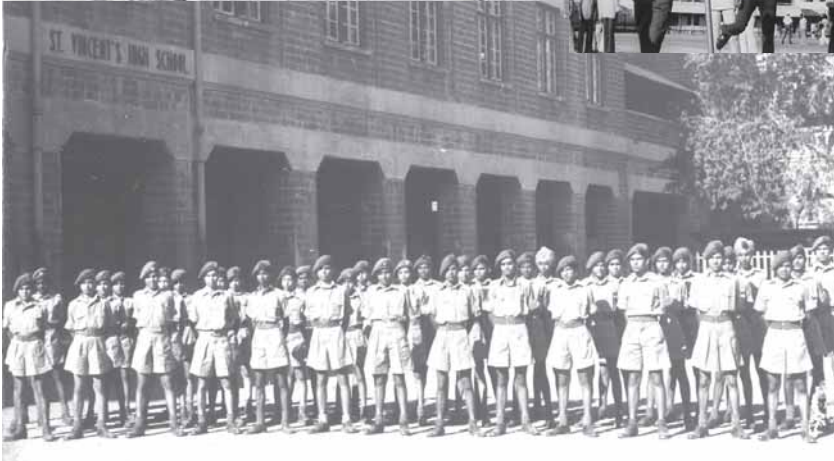
GOD BLESS U ALL

Down Memory Lane...





Down Memory Lane





Down Memory Lane

I remember the happy years I spent as a teacher in the prestigious St. Vincent's High School.

It was while I was holidaying in Goa in May last year that I learnt the sad news of the demise of our former beloved Principal Fr. Edmund D'souza. He was always approachable, helpful and jovial. I recollect the parties and picnics the staff used to enjoy and the jolly times we had then. May his soul rest in peace.

We miss many other Vincentian Principals and priests like Fr. Schoch, Fr. Christy, Fr. Desch, Fr. Barco and Fr. Rheim who have let us for their heavenly home. May their souls rest in peace.

Fr. Riklin was the principal when I first joined St. Vincents in 1947. He was a strict disciplinarian. It was said that he knew the name of all the boys, especially the naughty ones. He undertook many responsibilities, all of which he single-handedly shouldered. He was Principal, clerk, fee collector, band master, etc. etc., all in one. In his honour, the Fr. Riklin Cup was instituted. The match was played between St. Vincents and Loyala's. Many ex-students used to come to cheer our boys.

It was not for nothing that Fr. Schoch was called 'The Shahjehan of Pune'. He was instrumental in building the new wing to the left of the main block after demolishing the Red Building. He was also the founder of Loyola High School, Pashan, where he was the first Principal of the School.

Fr. Oesch, a sports lover, was always on the field when a game was in progress, and our good Fr. Barco would round up the Catholic boys during Catechism period to teach them the basics of our religion and train them to be altar boys. Every one loved him, and like the Pied Piper of Hamelin, he was followed by both young and old. May his soul rest in peace.

Fr. Rheim came from the Hubli School. He had a glass eye. The boys were afraid to

be naughty because they never knew where he was looking.

The years gone by were full of hard work but they were lightened by many get-togethers. I can't forget. Fr. Haefeli who always "drove us out" of St. Vincents ! Quite literally ! However, he was a very moody man, sometimes grim, sometimes cracking jokes.

Mr. Jertulian Lobo was an honorary teacher. He was a good, sincere teacher and loved St. Vincents. Our Maths teachers Mr. Shankar Narayan and Mr. Khanapure were also dedicated teachers. Our middle school and primary teachers worked hard to give the boys a good foundation. Miss. Molly Gonsalves was an institution in herself. After retirement she went to live in Wadgaonsheri.

I must write a few lines about the fancy fnetes that took place on our lawns and sometimes on our field. The fnetes were the brainchild of Fr. Lovette who sported a goatee beard. He was amiable and good at collecting funds, first for the School Building Fund and later for the Teachers' Benefit Fund. He made the teachers and boys work hard by loading them with St. Vincents brochures and tickets which he expected everyone to sell. He would be seen carrying armfuls of them around and woe to the one who was caught unawares ! The books changed hands. How can one leave out the great pianist Fr. Mendonca who also worked as hard as Fr. Lovette for the same cause. He brought up lovely concerts and small operas for the music lovers of Pune. He was a great musician and helped by Miss Lizzie Soares, who was also an excellent teacher. Last but not least, was the inimitable Mr. J. Coelho, without whose trite remarks our parties were dry. I remember one staff picnic when Mr. Coelho failed to turn up. Everyone asked where he was and a strange hush fell on the gathering in the bus. Fr. Schoch, a close friend was unhappy. Suddenly the bus was brought to a grinding halt by Peter, the school bus driver. The police demanded the papers of the bus and after

that we were told to leave. Just as Peter started the bus, one of the policemen threw of his uniform and peak cap and entered the bus and lo and behold !!! There stood Mr. Coelho, smiling naughtily !!!

I mustn't forget our sports masters, Mr. Harold, Mr. Chavan and Mr. Pacheco, who trained our boys to retain the Individual Interscholar Sports Cup since its inception. Brother Julius held away in the Book Store when school re-opened in June. The boys who helped him to run the Book Stall were given an outing for their help. Bro. Julius was also noted for his delicious sweets and everyone would dash to the canteen before the sweets and sandwiches were sold out.

Those who work behind the scene shouldn't be forgotten. All our peons were very co-operative and respectful. We had Subhaiya Babar, Antoine and the late Mali, who was in charge of the beautification of the lawns in front of the main building. Fr. Schoch brought a ballet troupe from Germany who helped us in raising funds for the school. The performance was held on our lawns.

In those days we had some state rankers like Shekhar Patkar and Sanjeev Gupta etc. Some of the boys still keep in touch with their old teachers. Many of them have made their mark as Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers as well as in the Defence Forces, whilst others have operated successfully in the business line with businesses ranging from Bakeries to Five Star Hotels. For those who were not so fortunate, I pen these few lines, "Say not the struggle naught availeth
The labour and the wounds are vain
The enemy faints not nor faileth
And but for your possess the field.

And not through eastern windows only
When daylight comes, comes in the light,
But westward look-the land is bright."

Vincenti Dabitur

Mrs. Stella Freitas
ex-teacher St. Vincent's High School