

MOUNT ST. PATRICK ACADEMY



Mount St. Patrick Academy

MSPA Musings

Principal's Message

School News Letter
JUN 2021 - SEP 2021



Each person holds so much power within themselves that needs to be let out. Sometimes they need a little nudge, a little direction, a little support, a little coaching and the greatest things can happen.

- Pete Carroll

the first edition of our E-Magazine **MSPA Musings**. The launch of this first edition is a hugely rewarding venture, as it captures priceless moments and precious thoughts that will resonate with every Patrician. Agreeably, this issue is a chronicle of events that happened throughout the first term.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my earnest gratitude to the Congregation of the Brothers of St. Patrick, my predecessors, Bro. Gubendiran, Community Leader, Pune and Bro. Damien. The Coordinators, staff and students who have so willingly contributed to the making of this issue, the parents who continue to stand by us as we grow from strength to strength. I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Editorial Committee for their relentless hard work and their attention to every microscopic detail of this E-Magazine. I feel there are many milestones to achieve. Delightfully presenting **MSPA Musings** for the First quarter of this year 2021-2022. I remain.

Yours truly,

Bro. Earnest Martin
Principal- MSPA, Pune.

Today's fast paced world is one of immeasurable possibilities. At MSPA we provide our students the inclusive culture and the necessary tools both academic and moral, to become competent individuals who are well equipped to take on the world. Our prime focus is to instill the Patrician ethos in every student. Thus, ensuring that every Patrician is confident, compassionate and competent enough to stand in good stead whatever the circumstances that lie ahead.

At the very outset let me congratulate the staff and students for completing the First Term of the current academic year 2021-2022. The First Term has indeed witnessed some hectic activity and has set the ball rolling for an eventful year ahead.

Virtual workshops, orientations and career counselling seminars were conducted by reputed speakers for the teachers, senior students and parents of the kindergarten in the month of June.

A Youtube channel for MSPA was launched on the 7th July, 2021. The overwhelming response to this channel emboldened us to consider relaunching a much more user friendly version of our School website thus, MSPA went digital on the 7th August, 2021 when we launched not only the revamped School website but also the Campuscare-Entab Application. The First General Body meeting of the PTA to elect the new PTA Executive members for the academic year was held on the 7th of August, 2021 as well.

The students of Grades IX to XI participated in Eunoia- A virtual three-day festival organized by CNM School, Mumbai from 23rd - 25th August, 2021. Students won prizes in the Kangaroo Court and Hustle events.

I am indeed looking forward to progress in the various fields and enrich our school further by our motto *Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya* in the months to come.

Today, MSPA adds yet another feather to our digital hat as we proffer

Inside this Issue >>

Editorial	>> 02
----->	
Coordinators' Message	>> 03
----->	
KG Orientation, I - IX Orientation, First Batch of ISC, Career Craft for Grade X, Yoga Day	>> 04
----->	
PTA Meeting & PTM, Website and ERP Launch	>> 05
----->	
Independence Day Celebration, Teacher's Day, Seminar for Teachers	>> 06
----->	
Ganesh Chaturthi, Raksha Bandhan	>> 07
----->	
Handwriting, Drawing and Painting Activity, Eunoia- Interschool Competition	>> 08
----->	
World Nature Conservation Day, Toppers - ICSE Batch 2020 -2021	>> 09
----->	
Creative Corner	>> 10
----->	
Dates to Remember	>> 16

MUSINGS

Editorial



MSPA Musings

MSPA, Pune is geared to help students evolve into fine human beings who are capable to face the challenges of the world. The latest being the pandemic that has affected normalcy in every sphere of life.

While we confront this exceptionally difficult time, we need to take solace in the timeless advice: **This too shall pass**. As educators, parents and teachers it becomes our urgent responsibility to provide an environment to our children which gives them hope and strength to face this pressing situation.

It is a matter of pride for the MSPA family to present the very first Issue of MSPA Musings, the muse for which is our assiduous and dynamic Principal Rev. Bro. Earnest Martin.

The MSPA Musings will keep you abreast of the events and happenings of each term in the school. It is a small step towards realizing the perennial dream of an integrated and harmonious system of education we endeavour to build under the patronage of our Principal. We earnestly hope to nurture the innate creative urges of our students.

Amidst the prolonged pandemic and partial lockdowns when we are unable to meet physically, this gives us an opportunity to stay connected.

Editorial Team



Ms. Vineeta D'Cruz

Ms. Aparna Singh

Ms. Florence Saldanha

Ms. Rashmi Yesudas

Ms. Shweta Mukherjee

Mr. Savari Muthu

Coordinators' Message



Ms. Seema Rawool

"We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on ones own feet..." -Swami Vivekananda

The academic year 2020-21 has been a fruitful one despite the many challenges we faced with the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. Looking back at last year, I realize that it has been a year of learning, as educators we toiled zealously to bring the classroom into the abodes of children. The journey from chalk to mouse was quite a daunting one however, the millennium team at MSPA ensured that our children received the education that they need. In the classroom we focused on educating not only the mind but also the heart. In the months to come, under the able guidance of our young and energetic Principal Rev. Bro. Earnest Martin we will as a family scale greater heights.

Wishing you all good health and happy reading.

"The cheerful mind perseveres, and the strong mind hews its way through a thousand difficulties"

- Swami Vivekananda



Ms. Hemalatha
Ajaykumar

During the pandemic, we have all been confined to our beautiful homes. 'Have we all neglected physical exercise?' The answer to this question may vary. Neglecting bodily health brings about a decline in strength, stamina and power of concentration. Different people have different choices and preferences. Many people enjoy a morning walk, some find pleasure in cycling and jogging. These days yoga and meditation are also gaining popularity. In a similar manner people's preference of reading has also undergone a huge change. Today digital platforms have unshackled learning, we have had to unlearn to learn more and learn better. With every edition of MSPA Musings we hope to unshackle the imaginations of our budding artists, poets, authors and sportsmen and women.

Stay Healthy. Stay Safe. Stay Inspired.

"Creativity is the key to success in the future, and early education is where teachers can bring creativity in children at that level"

-Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam



Ms. Archana
Sambrekar

The purpose of education is to mould skillful and social human beings from an early age. Keeping this in mind, we at MSPA provide our tiny tots an enriched environment, age appropriate academic simulation and many socialization opportunities. Throughout the past eighteen months we incorporated as many co-curricular activities as were possible. Our only objective throughout has been to ensure that our children do not miss out on those important school activities that are an integral part of a child's academic calendar.

As you read through the first edition of MSPA Musings I'm sure you would agree that holistic development is an absolute must at MSPA.

KG Orientation

Kindergarten is the very foundation of education that serves the students for a lifetime and the first year of a child's school life is extremely daunting for both the student as well as the parents.

In order to smoothen out this process an enriching orientation was conducted by Ms. Ivy Emmanuel, a passionate specialist trainer and team building professional who has successfully conducted over 300 training programmes. Ms. Emmanuel addressed queries of parents related to the growth of the newest Patricians. While the LKG parents benefitted from the expertise of Ms. Emmanuel, the parents of the UKG gained valuable insights from the session conducted by Dr. Debirupa Hore, an academician, research mentor and visionary.

I-IX Orientation

The class teachers for Grades I to IX welcomed the new batches for the academic year 2021-22 with great warmth and fervor. The children were familiarized with the institution's regulations and academic standards of the year. They were informed about their subjects and teachers. Online teaching etiquette were also shared during the session. It was interactive and the children were brimming with joy and excitement as they were getting acquainted with their new classes.

Online virtual welcome was given to the first ISC batch on 15th June, 2021. Students attended the session with their parents. Our honorable Principal Rev. Bro. Earnest Martin addressed the attendees.

The session highlighted upon the brief history of the Patrician Brothers and the legacy of Mount Saint Patrick Academy, Pune. The participants were oriented to the objectives and the vision of the institution. They were further familiarized with the infrastructure and introduced to the faculty members. The session ended with an awareness of the online etiquette, prerequisite to online teaching and learning process.

It was truly a momentous occasion as MSPA achieved a milestone which is going to be etched in the memories of all those who are associated with it. And last but not the least, this prestigious temple of learning has carved a niche for itself through sheer conviction and hardwork of its dedicated staff. The zest to surpass every target set shall not diminish but will grow to push boundaries and achieve greater milestones.



Orientation for First Batch of ISC



Career Craft for Grade X



In this highly competitive era, all our career choices and our efforts determine the quality of our life in the future. The competition is increasing every day and has even engulfed the courses that were once called non-conventional. With this, the importance of proper career guidance and counselling cannot be overlooked.

A Career Craft orientation programme was conducted for the students of grade Xth. It was a 90 minute session. The programme covered 21st-century employability skills and was designed for anyone looking for a career or career transition. It was an interactive and engaging session that included a gamut of activities such as brainstorming, group discussions and self-evaluation tests. Stress was laid on identifying and designing the career goals including career vs job, 3 - steps of career development, smart vs dumb goals, and how to strategically approach career development.

The session was purposeful and broadened the horizon of their scope and perspective, concerning their career opportunities.

Yoga Day

"Yoga is essentially a practice for your soul, working through the medium of your body."

It is indeed an invaluable gift of India to the world, a holistic approach to health and is vital for wellness. Therefore, International Yoga Day was celebrated online.

The students' enthusiastic participation was overwhelming. Though restricted to their homes yet they made videos of the various 'asanas' (yoga postures) and explained their benefits. These were compiled into a program which was viewed by all. The viewers both students and parents were inspired and amazed.

PTA Meeting & PTM

Parents are the first teachers of children and they have a pivotal role in shaping their character. Parental encouragement is inevitable for successful students. Their role is not limited to home but involvement in school activities too, now that virtual learning is done majorly at home. Therefore Parents Teacher Meet for all classes was organized online by the teachers, wherein the parents raised concerns and queries which were addressed by the Principal.

The PTA is a channel of communication between the school and the community. Parents who volunteered as representatives for their wards' classes form the PTA and actively contribute towards the achievements of the school objectives.



Mount St. Patrick Academy

Cordially invites you to the

GRAND
Launch
 of the Official Website
 and
 Campus Care- Entab



Website and ERP *Launch*

Schools have always disseminated knowledge by using traditional academic solutions, however when the global pandemic struck, we were left with very little choice but to shift away from the classroom and its traditional methods. Adaptability, hence, became the key word. Remote learning on digital platforms became the new norm as there was a distinctive rise in e-learning.

At MSPA, we too endeavoured and subsequently adapted to the new forms of learning and under the able guidance of our Principal Rev. Bro. Earnest Martin the campus was digitalized. The brainwave of our young academician involved updating the look and feel of the website and quite a few additions to the navigation pages, which include key events, updated syllabus and a nascent E-library. Long hours were spent in scouring through the various pages of the website thus, leaving no room for error.

The revamped website and ERP system were launched on the 7th of August, 2021. The grand event was live streamed on our YouTube channel. Rev. Bro. Jerome Ellens FSP, Province Leader of the Patrician Congregation was the Chief Guest for this event. Rev. Bro. Gubendiran, Vice President and Community leader, Pune and Mr. Shaji Thomas Managing director of Campuscare - Entab were the Guests of Honour. The extravaganza was attended live by an overwhelming number of spectators.

From an updated website to a user-friendly ERP system, MSPA has travelled the extra mile in streamlining the way it communicates with the stake holders. Our school nestled in the paradisiacal suburbia has indeed proved that adaptability is the key word of the present times.

Independence Day Celebration

The 75th Independence Day was celebrated in Mount Saint Patrick Academy amidst the pandemic, reigniting the feeling of patriotism. Our Principal Rev. Bro. Earnest Martin hoisted the National Flag at school in the presence of the Community Leader Rev. Bro. Gubendiran, our respected coordinators and the teachers.

The celebration was mostly organized on the virtual platform where standard wise the children participated. Their contribution towards the event was broadcast on the school's YouTube channel. The programme was an assimilation of prayer, speeches, recitations, dance performances, and art. It ended on a positive note imbining the feeling of respect for the country and reverence for the nation builders.



Teacher's Day

Teachers, the world over await Teachers' Day celebrations where exuberant smiles, artistic handmade cards, wonderfully contagious energy are the order of the day. The Management of MSPA Pune, ensured that the teachers did not miss out on the celebrations this year. A get together on the occasion of Teachers' Day was organized on the 8th September, 2021. The Brothers walked the extra mile by thoughtfully organizing games, gifts, cake and a lavish and scrumptious meal for the Staff. Throughout the pandemic the staff has witnessed gestures of thoughtfulness from the Brothers. It is rightly said that thoughtfulness is the glue that holds people together and at MSPA it truly does.



Seminar for Teachers

Education should not be restricted to the privileged alone. Barriers, hurdles, difficulties are inevitable in the process of both receiving and imparting education. Keeping the present scenario in mind and the levels of difficulties involved in the process of virtual learning, Mount Saint Patrick Academy's management team had organized a seminar for the teaching faculty. The event was hosted by Mrs. Rakhee Vijay Nair, a noted Industrial Psychologist, Behavioural Coach, Management facilitator and Co-founder of Vajra Learning Solutions.

With an experience of more than 26 years in organizational transformation, she is also engaged with various educational institutions and colleges, as an educator, Career Coach/ Career transitioner and has inspired many youths.

It was a 2-day seminar, and in the stretch of two hours she successfully equipped our teachers with an ocean of concepts such as, 'Online Blended Learning', 'Learning and Designing', 'Gamification - Making Learning Fun' and so on. Needless to say, the seminar was quite insightful as it made obvious the fact that with the application of virtual learning as a technical trend, the process of learning can become greatly engaging.

Ganesh Chaturthi



To celebrate the auspicious festival of Ganesh Chaturthi, the K.G section organized a chart and idol making activity. The participation was profuse and parents were equally eager to lend a helping hand. The outcome was a plethora of picturesque charts and astounding idols of the revered and beloved deity Lord Ganesha, the God of wisdom and prosperity.

Raksha Bandhan



Raksha Bandhan, a very sacred and much celebrated festival of the true and eternal bond between brothers and sisters was celebrated joyously by the little angles of the K.G section. The creatively and painstakingly handmade 'rakhis' were adorned by the 'little brothers' with pride and exhilaration. The amiability of the 'little sisters' surpassed all sweetness.

MSPA

Musings

JUN 2021 - SEP 2021

Handwriting Activity

The three best friends during an exam are dependable memory, correct spellings and good handwriting. A good handwriting is an important foundation skill that enhances the learning process in students. Neat and legible handwriting gives a positive representation of one's personality. Keeping this in mind Handwriting Activity for all students from Grades I-VIII was conducted online. Participation was made compulsory. Students engaged in it diligently and uploaded images of their handwritten texts to be evaluated and assessed.



Drawing and Painting Activity

"Art is an expression of man's creative soul."

To encourage our aspiring artists, drawing and painting competitions were held online for Grades I to XI, on 16th and 24th July respectively. Topics were given class wise and specifications announced. The children showcased their creative skills in drawing and painting and the result was amazing art work for the MSPA gallery. The literally colourful activity witnessed a passionate participation by all students.



Eunoia- Interschool Competition

Co-curricular activities fuel learning in students, stimulate creative thoughts, improve imaginative skills, develop interests and enhance talents. In order to bring about holistic education and amplify all aspects of learning C.N.M School & N.D. Parekh Pre-Primary School hosted 'Eunoia'; a series of inter-school events (23rd to 25th August, 2021). This provided a platform for the students to display their talents and test their potential. It was the endeavour of our honorable Principal Rev. Bro. Earnest Martin that the school received an opportunity to participate.

A kaleidoscope of events under the categories – Literary Arts, Performing Arts, Eunoia Amex, Digital Footprint, Unconventional Events and Leisure were organized. Grishma Sontakke participated in 'Du Coeur With no Heart', where she composed a beautiful poem.

'Kangaroo Court' was apparently based on TV shows and movies. The topic received had initially baffled the participants Anusha Singh and Gautami Mulay, as they had received Hades vs Demeter – mythology, yet they performed stupendously and secured the first position. The participants for Musoryx were Aryan Sharma, Tanishqa Pattelu, Aarnav Kasote and Prachi Singh. Their melodious piece was mesmerizing!

The 'First Degree Hunt' an unconventional event was also thrilling. There were many puzzles, our participants Suhani Pandey and Bharat Singh Rajpurohit (ISC), Marcia Rodrigo and Diya Gurung (ICSE) enjoyed solving them. 'Hustle' was another unique event in which Manav Chowdhury and Vinod Khande participated. Manav Chowdhury did a fabulous job and secured the second position. Gavin Joseph and Kshitij Dhumal participated in the unconventional event – 'What an Idea Sirjee!'

'Error 404 Not Found' – A challenge for our cyber savvy brains! The team-mates were Himanshu Repaka Raj, Archit Sharma, Jay Gautam, Mohit Chaubey and Ram Kansal. They had a thrilling experience. Kharanshu Dash from ICSE participated in the event – 'It's better than Art Jeremy'.

Winners - Eunoia - Kangaroo Court Event



Gautami Mulay - XC



Anushaa Singh XB

Winner- Hustle



Manav Chowdhury- XI

Contingent Leader



Kusumita Madasnal- XI

Finally, the event – 'Eunoia Board of Trade', gave the students an experience of the share market. It was indeed a unique experience for Muzammil Manyar and Reva Sangam who did a commendable job.

On the whole, it was fun to participate, a great learning opportunity and an extensively enriching experience.

MSPA

Musings

JUN 2021 - SEP 2021

World Nature Conservation Day

"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors we borrow it from our children."

To infuse love for the environment and instill a responsible attitude for its conservation, World Environment Day was celebrated online. Through charts, slogans and talks students were encouraged to adopt certain principles to protect the environment. The precious tiny tots of the K.G. section did a splendid and noble job at home by participating in the Sapling Plantation activity.

It is rightly said – "In a planted sapling two things grow: tree and humanity."



Mount St. Patrick Academy

Toppers – ICSE Batch 2020-2021



Shivanya Dutta
96.60%



Abhishek Singh
96.40%



Krishnamoorthy Iyer
96.40%



Anisha Agarwal
96.00%



Aniket Kumar
95.80%



Darshan Wagh
95.60%



Creative Corner



RIDDHIMA BHARDWAJ - 9B



MUZMMIL TALAT MANYAR - 11



ISHANI RENJITH - 4 A



MUZMMIL TALAT MANYAR - 11



MUZMMIL TALAT MANYAR - 11



ISHANI RENJITH - 4 A



SUHANA MOHANTY - 9 C



NAVNEETH KRISHNAN - 2B



ADWAITH PRADEEP - 2 B



ATHARVA SONAWANE - 4 C



Shad Attarwala - 4C



SUHANA MOHANTY - 9C



Satwik Pal - 4C



Creative Corner



AMRUTA LAGAD - 11



RIDDHIMA BHARDWAJ - 9 B



AMRUTA LAGAD - 11



AMRUTA LAGAD - 11



SUHANA MOHANTY - 9 C



AMRUTA LAGAD - 11



Amyra Bhatewara, IV A

Pandemic and I

I am a little girl with a handful of plans
Inquisitive and candid on various instances,
With my little wings and dreams in my eyes,
How I wanted to explore milestones in life.

Before I could think more, reality hit hard
Before I could realize much, I was in home barred.
Everyone was saying 'times are so hard',
All locked in their homes were really scared.

Parks, malls, and theaters were shut for all,
School, gardens, friends: sadly were inaccessible.
Days were gloomy and nights were long.
I was feeling bored and forlorn.
People on TV were blabbering scary things,
"Life won't be the same as we think."

No one cared and believed in us at all,
Just because grownups think we are small.
My tiny heart and hands pray to thee,
This time shall pass in the blink of an eye.
I hope and I believe, everything will be alright
This pandemic has really been a fright.

All I want is to see my school teachers and friends,
All I hope and pray is that this pandemic ends.

Back to School

I have not gone to school for one and a half years. I miss my school. I miss the sunlight that falls on me when I go out to catch my school bus. I miss the breeze that feels cold on my face in the bus ride to school. I miss my uniform, water bottle, school bag and lunch box. I am missing all the fun I had with my friends. I want to say to my teachers, I miss them and want to be back in school, even if we get lots of homework to do. May the Almighty destroy the corona virus and bring my school days. I want to see me go back to school and go back to school with a smile.



Aryahi Rai (IB)

PAPER

I am a sheet of paper, not a horoscope,
As I am unaware of my future episode.
Neither an autobiography nor a story-tell,
It's just a message as you would interpret.

At times I get all piled up and simply ignored,
At times I am an aero-plane in the hands of an innocent soul!
Difficult it is, to predict which would be my home –
As a paper I am free, as a book I am enclosed.
As long as I don't get soiled and crushed,
I admit it's but better to be –
Either bound or loose, an object of esteem.

I do not understand these humans,
They have a fickle instinct –
Some books they love and treasure,
Some they tear in bits,
Some are never that rated yet humbly they create,
Icon among these humans, who is known everywhere.

Many worship me as Saraswati,
They show me reverence.
Far more importance I receive,
During their occasional tests!

What a fuss majority make,
Considering learning to be a waste;
Don't you think it's a mistake?
Coz your future is at stake!

I wish you hadn't tried to be cool,
Nor act as though you were wise,
As life is a lesson and through me you learn –
Knowledge is Light.

I know, I am not a teacher
But surely a resourceful mediator
And if perceived correctly,
Will eventually lead to victory!

I am just a sheet
But can open the mighty gate;
To see what is ideal,
Far beyond the real.

Equally I can charm,
With imagination and fib
A beautiful world for those
Who have just stepped out of their crib!

All that I wish,
In this digital world –
My importance not be lost
In Apple tabs or in Firefox.

Hope my influence persists
Far beyond...
You doubt me? Then read –
John Green, Jay Shetty, Sudha Murthy or anyone.



Grishma Sontakke, XI A

Online or Offline?

Kshitij Gaikwad , VIII B



Virtual learning is a new experience of learning. When we initially started learning by the virtual method I was in Grade 7 and it was very interesting for me. However some students don't like virtual classes because they miss their friends, teachers, playground and many other things. When we used to be in our school, we played during recess. In the virtual class, some students study but some are still not comfortable with this new platform. Our classroom is now just a screen. Some students during the classes play games, watch TV and videos. We should study hard, be honest and sincere. Be regular and diligent in our work because as a student it is our responsibility to do so.

We have completed almost two years of virtual learning. We miss the environment of school which was created when we used to study together in our classroom. Now we have to sit at one place for approximately 4 to 5 hours. Many students have got spectacles owing to the online classes. When the network is poor we face a lot of problems like not being able to answer in class or join the class. We do face such problems sometimes and are unable to attend our classes altogether.

I hope and pray this pandemic ends soon and we are back in our classroom, with our friends and teachers. Studying in the classroom, playing on the basketball court during the recess, enjoying the tiffin of others and treating ourselves occasionally in the school canteen are all the perks of school life.

India, My India

God made the earth and man made confining countries
Divided continents with fancy-frozen boundaries
But with profound boundless love, I hail thee my motherland.
Before us there still floats the ideal of those splendid days of gold.
A new world in our vision wakes, a new India we shall rise to mould.
India, my India, a pride of place in our hearts you will forever hold.
Ours is a land of sages, known for bravery since ages.
None can with it compete, its diverse culture none can beat.
Whatever caste or religion, we all live here in unison.
With perennial rivers and sweet fountains, it's a land of high mountains.
It's green and fertile forests are a source of long-lived prosperity
Let us for its glory work hard, for its safety be always on guard.
India my India, who dare call thee a thing of pity's grace today
Mother of wisdom, worship, works, nurse of the spirit's inward ray
For whom many martyrs have sacrificed lives and hermits humbly pray:
"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high,
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection,"
Where dauntless daughters and brave sons, never shy from action.
I behold thee my motherland, I love thee India, my India
Thou art better than the highest heaven or Arcadia
Thou I shall love, as long as I live, and thy message of non-violence and peace
I shall give to every brother nation that lives.
India, my India oh my great motherland of might!
For thy honour, till our last breath, we shall all adversity fight.

"Compiled by"



Josanne Jennish IX B



Phalguni Gupta IX B



Krishnamoorthy Iyer, (Batch 2020-21)

'Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory' - Dr. Suess.

I very well remember my first day at school and the memories of that day are still vivid; an eight-year-old plump me was in the Principal's Office, answering his questions so that I could start my journey at the school. I joined Mount Saint Patrick Academy in Grade III, and I can still visualise us 8-year-olds running around with sheer innocence! Grades four, five and six were the best. Still with the innocence yet with some maturity, all of us were buds close to blooming! Then came grades seven, eight and nine when we were fully grown flowers! Even though I was weak at sports and was good at oratory competitions, I still participated and not just me, but my friend's sportsmanship/try-hard attitude was something admirable. Despite that tough competitiveness, outside the field, we were nothing but close buddies! Throughout all those years, I learned to co-operate with everyone, got motivated and shaped in the company of my best friends.

Though my final year did not go normally, it will be treasured by me! Of course, there was disappointment amongst all my friends and me that we could not be physically present there, crack nonsensical jokes or play around and be casual but at the end of the day, the situation was too grim for us to have done something! Personally speaking, initially, I was in utter disbelief but thanks to our supportive and friendly teachers, not just me, but also the rest of us were able to pull through! Yes, the fact that the Board Examinations got cancelled agitated me but with some convincing from my parents, I positively hoped and believed that there will surely be some solution. My final year at my school was not normal.... yes, it was a unique one that I can never forget!

My School



Riya Ambekar (Batch 2020-21)

School plays an integral role in moulding our lives. Ever since we join school, we know it will come to an end in Grade X. But when we reach Grade X, we wish we could be in school for some more time.

I still remember my first day at Mount St. Patrick Academy. I was in Grade 4. When I entered the huge campus of the school, I couldn't find my way to the class. I requested one of my seniors to show me the way to my classroom. They escorted me lovingly. I always admired my seniors and imagined myself at that stage. I wished to be a house captain one day and my dream came true in Grade IX. There was stiff competition among students for the post. The criticism sometimes made me upset but it prepared me to face extreme situations. I learned valuable lessons in leadership. I was much interested in cultural activities like dance, skit or choir. My school always gave equal importance to academics and extracurricular activities: sports, tournaments, cultural week, annual day, science and arts exhibition and various other events.

In my entire schooling, I just have one regret; I didn't get to enjoy my last year. Our batch was the first one to have online education and I hope it will be the last one. Praying for conditions to get better and schools to reopen soon. Every year I used to see farewell parties and wondered how my farewell would be? Which saree I will wear? How will we say goodbye to each other? None of it actually materialized.

We didn't even get to organise teacher's day celebration for our beloved teachers, nor could we show off being the senior most students of the school. Most importantly the board exams which we had been preparing so long were canceled.

MSPA has given me a lot to cherish. I have always received from my school, encouragement and exposure a child needs for overall development. I will always be a proud Patrician wherever I may be.

India: Challenges in Becoming a Superpower

Superpower, though the word defines itself, means growth and development in all aspects of life, of all the citizens in a country. Specifically to be a superpower means to exert influence or power on a global scale. Presently, among more than 200 countries in the world, the USA is the superpower. Followed closely by China, Russia and India. Statistics show by 2050 India could emerge as a superpower. However there are many challenges that lie ahead.

The very basic problem India will face in becoming a superpower, is fulfilling the basic needs of its vast population. 56% of its population out of 1.35 billion lack food, water, shelter, clothing, sanitation, education and healthcare. The unemployment rate also needs to be bridged urgently. Increasing export could generate more employment opportunities and this will help India to be stable.

However, to become a superpower, the second challenge is literacy. The literacy rate in India is 74.04%. The sole reason for an island country like Japan to have progressed exponentially is its 100% literacy rate. Many great minds have rightly asserted that, "Knowledge is Power" and the key in becoming a superpower. Having 30% of its population under 25 years, India has a great advantage of a young, energetic and zestful taskforce. Equipped with knowledge and enhanced with skill it will surely accelerate the process of India becoming a superpower.

A vital step in becoming a superpower is equality. When people are divided, progress is difficult. Sadly India is divided in many aspects: cast, creed, status, religion, race, region, language, gender. Though laws have been passed to abolish these ills, sadly their implementation is a far cry from expectation. This highlights the next challenge faced by India to become a superpower. Its judiciary and executive branches of administration need reformation and overhauling in drastic measures. This will go a long way to ensure the rule of the law and protection of human rights.

Another important challenge India will face in becoming a superpower is industrialisation. India now has the world's fourth largest economy but lacks global competency. "Industrialization is the backbone of the economy." It provides greater opportunity for employment in small and large scale industries bringing technological progress and overall development. However, industrialization should not be at the cost of environmental degradation.

Finally, any country on its way to become a superpower needs able leadership of capable, educated and dedicated leaders. 'If you make a dog leader of an army of lions, all the lions will fight like dogs. But if you make a lion the leader of an army of dogs, all the dogs will fight like lions.' That is why we need our politicians to be educated. This will give them insight of how to lead the largest democracy to world power supremacy.

Last but not the least it becomes the duty of every Indian citizen to do his part in nation building, contribute his share in the interest of the nation. I conclude by quoting Shashi Tharoor, "Ultimately what matters most in determining the validity of the nation is the will of its inhabitants to live and strive together."



Kusumita Madasnal, XI

Which incident made you decide what your future profession would be?

When I was 8 years old, a drunk driver hit the car my father was driving, while I was in the backseat. I have very few memories of the incident but I do faintly recall a calming but serious face, as I was gently lifted out of the car and rushed to the nearest hospital. The paramedic held my hand as we rushed to the hospital. I was in the hospital for several weeks and the same paramedic came to meet me every day. During my stay, I got to know various doctors and nurses in the hospital on a personal level. I remember being anxious about my condition but there was no sadness or fear. It seems to me that those around me, particularly my family, were more scared of what might happen to me than I was. I don't think it was innocence or ignorance but rather a trust in the abilities of my doctors.

Now that I am older, I fear death and sickness in a more intense way than I remember experiencing it as a child. My experience as a child sparked a keen interest in how we approach paediatric care, especially as it relates to psychological and emotional support to children facing serious medical conditions. It was at this moment, when I experienced the power and compassion of medicine, not only in healing but also in bringing unlikely individuals together such as adults and children, in uncommon yet profound ways. It was here, that I began to take seriously the possibility of becoming a paediatric surgeon. I know that I am up for this challenge. I have been telling myself since that dreadful car accident, I will be a paediatrician.



Nicole Ann Thomas. IX B

Dates to Remember

5/10/21:-English Recitation (I-V)

9/10/21:-Essay Writing (V-XI)

12/10/21:-Family Talent Show (I-V)

14/10/21:-Colour Day Celebration(KG Section)

20/10/21:-II Unit Test [VI-XI]

25/10/21:-II Unit Test [I-V]

29/10/21:-Diya Decoration and Lantern Making [L.KG -VIII]

9/11/21:-Solo Dance [I -XI]

11/11/21:-Quiz [VIII,IX & XI]

13/11/21:-Children's Day Celebration[LKG-XI]

15/11/21: ICSE Semester I Exam Begins

17/11/21:-Hindi Handwriting [I -VIII]

18/11/21:-Sandwich & Bhel Making Activity [LKG - V]

27/11/21:-Poster Making [VI-XI]

10/12/21:-II Term Examination Begins [LKG - XI]

21/12/21:-Christmas Celebration [LKG-XI]

December

November

OCTOBER