

April 2010

Holy Name Times



Principal's Note

The HRD Minister, Kapil Sibal recently said, "The health, education & creative abilities of our children will determine the well-being and strength of our nation. Education is the key to progress."

And what a wonderful nation building task we are all involved in! As I look back at my last year as a Principal, I am overwhelmed with a feeling of both pride and love at the gradual unfolding and blossoming of the children in a variety of different ways. I have realized that, with encouragement and appreciation, as well as with guidance and discipline, every child can maximize his potential.

Today, with the willing co-operation of our able parents and the unstinting dedication of our wonderful teachers, the school has not only grown strong roots but far reaching branches as well. Evident at all times is the whole-hearted enthusiasm of our talented children.

On the academic front, we began with cent percent results in the S.S.C examinations. In the sports arena, we won the under-16 football cup. In the field of extra-curricular activities we won four prizes at the AB ward science exhibition, stood first at the Sawan Talent Competition and then finally topped this performance by standing first at the All Mumbai Rhythm Talent Show. Through all this our aim has always been not to identify winners, but to make winners out of ordinary children.

The Annual Day, celebrating the festivals of India was received very well and was a resounding success. So too was the Golden Jubilee Celebration of our state of Maharashtra. During both these events, the creativity of the participants as well as the commitment of our teachers was clearly evident.

This year the Sports Day too was a grand affair, with aerobics, pyramids, karate show and many other creative sports. I especially enjoyed the Sports Day for the K.G. children and the one organized exclusively for slow learners, handicapped and street children.

We have many more miles to go, explorations to undertake, numerous discoveries to make. We are still growing, learning, reaching out. But the reasons we have come so far lies in our deep faith in God, our team spirit and the prayers and goodwill of our well-wishers, especially the needy who we have reached out to. I am convinced that the more we support the poor, the greater will the blessing showered upon us.

While enforcing the right to education act, our Prime Minister said, "If we nurture our children with the right education, India's future as a strong and prosperous country is secure." We, at Holy Name have certainly worked towards that. Our classrooms have been converted into technology enabled smart classrooms equipped with interactive signboard system with a P.C. connected to a knowledge center inside the school. Our teachers will be able to compliment their traditional method of teaching in almost all school subjects with well-researched digital lessons. This will lead to a whole new learning experience for our students, where abstract and difficult concepts will become clear leading to better academic performance.

We thank all of you who have participated in this year's journey and pray you are with us through our trials and our triumphs as we forge ahead in the coming year, with constant trust in the Lord and continued faith in ourselves.

Fr. Michael Pinto

Annual Day

18th and 19th of December marks the great event, the Annual

Day of Holy Name High School. Id, Diwali and Christmas were highlighted, showing celebration in the right spirit.

Four hundred students staged with lovely Qawalli and Santa Dances, revealing a message to the parents who carried with them the real meaning of festivals, i.e. festivals are meant not only for wearing new clothes, praying, preparing and eating good food, but the essence of every festival is to love, share and care.



At the Annual Day programme of our school, five friends belonging to different religious backgrounds showed the audience the real way to celebrate festivals. Sana, a Muslim who makes a project on the Hindu festival of Diwali, Vidya, a Hindu girl who illustrates the beautiful festival Id through her project. Dilip, the most intelligent of the lot, explains the essence of each festival. And the most adorable, Lucky Singh, loves Christmas and Santa Claus and Shawn who explains the true message of Christmas.



With lights in their hands, dispelling the darkness around, our diya dancers were dressed in stunning red costumes. Their outfits represented the colourful Indian Culture and the diya was a symbol of dispelling darkness.



Success of winning the Football Cup was shown in the form of a dance where our students dressed in their football colours, danced to express their joy of winning the football match.

The young Qawwals' enticed the audience and left them spellbound. Their performance was entertaining and their effort proved, 'Hum Kissi Se Kum Nahin'. We thank our students for their stupendous performance.



The famous dance 'Bhangda' of the state of Punjab - the wheat granary of India, brought lot of cheer to the audience. The dancers dressed in pink and purple attire danced with great vigour and skill much to the delight of the viewers. The Rang De Basants reminded us of the freedom fighter Bhagat Singh.



The ever charming nativity tableau was followed by a lively foot tapping rendition to the song 'Snow is falling'. The girls were stunning in their red tops and black skirts while the boys looked dapper in their orange and black ensembles. The stage was then invaded by a host of cheerful dancing Santas.



The nativity scene came alive with students enacting the birth of Our Lord in the manger. Seventy children swayed and sang in harmony the carol 'Mary's Boy Child'. While the older students sang 'Felis Navidad', the younger ones danced merrily to its tune. The choir looked sparkling with their Christmas colours and the angels proclaimed the Lord's coming. The drummer boy announced the coming of Jesus Christ bringing 'Peace', 'Joy' and 'Love' to the nation. The live band with Joseph Allan on the keyboard and Joshwa on the drums added charm to the spirit of Christmas.

Interact Club visits

During the Christmas vacations, the Interact members visited Colaba slums and distributed clothes, food and money. They visited a few hospitals, the Clergy Home and Old Age Home where they distributed 'Get Well' cards, sweets and flowers. Reaching out to the poor, old, needy and sick people was a unique and fulfilling experience for the Interact club members.

On the Feast of St. Joseph, the patron of workers, our Interact Club members organised a meaningful Domestic Day for all our school peons. Songs, skits, few dances and gifts for the peons added joy to the celebration.

Women's Day

Women's Day was celebrated at Holy Name High School with great pomp & cheer. The student council had a lovely programme for all of them. A skit & a dance was performed by our school children showing how women play different roles and still are very strong to carry out the struggle in different life situations.

Snacks were served and each woman was given a gift as a token of appreciation. Free mehendi service was rendered to all women who attended the programme. Special awards were given to women having physically challenged children. We had spot prizes and games like 'ringing the articles', 'Draping the Saree' etc.



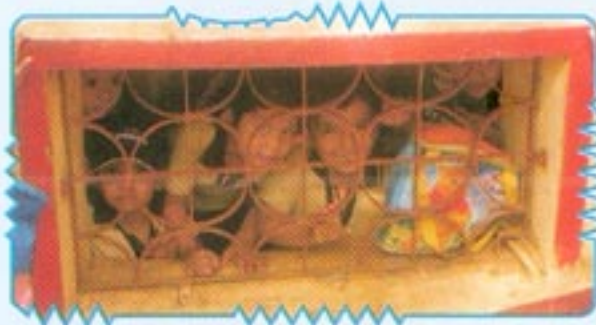
Sports Day

On the 4th of February, games were organized for the special and physically impaired children. It was good to see them participate whole heartedly and enjoy themselves. The games included outdoor as well as indoor, all organised by the interact club. Gifts, Prizes and Snacks were distributed to all participants.

The 57th Annual Athletic Meet was held at the University Ground on the 17th of Feb 2010. Our Manager Rev. Fr. Ceaser D'Mello inaugurated the meet. The highlight of the meet were the karate display, the Pyramid act and the aerobics. 'The Blue House' bagged most of the prizes including the prize for March Past and thus became the overall winner at the meet.

Picnic

The tiny tots of the Jr. and Sr. K.G. went to the Kamla Nehru Park for the Annual Children's day out on the 12th and 13th of March respectively. The little ones enjoyed the bus ride singing and dancing. At the park the children shared their snacks. They posed for photographs near the old maids shoe. They also enjoyed going over the small bridges which led to the children's park. The children played on the slides, swings and jumble gym.



The Primary & Secondary students enjoyed themselves at the B.K. resort pool, playing different water games. After lunch, the teachers and students paid a short visit to the mini-zoo, followed by a ride on the mini-train. Then a chilling ice-cream was served. This picnic was indeed a very beautiful experience for both teachers and students, which helped strengthen the bonds of love & affection.



The much awaited Staff Picnic to the 'Panoramic Resort' at Panvel, on the 27th of March, 2010 was a hit.

We spent quality time with one another and the cool water sprinklers falling in our soft supple bodies, was a great refreshing spa, at the end of the second term.

We were so close to nature. We felt blessed to be in its midst. We came home with tasty foods and fresh vegetables that were sold for a song.

Pre-Primary Sports

The Pre-Primary Sports meet was held on the 25th of Feb, 2010. The meet began with an oath and prayer, followed by the releasing of balloons in the air. Events like the Circus Clowns, Cannibal Hunt, Kangaroo Hop and Car Racing stole the show. The parents and teacher's race were the other attractions.



Adieu to Xth Std.

Holy Name bid adieu to the students of Std. Xth on 18th March. The traditionally dressed students were warmly welcomed with the school band and showered with flowers. The program started by invoking God's blessings followed by cutting of cake by the class monitors and class teachers of Std. Xth. Many students shared their joyous moments in school. They thanked the Principal, teachers, non-teaching and support staff for their help and love. Master Aslam Shaikh and Miss Rupali Suratkarneere were chosen as Mr. and Miss Holy Name 2010. Shalini Teacher spoke and advised the students to follow their heart and to be focused on achieving their dreams. At the end, each student was given a farewell gift.

As Maharashtra completes fifty glorious years of its creation, we organized a programme in the school hall. The hall spoke for our state with its customs, culture, songs, dances and cuisine, on March 20, 2010. The programme was marked by the presence of veteran actress Shashikala, Sr Arena - Principal of Convent of Jesus and Mary (Fort) and Ms Olga Tellis Editor of Asian Age who graced the occasion. They judged the various exhibits. Students presented Maharashtra with a message of 'Unity in Diversity'. It was an experience to remember.



Students of Sr. K.G. & Std. IV were given a farewell with a mini convocation ceremony. The school wished & prayed that they continue to carry the torch of wisdom so as to raise the school to greater heights.

