



# The SMC Voice

St. Mary's Convent Inter College

CRAFTED BY US, CURATED FOR YOU — THE STUDENTS' VOICE GOES DIGITAL!

## Vision and Voice

Dear Readers,

After the successful publication of the first issue, we were beyond excited to start working on this month's publication.

From celebrations to travels to goodbyes, we've had it all. But what we witnessed the most? The creative side of the students. The month was filled with creativity, all which was initiated for a good cause.

The highlight of the month, however, was the Principal's Day. We'd like to dedicate this month's "Vision and Voice" to our respected Principal, Reverend Sister Lissy, who tirelessly strives to bring positive changes in our school propelling it to greater heights. She gives us her love and care, and puts her faith in us, which means more to us than anything.

We've said this before, and we'll say it again a thousand times more if needed. This e-bulletin is only possible because of Sister, who has supported us and never doubted our ability. With the gentleness of a saint, she has guided us and attended to us, for which we will be eternally grateful.

Thank you, Sister Lissy, for everything that you are doing for us and SMCIC. We are grateful for you and all the efforts you are taking for us and will continue to take for us. We promise to meet the expectations you have, and to be the finest versions of ourselves.

Yours sincerely,  
Aayona Dwivedi &  
Seejal Malang

## Highlights of the issue

- Students' Orientation Programme 2025 for Classes 9 to 12
- Harmony in Action – Report on the FMW, JPIC and USM Meeting
- Principal's Day
- Farewell Ceremony
- Seminar for Legal Studies Students
- Meeting for Parents regarding USM Leadership Training at Indore
- Story-Telling Competition
- Choral Recitation Competition
- J.P.I.C. Plantation Drive
- NCC Special Class
- USM Leadership Training Programme 2025
- Paper Bag Making Activity by ECO Committee of Class 6
- Felicitation Ceremony
- Inter-School Events including,
  1. Frank Anthony Debate Competition
  2. ASISC Debate Competition
  3. Inter-School Stellar Showcase
- "Our Story" – feature on Venerable Mary Ward

*"DREAM, DREAM, DREAM. DREAMS TRANSFORM INTO THOUGHTS AND THOUGHTS RESULT IN ACTION."*

—Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam



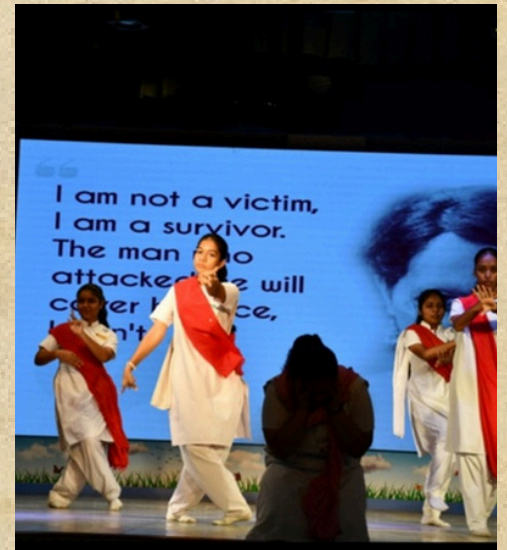
# LONG ASSEMBLIES *of the Month*



*"BE SUCH AS YOU APPEAR AND APPEAR SUCH AS YOU ARE."*

*-Mother Mary Ward*





*"BE THE CHANGE THAT YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD."  
-Mahatma Gandhi*



# EVENTS Of the Month

JULY 2025



## *Students' Orientation Programme 2025 for Classes 9 to 12*

On the 1st of July, 2025, the school organised an Orientation session for the senior classes. The spokesperson who imparted his wisdom was Reverend Father, Suresh Matthew, OFM. He is a motivational speaker and a guide to scores of mentors, parents and students.

Father Matthews spoke about several issues affecting teenagers such as, substance abuse and social media addiction. To make the session more insightful, Father Suresh took the help of numerous examples and experiences that he himself was a witness to. This helped the students to grasp the message easily. By the end of the session, the students had understood the depth of the negative impacts, and how deep it affects our brains and how much it hinders progress in our daily life. The Orientation Session concluded on a successful note.

## *Harmony in Action- Report on The FMW, JPIC and USM Meeting*

On the 11th of July, 2025, a joint meeting of Friends of Mary Ward (FMW), Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation (JPIC) and the Universal Solidarity Movement (USM) was held in the Lower Concert Hall. The meeting commenced with an introduction by Ma'am Zarreen, as the room filled with an air of purpose. It was followed by a prayer, led by Ma'am Sanchita. The meeting unfolded under the guidance of our Principal, Reverend Sister Lissy, where every movement's motto was displayed not as words, but as a way of life.

FMW: "Be seekers of truth and doers of Justice."

JPIC: "Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God."

USM: "One God, one world, one human family."

The vision and aim of these activities was to nurture young hearts into peaceful, just and united citizens of the world. To reflect upon the gathering, a chorus of Sebastian Temple's hymn, "Make me a Channel of Your Peace" was sung. The hymn sent out a powerful message, reminding us that the real honour lies in all the selfless deeds we do, whether it is loving endlessly, or helping someone with wanting nothing in return. It is about the strength in consoling others and in understanding, rather than being understood.

The meeting ended on a note of silence. No applause this time, just silence. The silence of reflection, of commitment and of quiet strength, that is ready to bloom.

---

*"ARISE, AWAKE, AND STOP NOT TILL THE GOAL IS REACHED."*

*-Swami Vivekananda*





## Principal's Day

On the 5th of July, 2025, Principal's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and reverence.

The celebration began with a short prayer assembly, seeking The Almighty's blessings upon us. It was then followed by a cultural programme that took place in the Upper Concert Hall. An assembly, beautiful and thematic, portrayed Sister's life as a tree, deep-rooted in faith, strong in values and ever-giving in love and service.

The teachers, students and the supportive staff, all took part in celebrating the special day, displaying the affection and respect each one feels towards her. The teachers presented a meaningful dance drama while the co-workers performed a 'Nukkad Natak' which added a touch of creativity and humour to the event.

The day ended with Reverend Sister Lissy's words of gratitude.



## Farewell Ceremony

On the morning of 10th July, 2025, the entire school with deep gratitude, fond memories and quiet sadness, bid goodbye to our dearest Reverend Sister Regina and Ma'am Rohini, whose presence in our lives has been a blessing. Their journey with the school is a true reflection of God's grace.

The day started with a Prayer Service, with prayers, heartfelt parting messages and sacred hymns that expressed gratitude and sought the Lord's blessings. Thereafter a vibrant cultural programme was organised by the students of Class 8 in the Upper Concert Hall. The programme started with a graceful welcome, followed by mellifluously sung songs and well choreographed dance performances. Everything was well planned and executed.

The highlight of the event was the beautiful dance drama that came to life on stage after weeks of rehearsal and hard work. Then, things got a little misty while our hearts grew full as Ma'am Rohini shared warm words of goodbye.

The Farewell came to an end with Rev Sr. Lissy's message, filled with gratitude and gratefulness towards Sr. Regina and Ma'am Rohini, followed by a get together of the teachers and Sisters, for a festal lunch.

*"IMAGINATION IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN KNOWLEDGE. FOR KNOWLEDGE IS LIMITED, WHEREAS IMAGINATION EMBRACES THE ENTIRE WORLD."*

*-Albert Einstein*



## Story-Telling Competition

On the 11th of July, 2025, a Story Telling Competition was held for the children of class 1. The young students narrated value-based stories. Story-telling is a way of developing creativity, expression and improving the students' communication skills, encouraging them to step into an imaginary world and to help them to be confident enough to express this imagination. It also helps them overcome stage fright which we all have experienced as kids. This competition was a thoughtful step taken, not only in the sense of a competitive spirit, but also for the overall impact it would make on the growing minds.

On the 14th July, 2025, the same competition was held for Class 2, where the students narrated stories on moral values. The young story tellers used props and displayed the real treasures of life. Their narration included stories of kindness, courage, honesty and all the goodness of the world. The winner was announced by the Headmistress, Reverend Sister Martha, who graced everyone with her valuable presence and an inspirational message, thus motivating the students for greater achievements in the future.



## Seminar For Legal Studies Students

On the 14th of July, 2025, a special seminar was organised for the Legal Studies students. Under the guidance of our Principal, Reverend Sister Lissy, and our Vice Principal, Reverend Sister Namita and Ma'am Manisha Sharma, this seminar was a success. The purpose of the seminar was to make the students, who have opted for the subject, familiar with the vast scope, future and possibilities, in the field of law. The session started with a warm welcome offered to the guest speaker, Mr. Sanket Bagla, Reverend Sisters and the attendees. A wide range of career options for the students after 12th, including litigation and judiciary to corporate law, academics, public policy and more were discussed. The speaker also talked about the Entrance Exams and their difficulty levels.

The seminar concluded successfully, as it was both inspiring and intellectually stimulating as well.

## Meeting for Parents regarding USM leadership training at Indore



On the 14th of July, 2025, a short meeting was held for the parents whose wards were participating in the Universal Solidarity Movement's 7-day Leadership Training Program, at Indore.

The session started with a prayer, followed by the introduction of the resource person, Ms. Sonakshi Arora, an ex-student and someone who is a living proof of the power of such a transformational journey. Parents were informed about the itinerary and the training, their wards would be going through. The training would be of an intensive and transformative nature, shaping the students for a better future. The meeting was not only for informative purposes, but also for gaining the trust and faith of the parents.

Our Principal, Reverend Sister Lissy, briefed them about the aim of the training session.

At the end of the session, an open forum was created for the parents to ask any doubts or queries that they might have, followed by expressing a heartfelt gratitude towards Ms. Sonakshi for enlightening the gathering.

*"NOT ALL OF US CAN DO GREAT THINGS. BUT WE CAN DO SMALL THINGS  
WITH GREAT LOVE."*

*-Mother Teresa*





## Choral Recitation Competition

Various Choral Recitation competitions took place in our school for different classes. The onset of these competitions began on the 22nd of July, 2025, when the first Choral Recitation for class 4 was held. The following day, on 23rd July, 2025, the same event was held for class 5. All the sections participated with great enthusiasm and coordinated efforts, bringing out the true essence of poetry. The third Choral Recitation Competition, "Ars Poetica", was held on the 24th of July for class 6. On the 25th of July, 2025, the Choral Recitation Competition for class 7 was held. On the 26th of July, 2025, the last but not the least, was the Choral Recitation Competition for the junior most class, the students of class 3, who recited patriotic-themed poems, celebrating the spirit of freedom, unity and pride for our nation.

All the classes performed beautifully, each section filled the hall with emotions, clear voices and powerful expressions. Not only did these competitions send a surge of emotions through the veins of the audience, but it brought justice to the main motive behind the competitions; to enlighten the students about the importance of Poetry, to promote teamwork and to help them to be more confident.

Every section of every standard performed impeccably, A different bench of judges for each class, selected the winners. All of the competitions were also witnessed by our Principal, Reverend Sister Lissy, who gave pointers for every class, to remember for future competitions.

## USM Leadership Training Program 2025

From the 20th of July, 2025, to the 26th of July, 2025, 30 students from classes 9 and 11 of SMC, Prayagraj, accompanied by Ma'am Garima Sinha, Ma'am Maumita Chatterjee and Sir Anurag Sharma, participated in a Leadership Training Programme in Indore. This Leadership Program Training in Indore

aims at promoting leadership qualities in the participants. When the students returned back to the school on the 26th of July, 2025, the graduation ceremony was held. The chief guest of the ceremony, Dr. Piyush Joshi, graced the gathering with his presence. The students presented their insights and learnings, the positive changes they went through and the highlights of their training. They also shared the resolutions and

the ways that they could apply these changes throughout the course of their lives.

The students were awarded with certificates. Himani Bose of class 9 was honored with the Honesty Award.



*"FAITH IS TAKING THE FIRST STEP EVEN WHEN YOU DON'T SEE THE WHOLE STAIRCASE."*

*-Martin Luther King Jr.*



## J.P.I .C. Plantation Drive

On the 16th of July, 2025, the JPIC members of SMC participated in a Plantation Drive. They travelled to various places of Prayagraj which were in severe need of new plants. Students from classes 9 to 12, along with five teachers, became part of this thoughtful initiative. This opportunity was gracefully provided to us by our Principal, Rev. Sr. Lissy, Our Vice Principal, Rev. Sr. Namita and Rev. Sr. Regina, who made the arrangements for the school bus and ensured that the trip to these venues was smooth and safe.



## Paper Bag making Activity by ECO Committee of class 6

A Paper Bag Making Activity was held on the 26th of July, 2025. The activity was for class 6, and it was organised by the Eco Committee. The purpose of this activity was to use old newspapers which are usually thrown away as waste, and to reuse them for various purposes. The paper bags were then given away to the local vendors.



## NCC Special Class



On the 25th and 26th of July, 2025, special classes were conducted for the NCC cadets by P.I. Vinod Sir. The cadets were trained in check drill, general salute, nikat line, khuli line and other commands. Sir Vinod ensured that the Cadets focused mainly on their responses, cooperation and coordination. This resulted in great learning, and made the cadets enthusiastic about gaining more knowledge.



*"ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH."*

*-Helen Keller*



## *Felicitation Ceremony*

On the 18th of July, 2025, a felicitation ceremony was held to honour the meritorious students who appeared for this year's ISC and ICSE Board Examinations.

Class of 12-C took the responsibility of making the day unforgettable, which they did not fail at. The topic for the long assembly was "QR Code to Success: Scan Within- A tenacity and Triumph". The celebration started with a meaningful prayer, followed by a reading of the holy scriptures, that grounded the occasion in faith and reflection. The highlight of the assembly was a dance drama, centering around a character Ayesha, a scholar, battling through her distractions, not being affected by the powerful lure of procrastination and the silent hustle and with each obstacle she overcame, she scanned one distorted part of the QR code. By the end of the long dance drama, the code was scanned and Ayesha reached success.

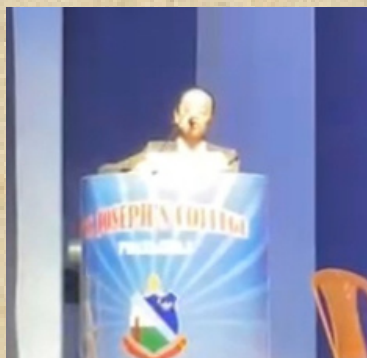
The end of the long Assembly was followed by the distribution of the Mementos and Certificates to the proud students of class 10 and 12, by our respected Manager, Reverend Sister Sumita, Vice Principal, Reverend Sister Namita and our esteemed Principal, Reverend Sister Lissy. An inspiring address by our school topper followed, where she shared her words of wisdom and guidance. Scholarships were also offered to the meritorious students.

The event came to an end as our Principal imparted words of encouragement and reminded us that success is not merely about certificates or praises, but about what leads up to the very moment.



## *Inter-School Events*

Over the course of July 2025, students from Classes 9 to 12 participated in various activities, including the FRANK ANTHONY MEMORIAL ALL-INDIA INTER-SCHOOL DEBATE COMPETITION 2025, the ASISC DEBATE COMPETITION, and the INTER-SCHOOL STELLAR SHOWCASE. Our school emerged victorious across these competitions, with the students bringing immense pride to the institution through their achievements.



---

*"EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO  
CHANGE THE WORLD."*

*-Nelson Mandela*



# Our Foundress, Venerable Mary Ward's Story.

**"Women in Time to Come Will Do Great Things".**

Was the quote given by our Foundress, Venerable Mary Ward, and we have embedded that quote in our minds, because ultimately, that's what we were born to follow.

Mother Mary Ward was born at a time of great conflict for Catholics in England. She was born in Ripon and her first words were, 'Jesus', which was a sign of things to come. In 1595, her family home got burned down and as their house burned, Mary and her sisters knelt down and asked for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The children were saved by their father. It was when she was 15, that Mary Ward felt the call of leading a religious life.

She entered the Convent of Poor Charles, at Saint Omer, in France as a lay sister in 1606 and the following year, she founded the Convent of Poor Charles at Gravelines, a house for English women.

At the age of 24, she found herself surrounded by a band of devoted companions to work under her guidance and with their help and trust, she established a religious community at Saint-Omer and opened a school for girls.

There were other new startling differences between the new institute and existing congregations for women; freedom from: enclosure, the obligation of choir, wearing a religious habit, and from the jurisdiction of the local bishop. Moreover her scheme was proposed at a time when there was division amongst English Catholics, and the fact that it borrowed so much from the Society of Jesus (itself an object of suspicion and hostility in many quarters) increased the mistrust. Measures recognized as acceptable in modern times were untried in hers, and her opponents called for a statement to be made by Church authorities. As early as in 1615, the Jesuit theologians Francisco Suárez and Leonardus Lessius were asked for their opinion on the new institute; both praised its way of life. Lessius held that local episcopal authorisation sufficed to render it a religious body whereas Suárez maintained that its aim, organization, and methods, being without precedent in the case of women, required the sanction of the Holy See.

Yours sincerely,  
Aayona Dwivedi &  
Seejal Malang