



HILLOCK HERALD

NEWSLETTER

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Director's Message



It is with great delight and proud to present you the first volume of Girideepam Bethany school's news bulletin, "Hillock Herald", with the theme of illuminating achievements of Girideepam schools, that provide an insight into the ethos and revels in capturing the exhilarating flashback of the events, its illustrious journey marked with diligence and aspirations and the accolades earned during the year 2021-22. Hillock Herald, moreover, showcases and applauds the phenomenal journey of our mentors.

As a leading lamp on the mountain, Girideepam Bethany Schools are well-known for its value based and quality education to all. GBCS continues its legacy for the last twenty six years and GBHSS is successfully accomplishing

forty eight years of its journey with the motto, **"In pursuit of Excellence."** It is the goal we strive hard to inscribe in the hearts of everyone who come across the corridors of our schools. At this juncture, I would like to recall the mission statement which Girideepam Bethany schools were established for, **"we strongly believe that learning is accomplished through effective teaching in a caring environment."** **The vision of Girideepam Bethany is, "to transform persons into socially committed, spiritually inspired, responsible citizens, well equipped in wisdom and adequately balanced to advance the profession of education for the well being of mankind."** We ensure that a student community is empowered with the qualities of increasing in knowledge; growing in wisdom, infusing of feeling of good will, compassion, joy and generosity, thus emerge as integrated personalities.

It is indeed to be thankful to God for the blessings and the favours received through the intercession of our founder, Servant of God, Mar Ivanios. I sincerely thank Very. Rev. Dr. George Joseph Ayyaneth OIC, the Provincial Superior and the Provincial Council for their constant support and encouragement. With gratitude and love, I memorize the dedicated and sincere service of all Rev. Fathers over

the past years. With gratitude and love, let's commit all to memory, Rev. Fathers, teachers, non-teaching staff, PTA members, parents and students who have been working zealously for fulfilling this great vision, moulding the future generations through value based and quality education, as a reality.

Through Hillock Herald, we are pleased to share with you the messages from the stalwarts of Girideepam Schools and luminaries from the field of education. You will also discover the wealth of contribution from students and the faculty in the form of interesting write-ups. It also heralds a splendour of articles, poems, pictures and images with the pages that speaks volumes about the enriching events, activities and celebrations held in the precincts of Girideepam Bethany Schools. I also acknowledge and appreciate the assiduous team of teachers and students who have endeavoured to the hilt to the task at hand for the days to ensure that "Hillock Herald" stays current and vibrant.

FR. JOSEPH NOBLE
KANNAMKULAM OIC
Director, Girideepam Bethany
Institutions &
Principal, GBCS

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF GIRIDEEPAM BETHANY CENTRAL SCHOOL 2021-2022

'Every good and perfect gift is from above coming down from the father of heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.'

James 1:17

The academic year commenced on June 1, 2021 in online mode. Rev. Fr. Joseph Noble OIC took charge as the new Principal of GBCS and the Director of Girideepam Bethany Institutions.

Initially it was a switch over from a real classroom to online and then we continued with hybrid classrooms. Teachers were trained on to enhance their online strategies by a CBSE Resource Person Mr. Joji Paul. A webinar on Emotional Equanimity by Ms. Aarti Rajaratnam was attended by the teachers.

For all important days like World Environment Day,

Bethany Day, Independence Day, Teacher's day, Gandhi Jayanthi, Children's Day, and all our celebrations like Onam and Christmas - videos were prepared under the guidance of a team of teachers. Through our home media You-tube channel G-Buzz we streamed our colourful videos.

A 3day virtual camp 'UNARVU' initiated by the SEED Club of our school was held from 27-29 May, 2021. The programme included motivational talks by eminent personalities, healthy tips for a better lifestyle by renowned doctors and an interesting segment on tickling the taste buds.

Atal Tinkering Lab is a state-of-the art space established in our school to foster curiosity and innovation in young minds across the country through the 21st century tools and technologies such as Internet of Things, 3D printing, rapid prototyping tools, robotics, miniaturized electronics, do-it-yourself kits and many more. Under the ATL lab many programmes have been conducted for our students. Many of our students participated in the Techosa Robotics programme conducted by Saint Gits College of Engineering, Pathamuttom. This 18-Week Program was based on the topics 'How Google Works, How Internet works, working of Battery, Camera, Fan and projector, how touch screen works, craft works etc.

Jenit Mariya of class 9-B participated in twelve sessions of the Summer Innovation Programme conducted by Bibox and presented her project in Social Media platform.

She also participated in Dussehra to Diwali Innovation Challenge conducted by Bi-box and came up as the winner. Our Young Warriors Issa Mariam Mathew, Dominic Iype, Sania Ann Mathew, Nandagopan P.S, Aina Sajan, Jenit Mariya, Sreyas Saji and Arya .G. Nair were awarded for successfully completing five tasks in the Young Warrior Nxt Programme anchored by Yuwaah and UNICEF. Archa B, Aleena Elma John and Mathew Tom were also active participants to represent our school through five engaging and informative art based sessions.

Our students wholeheartedly took part in many programmes and activities to promote the Indian ideology of Unity in Diversity as part of the CBSE initiative, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. Class assemblies were conducted in online platform throughout the year. In association with the Children's day celebration an online painting competition for the students of classes 1 to 5 and English essay writing competition for the students of classes 6- 8.

Mrs. Maya Susan Jacob, our school counselor conducted counseling sessions for all sections of the school for both students and parents.

As the school's unprecedented journey in 2021-22 is drawing to a close, let us all look forward to a fruitful academic year with a new set of dreams and aspirations. Optimism is a happiness magnet, a powerful force of reassurance. So stay positive and be led by the dreams in your heart.

Editorial

And then you say, the river never stopped flowing. Do you think the stones in its path stopped it or pushed it further? And what about the stones? Weren't they polished in the whole process? This is the time of resurgence or is it because even amidst these two years of uncertainty we all never ceased to be a family. They were hard times indeed. After emerging from those times to a new horizon now, ask yourself this question "Are you the river or the glazing polished stone?". Either a both, we have emerged as glazing and unstoppable as we have ever been..... Now as the dust has settled it's time again to share all the love, all the bottled up stories. Warm regards!!!

Editorial Team

The quotients beyond IQ



Maya Susan Jacob, Counseling Psychologist

Parents often fail to nurture the adversity quotient (AQ), Social quotient (SQ) and emotional quotient (EQ) of their children beyond the intelligence quotient (IQ). EQ determines the character of a child. The mindfulness in expressing joy, love, pain and anger is the basis of EQ. The intensity with which these emotions are expressed at home and in society varies from person to person. Therefore, parents should set the right example to enable children to express their emotions in a balanced manner. SQ determines ones ability to socialize. AQ on the other hand, determines ones ability to encounter failures. Children should understand that life is a mix of joy and despair and success and failure.

Overall, children should be taught to learn from their failures rather than thinking of failures as the end of the road.



Girideepam during the pandemic and after

Eshaan Sulphiker 5 A

Girideepam, this is my school. It is located in a beautiful place. I go to school on foot because it is close to my home. When I get to school I run and go to class and am happy with my friends. Play with friends at break. Food will be shared.

But when COVID-19 came, it was all gone. The school was forced to close. With that, the study became online. Not being able to see teachers and friends in person and not being able to sit with them. Was not a good thing. I have been studying like that for about 2 years.

But with God's blessings, the school reopened last November. With the consent of the parents came a provision that children who wished to go to school could go. I was very happy. Again I'm back to my school. But what I saw in my school, which opened after this epidemic, was a sad sight. There were only 5 students in my class which had a total of 25 students. The rest of the children are still online. I'm really sad. Sanitizer and thermometer in the hands of teachers who were walking with the text book and marker pen. The thermometer



is now in the hand of PT miss who was walking with the whistle. No assembly, no PT, no other activities. Can't go to the ground to play. There is no noise of the children at school. Where there was a lot of noise and commotion from the children when they normally left school, now there is only silence.

Now my prayer is to somehow get this corona virus out of the world. Do you know why? I go to my favourite school with all my friends to study and play.

January 26 Wednesday 8.30 pm

Richa Mariam Vipin, 5 C

Today was a sunny day. Everything went on well. Memories of my Girideepam comes to me. I am proud to be a Girideepian.

I used to enjoy all the activities at my school. The rainy school days in June! I still remember the proud moment of grabbing a prize during the reading week in the June of 2019. I used to move vibrantly in the campus with my friends and teachers. I miss the skating classes. The little cravings for the canteen. The youth festivals were unforgettable experiences for me followed by sports days. The impressions created in me during my school days help me these days. The excursion memories still linger in my heart and mind. As a child of 8, it was my first experience on Kochi metro and cruise ship. I still use my pencil pouch which I got from kitex during the visit. Now I realize how I used to enjoy my hectic school days. Covid-19 has brought a drastic change in my life style and school days.

These days I attend on – line classes. I am thankful to the school authorities for arranging continual classes. The on-line competitions, meetings, celebrations all

were new experiences for me. Just because there's no school, doesn't mean there's no home work. I was very busy the past year with my studies and activities. Thanks to Girideepam. Each time my books go to Girideepam for book correction, I pass my love too.

Its bed time. I have to wake up early. There's no point in thinking about the bygone days eventhough they all are cherishing memories. Girideepam has helped me to live the new normal. I wish to be at Girideepam tomorrow morning.

This too shall pass. !!!!

A memoir of my childhood evenings

Nia Maria Jis, 8B

During my tender years. I used to hangout with my parents or grandparents to explore the pristine countryside of my neighbourhood on almost every evening. One of my favourite spot was a lush green paddy field, a perfect ecosystem where I could enjoy the nature in its fullest form. I was always excited to visit there as it gave me immense pleasure and enthusiasm to watch the flora and fauna over there. It was one of my treasured pastime activities in those days.

Paying a visit to the paddy field opens up a vista of natural sceneries and picturesque landscapes. The paddy field was stretched across then, hectares of land and we could enjoy cool and gentle breeze while walking at its edges. There was a footpath on the northern side of the field from where we could appreciate the panoramic view of the field. Usually, rice crops were sown there at the beginning of the first rain, during the advent of the south-west monsoon and harvested from the third week of September to October. Once the rice crops were harvested, some of the fields were left as it is without any kind of cultivation and those fields were used for rearing livestock. While in others, pulses were cultivated to enrich the fertility of the soil. It was a great sight to watch different kind of birds including local birds such

as crows, cranes, mynas, kingfishers, cormorants, ducks and some migratory birds. No words can describe how enchanting it was for me to listen to the song of the wind, talking to the whispering trees, feeling the love of flowers and dancing with the dancing leaves while outdoors.

Another captivating sight over there was a large pond amid the field, which was a rich aquatic ecosystem, where we could watch fishes, turtles, frogs, snakes and ducks. It was a visual delight for me to watch a raft of ducks wadling on the pond and fluttering of butterflies and dragon flies in the skies. Sometimes it was a great scene to watch fishing by the local people. I still cannot forget the healthy memories and excitement that I felt when touching goats, cows and buffaloes for the first time as a toddler while they were grazing on those fields. While at the paddy field, I never realised how fast the time flew and I enjoyed each and every moment.

In a nutshell, spending life in the country side with nature was really a great means of relaxation, learning experience and a sweet memory that I would love to cherish in my whole life. As a child, it was really a boon for me to be with the nature to enjoy its serenity and marvel.

Girideepam in Times of COVID

Hanna Sabu

CCOVID 19 pandemic has caused abrupt and profound changes in the educational system all over the world. It caused substantial losses and inequalities in learning. School closures and online classes have also imperiled, children's overall wellbeing and development, not just their learning.

Since last two years, our school along with other schools have moved away from its basic objective and was forced

to shut down partially or completely. No physical classes, no assemblies, no games, no sports, no dance or music. Thus we have adapted ourselves to a virtual world that led to isolation from the reality. But the online classes has made parents appreciate teachers, their skills and their invaluable role in student wellbeing. We have learned to use many new technologies in our learning process our school has done many commentable activities in the midst of this pandemic.

Girideepam After COVID

Aina Sajan, VIII B

Now since the government has given the permission to reopen the schools, our school has also reopened. It is the start of a life determining journey that has broadly followed the same shape and rhythm for generations. Our school Girideepam Bethany need to have classrooms handled by teachers who delivered lessons that started and ended with a bell. School is a space for developing the skill of associating, skill of communicating, skill of collaborating, skill of arranging and more.

I would say, whether offline or online Girideepam has always been the best and will continue to be in the coming years.

“It’s the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge” – Albert Einstein.

Learning Together Even when we were Apart

The echoes of a classroom lazily singing ‘ Good Morning Miss.....’ are now no more. The outbreak of the deadly coronavirus had brought an enormous effect on the global economy and also shaken up the education sector, further resulted in schools shut all across the world. As a result, education has changed dramatically with the distinctive rise of e-learning, remote forms of teaching primarily through digital platforms. Students from nursery to senior secondary were undergoing schooling on a digital platform from June 2020.

In the case of KG students, they seem to have a very entertaining two hours of daily classes, but the attention span of younger ones is very low as they get distracted easily, so it’s much more difficult for both the teachers and parents to make them attend the classes.

But primary school students were struggling to understand the subjects taught as compared to high school students. The number of assignments given was making them spend more ‘digital time’ searching on the internet and most of the complained about the boredom at home and how they missed their school and friends.

Many of the students faced shortage lack of gadgets to attend the classes and also to share them with their siblings. But now students are getting used to this change and trying to learn through this “New Normal”.

The most important fact as said by Bill Gates, ‘Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important.’ Our Girideepam school teachers and faculty members are trying their best to help us. Our School Principal has always tried to organize our philosophy of education in a way it caters all the needs of the students. Even though we are following the online classes, feedback from the parents are collected for the smooth running and other activities like assemblies to develop their confidence by speaking up and sharing their ideas.

Online learning is not the ‘next big thing’, it is ‘now the biggest thing’. Today onwards, let’s try together to advance the world of e-learning. I hope students of the future will demand the learning support that is appropriate for their situation or context. Nothing More, nothing less.



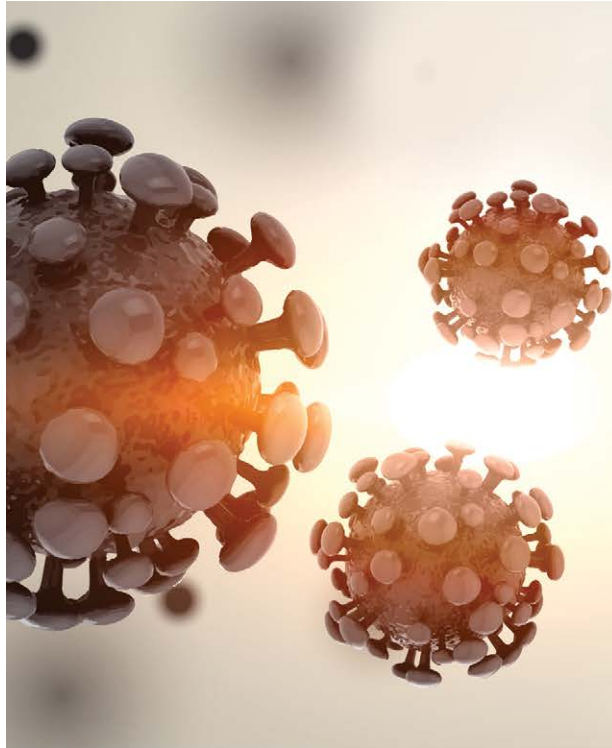
Girideepam in the pandemic situation and in future

Sara Elizebath Jacob, 7 A

For the last two years, our school as a school, was our home. It was online Girideepam days, for us and for our dear teachers. Major Academic Activities were conducted through online mode. Classroom lectures, attendance, exams, meetings etc. were conducted as usual. Although it was a bit frustrating for teachers, we enjoyed the flexible class timings. Earlier the main challenge

was discipline. However, in the online mode, the main challenge is weak connection and miscommunication. During offline classes, pin-drop silence was the order of the day while teachers were teaching. As a student, we have to control our playful nature and unnecessary noises and disturbances in the classroom. While in pandemic time, we managed all the above by muting the mike without having to control ourselves. It is very

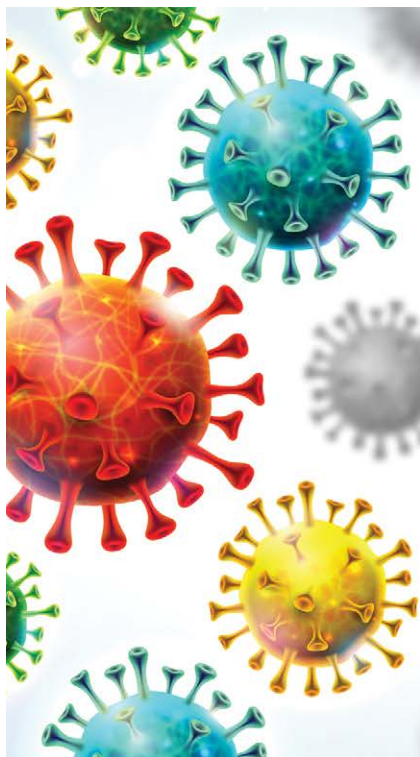
easy to hide our facial expressions and gestures from the teacher. Our teachers were very helpful, putting in their full effort while upholding educational standards and moral values. We got adequate attention from our teachers' and our daily work has been closely monitored. Above all, Lord Almighty kept Girideepam family, the administration, teachers, students safe during the pandemic period.



My school During the Pandemic

Nandagopan P.S, 8A

Our school was closed by the deadly virus,
And every student was sent back home.
Now we study in front of devices,
So that we don't get the disease at all.
Now we stare in front of screens to study,
And sit at home, filled with boredom
Remembering the time we used to be at school,
Our minds are filled with joy and nostalgia.
However, when the pandemic will end,
We shall go to my school once again,
And play and have fun once more,
For a long time to come!



Girideepam ~ Still the Lamp that Shines

George J. Emmanuel, 7C

Just as we all have, Girideepam has also entered a new era with the advent of Covid 19.

When everybody was confined to their homes due to the pandemic COVID-19 the teachers of Girideepam started the new academic year online through Google meet. Many student lost the connection with their friends. During pandemic times, the students learnt how to operate their computers, how

to install applications on their phones, how to register through the internet, manage their own mail accounts etc. The teachers also took attendance along with the classes. Students learnt to respond to their teachers. They can save a lot of time by attending classes from their homes this same time. The final exam of 2020 got cancelled. When the situation turned better, the school reopened again. The teachers ensured that the Covid protocols were strictly followed.

Although some of us attended offline we were soon back to online classes.

Thus the covid era is still not over yet, the lamp that shines on the other side.

During the pandemic...

Devananda Deepak, 7D

No one would have guessed
That a virus-like Covid-19 would come and
Without differentiating, it will
Alter the lifestyle of people.
Due to Covid-19, many changes
Came to our world and it took
Some time for everyone to
Adopt the new normal. The
Covid-19 impact was
Everywhere, which resulted in
The closure of schools and
Other educational institutions.
The COVID-19 has resulted in
Schools shut all across the
World. Globally, over 1.2 billion
Children are out of the classroom. Initially,
our school Girideepam
Had decided to temporarily
Close the school to reduce the
Impact of Covid-19. Later it was
Reopened for a few grades,
Which increased the number of
Infection rates and then closed again.

Though our school was closed,
Students are attending their
Classes through various
Education initiatives like online
Classrooms and radio programmes.

Teachers who are all experts in
Blackboards, chalk, books, and
Classroom teaching are really
New, but they are adopting the new
Methods and handling it like a
Pro-to-aid the students in the
Current position.
As children struggle to learn
From home, parent's gratitude
For teachers, their skills, and
Their invaluable role in student
Well - being, has risen up.
Educated parents are
Supporting their children
Throughout the pandemic, but
We require to understand that
There are some with their feeling of
Helplessness to Children in their education.

Returning to school is an
Important and hopefully
Welcome step, but it's
Important that precautions are
Taken both inside and outside
The classroom to prevent the
Spread of COVID-19. As schools
Reopen, a lot will depend on
Teachers to ensure that
Children will be able o



Continue their education in a
Safe and healthy environment.

Research has shown that the
Pfizer – BioNTech COVID-19
Vaccine is 100% effective in
Preventing the COVID-19 virus
In children. Getting a COVID- 19
Vaccine can also help keep
Children in school, more safely
And participate in sports and
Other group activities.

Wearing a face mask in indoor
Public spaces, such as schools
And maintaining social distance
Can also prevent the spreading
of the virus.

Schools should encourage
Routines that promote frequent
Hand-washing and following
Good hand hygiene practices,

Such as asking the children to
Cover their mouths and noses
With tissues when they cough or
Sneeze and then washing their hands.
We were not ready for this, but
It happened so we have to go
Through this together, but we
Have to update the
Infrastructure and should think
Of ways to undertake the
Situation and providing
Education to every child amid
The pandemic if we face
Something precisely like this in
The future to aid the
Forthcoming generation
Stay home. Stay safe.

Journey with Covid

Archa Rejitha, VIII B



After the lockdown days,
The buzz of new life says,
Not there's different ways,
To follow from today,
And you must do it every day.

We'd have to wear a mask,
It's a very difficult task,
Till the cure comes out,
You can't get out,
Wear masks and gloves,
When you're out.

The times when we went to school,
And shared a lovely meal,
But now it's at rest,
And we're in house arrest,
No school, no fun, no fests!

Watching TV and gobbling snacks are no
More fun
'Grunts, it's just so boring, oh! I am done

'Cure' please come out fast
This lockdown is so vast
Just cure the thing, which is being so mean
We should keep our selves and our
Places clean!

Impact of Covid-19 on education

Jenise Cherian VIII C

Two years ago, the world Health Organisation declared the spread of covid-19, a worldwide pandemic. Reacting to the virus, schools at every level were sent clambering. They switched to virtual learning, with teachers and students quickly adapting to an entirely new way of education. A year later, schools have started to reopen, and a sense of normalcy seems to finally be in view.

The Effect of COVID-19 on Education & Health of Students

Virtual learning has now become a norm. In fact, it is becoming common practice for schools to use virtual learning. The internet has made it easier than ever to learn anything online, which allows students to learn new things without any hassle. Also, many events such as graduation, tours, and athletic events have been missed, and cannot be reexperienced.

Increased social media use during the pandemic, along with education moving to digital platforms, has led to the majority of students spending more time in front of the screen. As a result, eyesight issues and headaches have increased among a lot of younger people.

Digital Unpreparedness of Teachers and Students

Those who are not familiar with technological tools faced great difficulties in teaching and took longer to connect with students. The unpreparedness caused

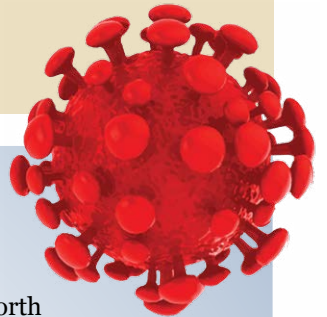


disturbances during classes and Technical errors which caused students to miss a few classes or topics. This required students and teachers to learn and acquire extra skill in online learning.

There are both positive and negative matters happening around us amid the covid-19. Technology paved a new way for education. But the sad truth is that it is not available to many students all over the nation. Everything is happening for the well-being of the students and teachers so that they can stay safe at home without getting affected by the deadly virus.

We were not ready for this, but it came, so we have to go through this together. We have to update our foundations and should think of ways to undertake the situation if we face something precisely like this in the future to aid the upcoming generation.

Stay home, Stay safe.



The Menace to Mankind

The menace to mankind
The novel corona infection has set forth
As a menace to mankind
For more than two years
And darkened the days of humanity

No one might have imagined such a terror
In the history of humanity
Touching every nook and corner of the world
With such a destructive power

Oh! What a tragedy it has caused to the lives of mankind
The terror hasn't departed yet from the minds of people
It's beyond one's imagination
To incur the impact of such a tiny thing

The virus has touched the lives of people
Irrespective of their age, color, creed or community
Taken away millions of lives
And caused huge destruction to the mankind

Threatens humanity by evolving in various forms
It exists in the world all over as a pandemic for long
And has become an endemic now
Necessitating the use of precautions forever.

Girideepam during this Pandemic and in Future



Covid 19, Pandemic, Quarentine, Omicron, Heart-Breaking News everywhere!!

Covid 19 pandemic has disrupted all systems especially Education system globally. STAY HOME STAY SAFE is the slogan that sound aloud. The lockdown caused the school to adopt a different mode of teaching ie. Online teaching. The teachers, students and their families have experienced several different challenges.

To mitigate the impact of school closures, the efforts taken by my school deserve special mention. Students like me are experiencing more anxiety than usual, while attending online classes. The whole world is experiencing the same problem. But our teachers remind us that we are not alone in these struggles.

My regular class schedule starting 7.30 in the morning helps me to maintain a sense of normalcy. Participating in online Youth Festival, conducting class wise assembly, attending counseling classes, participating in co-curricular activities help me stay active all through these tough times. My teachers whole-hearted support, stretched hands make me more confident enough to face challenges.

Though I miss my campus atmosphere, especially the long verandahs, chatting with my friends, starting and ending with a bell, my school uniform, face to face interactions with my teachers, being a Girideepian, I'm sure that my school never lets me down. This helps me to strengthen my learning opportunities, learning from inside and outside the school.

Dear Girideepam, We with starry eyes, a bagful of hopes and dreams eagerly wait to reach back to you, sit on your lap and relish each and every moment of our school days.

Let challenges Not Deter You!

Ann Mary Paramundayil, IX A

Life always seems to be full of challenges- homework, Exams, assignments, challenges at work and so the list goes on.

Yes, but challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them with hard work is what makes it meaningful. The pain you feel today is the strength you will feel tomorrow. For every challenge encountered there is opportunity for growth. "Learn as if you were to live forever" said Mahatma Gandhi. There are no shortcuts to success. It is the result of hard work, preparation and learning from failure. Always make a total effort even when the odds are against you.

In today's world where students have to try hard to cope up with the tight schedules. Hard work may at times be tiring, but 'Smart work' lets us do things much more

efficiently by proper time management and planning. But working smart does not always guarantee success. Both are needed to achieve the target.

It is important not to let negative feelings take over our minds even when we face setbacks. It may be really difficult to prevent the 'feelings of negativity' especially when the expected result does not come true. In such cases an open minded talk to our parents or teachers and reading inspirational books will really help us gain motivation. So the qualities of perseverance, aspiration, grit and confidence are unavoidable in our pursuit of dreams.

It's not going to be easy but it is going to be worth it. The difference between a stumbling block and a stepping stone is how high we raise our foot. Put your heart, mind, intellect and soul even to your smallest acts. This is the secret of success.

Just remember, satisfaction lies in the effort, not in attainment. Full effort and hard work is full victory.

Explore the Amazing World

Aasim Jasim Ajmal



Travelling is an amazing way to learn a lot of things in life. A lot of people around the world travel every year to many places. Moreover, it is important to travel to humans. Some travel to learn more while some travel to take a break from their life. No matter the reason, travelling opens a big door for us to explore the world beyond our imagination and indulge in many things. People who travel for fun get to experience and indulge in refreshing things which may serve as a stress reducer in their lives. The culture, architecture, cuisine and more, of the place can open our mind to new things. There are numerous benefits to traveling if we think about it.

The first one being, we get to meet new people. When you meet new people, you get the opportunity to make new friends. It may be a fellow traveler or the local you asked for directions. Moreover, new age technology has made it easier to keep in touch with them. Thus, it offers not only a great way to understand human nature but also explore new places with those friends to make your

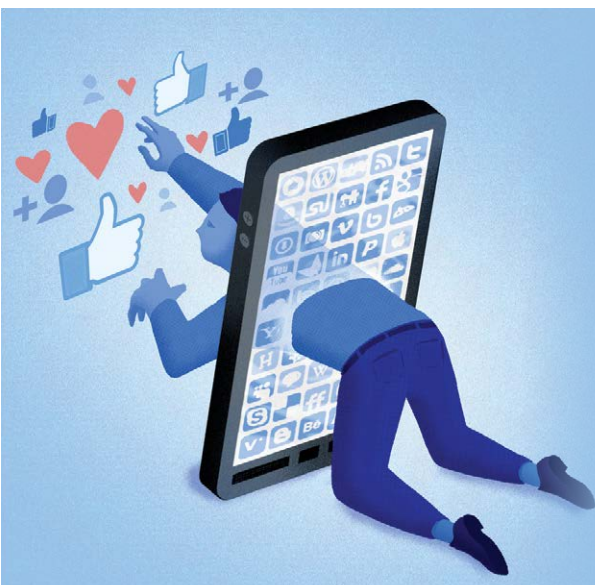
trip easy.

Another important factor which we learn when we travel is learning new skills. When you go to hilly areas, you will most likely trek and thus, trekking will be a new skill added to your list.

A very important thing which traveling teaches us is to enjoy nature, It helps us appreciate the true beauty of the earth.

All in all, it is no less than a blessing to be able to travel. Many people are not privileged enough to do that. To those who do get the chance, it brings excitement in their lives and teaches them new things. No matter how a traveling experience may go, whether good or bad, it will definitely help you learn.

In conclusion, if you get a chance to travel, don't miss it, grab it in your hands. Wishing you all a great trip and day ahead.



Social Media Addiction

Alana

Social Media is a technological application website. It helps enabling users to have interactive communication users to have participation in sharing information, opinions, pictures etc. via internet connection. It allows the transfer of data with a blink of an eye.

Approximately three billion people worldwide have social media accounts. Social media websites such as Twitter, Face book, instagram, google etc. help people to stay connected with their friends and families. Experts estimate that every person spends about one hour daily on such social media sites.

These calculations force people to ponder over the fact that social media is becoming an addiction to the present generation. It harms the emotional and mental health of people. Banning social media is not the solution because these tools offer service which used wisely can

be beneficial for us. The root if cause of the problem is within us. Self control is the only way one can stop using social media. One needs to keep themselves busy in the real world with real people.



Power of Mask

Joel Varghese Chacko, XII A



The 12 hour flight to Vizag Airport was super tiring. The seats were cramped, there was no food service and the air hostess a pencil thin lady with long rolling eyelashes, dark purple lipstick and powder all over her face was simply annoying. Everytime she came by she would squeak, “Anything you need ma’am?” in a nasal voice which reminded me of my history teacher back in primary school.

My temperature read and files checked I was good to go. I walked through the hallway to the exit, all the people were trying to stay at a distance from each other in fear of catching the virus. Just mere figures in masks passing by to be forgotten forever. I opened the door to the airport exit and staggered back when the hot and humid breeze hit me in the face. Immediately I began to perspire and my nose itched badly but I dared not remove my mask. You can never be too careful these days especially now that the corona virus had spread everywhere. The plan was to take a taxi home but before I called for one came this sleek and shiny black Mercedes which stopped beside

me. The glass rolled down and the sight of the driver made me freeze in my tracks. Behind the wheel hunched a mammoth of a man with rippling muscles so huge he could rip a coconut in two with his bare hands, his long plated hair was dyed red with streaks of gold at the ends and his face had a scar below his left eye partly obscured by a mask of the Joker. What shocked me the most was when he thundered in a deep voice, “You’re Mehr right? I nodded hesitantly. “Get in quietly and you won’t get hurt”. I obliged.

Before I knew it I was in the vehicle alongside Mr. Ginoramous with thoughts racing through my mind. “What am I doing riding with a weightlifting hooligan? Who is he anyway? How does he know my name? Then I began to freak out. “Could this be a kidnapping?” My heart was pounding in my chest and I was sweating buckets though the air conditioning was on. He broke the silence. “How was the flight?” he asked. “Good” I replied curtly trying to manifest confidence. But inside I felt weak and puny. For a second I thought I heard him trying to stifle a laugh but

maybe I imagined it.

“Mehr you don’t recognise me?” he asked inquiringly. I dared not look him in the eye lest I melt in my seat so I stayed rigid on my side of the car shaking my head.

“Oh it must be the mask” he chuckled,” how about now?” Like a gazelle aware of the presence of a predator I slowly turned my head, my brain forming all sorts of images, preparing for the worst. Then I saw him.

Eyes widening I exclaimed,”Rohan is that you!” I couldn’t believe my eyes! It was little Rohan whom I saw last when I was in the 5th grade before our family moved abroad. “Bingo!” he hollered with a silly grin, “It was about time you figured sis”. My cousin tried to reach me by phone but it was on aeroplane mode at the airport so his coming was quite the surprise. “You should have seen the look on your face” he snorted and burst out laughing. “Well you scared me to death you little beast!” I retorted back. So much for a peaceful vacation.

It intrigued me to think how our perspective of a person at a glance can be so different from who they actually are. And with the advent of masks after the virus outbreak, this misjudgement has increased all the more. The mask not only protects us from the virus but also ‘protects’ us from expressing our true emotions facially. The other person only sees an emotionless face. We have thus been handicapped from using this crucial tool of communication which results in our misunderstanding of people. This is the ‘power’ of the mask. So as they say ‘Never judge a book by it’s cover.’

Mundane Muggles

To the invisible enemy that almost stood inevitable putting up the world's biggest yet unseeable fight trying to destroy what you thought were mundane muggles. Quarantined and locked up lost and hopeless, We lost a loved one and watched a close one lose a loved one. far from our goofy friends, far from resolute teachers, far from preaching relatives and far, far away from our very own family members but even with all these awfully bad sides, you made sure that I learned, in the worst way ever possible about staying strong, being self-reliant and staying bonded with our loved ones despite the many miles in between. You taught me more than you took away unintentionally got me away from backstabbers around through what you thought we would sadly look at, lockdown. You expected us to be lonely and stricken with grief but, o you invisible yet inevitable enemy, what you didn't know was that we are always, always, bonded by the magic of hope!



Arya G Nair, X C

Schooling before Covid and after Covid

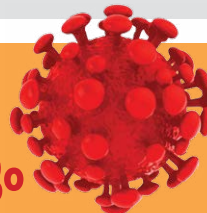
Ganga J Sidhu, X C



Life before covid was the best. I used to go to school everyday and study many things. At that time, studies were very good. Apart from studies, we also had classes for drawing, painting and music. Our school was very good at sports like basketball and volleyball. For this we have received many trophies and awards. Our school always stood first in the cultural activity competition. In short, our

school was the best in every field. But everything changed after the Covid pandemic. Schools were closed due to Covid and we were doing online classes. All the students stayed in their homes and no one came to school to study. Everything depended on the Internet. All classes were conducted through Google Meet....

എന്റെ വിദ്യാലയം: കോറോണയ്ക്ക് മുൻപും പിൻപും



എന്റെ പേര് ജീവൻ എന്നാണ്. ഞാൻ ഗിരിദീപം സ്കൂളിലെ അഞ്ചാം ക്ലാസ്സ് വിദ്യാർത്ഥിയാണ്. കോറോണ എന്ന മഹാമാരി നമ്മുടെ വിദ്യാലയ ജീവിതത്തിൽ വരുത്തിയ ചില മാറ്റങ്ങളെ കുറിച്ച് നമുക്ക് ഒന്ന് ചിന്തിക്കാം. മൂന്നാം ക്ലാസ്സ് വരെ ഞങ്ങൾ വിദ്യാലയത്തിൽ പോയാണ് പഠിച്ചിരുന്നത്.

ഞങ്ങൾ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളും അദ്ധ്യാപകരും കൂടി വളരെ സന്തോഷകരങ്ങളായ നാളുകളായിരുന്നു അത്. ഞങ്ങൾ കൂട്ടുകാർ കൂടി ഗ്രൗണ്ടിൽ പോയി കളിച്ചു. നേരമ്പോക്കുകൾ പറഞ്ഞും ഉല്ലസിച്ചും എത്ര മനോഹരമായ നാളുകളായിരുന്നു അത്. ഞങ്ങൾ മൂന്നാം ക്ലാസ്സിൽ പഠിക്കുന്ന സമയത്താണ് കോറോണ എന്ന മഹാ

മാരി പിടിപെട്ടത്. ആളുകൾ മാസ്കുകൾ വയ്ക്കാനും സാമൂഹിക അകലം പാലിക്കാനും തുടങ്ങി. വിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ എല്ലാം അടയ്ക്കുകയും ഓൺലൈൻ ക്ലാസുകൾ ആരംഭിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. ഇപ്പോൾ ഞങ്ങൾ കൂട്ടുകാർ തമ്മിൽ കാണാറില്ല. നേരമ്പോക്കുകൾ പറയാറില്ല. ഫോണുകളിൽ നോക്കിയിരുന്നു കണ്ണുകൾക്ക് വേദനയും തലവേദനയുമായി ആ സന്തോഷങ്ങൾ ഒക്കെ എവിടെയോ പോയ മറഞ്ഞു. ഞങ്ങളുടെ മൈതാനം ഞങ്ങളുടെ കാലടികൾക്കായി കാതോർക്കുന്നുണ്ടാവും. ഇനി എന്നാണ് ആ പഴയ കാല സന്തോഷങ്ങൾ തിരിച്ചു വരുന്നത്? നമുക്ക് കാത്തിരിക്കാം.

കൊറോണയ്ക്ക് ഒരു കത്ത്

കൃഷ്ണശങ്കർ പി. VIII C



പ്രിയപ്പെട്ട കൊറോണയ്ക്ക്, നിന്നെ ഞാൻ എങ്ങനെ പ്രിയപ്പെട്ടത് എന്നു വിളിക്കും? കാരണം നീ ഉണ്ടാക്കിയ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ ചില്ലറയല്ല. ആറാം ക്ലാസ്സിലെ അധ്യയനവർഷാവസാനമാണ് നിന്നെപ്പറ്റി ഞാൻ ആദ്യമായി കേൾക്കുന്നത്. ചൈനയിൽ നിന്നെത്തിയ നീ കാരണം ഞങ്ങളുടെ ജീവിതശൈലിയിൽ തന്നെ മാറ്റങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടായി. നീ കാരണം ഞങ്ങൾ പുതിയ ശീലങ്ങൾ പഠിച്ചു. ലോക്ഡൗൺ, മാസ്ക്, സാനിറ്റൈസർ എന്നിങ്ങനെയെല്ലാം ഞങ്ങൾ പഠിച്ചു. അടുത്തിരുന്നവർ തമ്മിൽ അകലത്തിൽ ആകാനും നീ കാരണമായി (സാമൂഹിക അകലം). നിന്റെ പേര് കേട്ടാൽ ഞങ്ങൾ പേടിക്കുന്നു. ഞങ്ങൾ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ വിലയേറിയ രണ്ട് അധ്യയനവർഷങ്ങളാണ് നഷ്ടമായത്. ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് അമ്പലങ്ങളിലെ ഉത്സവങ്ങളും പള്ളികളിലെ പെരുന്നാളുകളും ഒന്നും ആസ്വദിക്കാനുപറ്റുന്നില്ല. വിനോദയാത്രകളും കലാപ്രദർശനങ്ങളുമെല്ലാം വിദ്യര സ്വപ്നമായി. ഞങ്ങളുടെ ഏറ്റവും വലിയ ദുഃഖം സ്കൂളിലെ കലാമേളയും വാർഷികങ്ങളും അന്യമായി. കൂട്ടുകാരോടൊത്തുള്ള കളിചിരികളും സാധിക്കുന്നില്ല. അധ്യാപകരെ നേരിട്ട് കാണാനോ ഒന്നും സാധിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ എല്ലാം ഓൺലൈൻ ആയി. കൂട്ടുകാരും അധ്യാപകരും എല്ലാം ഫോണിലൂടെ മാത്രം വരുന്നവരായി. പക്ഷേ നിന്നെ തുരത്താനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ ഞങ്ങൾ വികസിപ്പിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. വാക്സിനേഷൻ ഞങ്ങൾക്കും ലഭിക്കാനായിട്ടുണ്ട്. എങ്കിലും നിന്റെ വിവിധ വേഷപ്പകർച്ചകൾ ജനങ്ങളെ വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. എല്ലാവിധ പ്രയാസങ്ങളും അവസാനിച്ച്, ഈ സമയവും കടന്നുപോകും എന്ന ശുഭാപ്തിവിശ്വാസത്തോടെ ഞങ്ങൾ ജീവിക്കുന്നു. ഭാവിയെക്കുറിച്ചും നിന്നെ കണ്ടുമുട്ടാനിടവരരുതേ എന്ന് അപേക്ഷിച്ചു കൊണ്ട് നിർത്തുന്നു.

കോവിഡ് സ്മരണ

മാളവിക സതീഷ് VIII A

അമ്മയുടെ മാറ്റമെന്ന അതിശയിപ്പിച്ചു. ഫോൺ എടുക്കരുതെന്ന് ഓതിക്കാതി നിന്നയെന്നമ്മ ഫോണൊന്നെടുക്കൂ, പഠിയ്ക്കൂ എന്നായി പിന്നെ ഫോണൊന്നെടുത്താൽ പിന്നാലെ ഓട്ടമായി പുഞ്ചിരിയോടെ കണ്ണിൽ നോക്കി സംസാരിക്കുന്നതാണ് വ്യക്തിത്വം എന്നോതിയൊരെന്നമ്മ ഒന്നല്ല രണ്ട് മാസ്ക് കൊണ്ടുമുട്ടു നിൻ പല്ലുകൾ പുറത്തു കാണരുത് മുഖമെന്നായി പോകെപ്പോകെ. പുറത്തുപോകാൻ ഒരുങ്ങും മുൻപേ കുളിക്കുവാൻ ശഠിച്ചിരുന്നോരമ്മ പുറത്തുപോയി വന്നാൽ കുളിയ്ക്കാതെ കയറ്റില്ല വീട്ടിൽ എവിടെയും എന്തൊരു മാറ്റം? സ്കൂളിൽ ഹാജർ നിർബന്ധമെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞൊരമ്മ സ്കൂളെന്ന് കേട്ടാൽ പോകണ്ട എന്നായി പോകുവാൻ കരഞ്ഞു ഞാൻ മണ്ടനായി വീട്ടുതടവറയിൽ ഏറെനാൾ കഴിയവെ ഞാൻ അറിയുന്നു അമ്മയൊരു നല്ല 'കോവിഡ് പോരാളി'

ക്ഷണിക്കപ്പെടാത്ത അതിഥി

ജെനിറ്റ് മനിയ IX B

ഈ മഹാമാരിയിൽ അകപ്പെട്ടതൊന്നെൻ ഓർമ്മതൻ വിദ്യാലയ-നാളുകൾ നഷ്ടമാക്കി ഒന്നിച്ചുനടന്നാക്കാലത്തിന്റെ നടുവിലൊരതിഥികടന്നുവന്നു ആ അതിഥിത്തങ്ങളിലെദൂരത്തെ അടുപ്പിച്ചു, വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചു അതിഥിതൻ സമ്മാനമാം മുഖംമൂടി അണിഞ്ഞിമുഖങ്ങൾ കണ്ടുമടുത്തുഞാൻ എന്നിജീവിതം പഴയരീതിയിൽ? ഈ വരാന്തതൻ നിശബ്ദത എൻ കാതുകളെമുട്ടുമ്പോൾ ഓർമ്മതൻ ശബ്ദങ്ങൾ അലയടിക്കുന്നു എൻ മനസ്സിൽ എഴുത്തുപടികളെവെള്ള പൂശാൻ കാത്തുനിൽക്കുന്നീ ചോക്കുകക്ഷണങ്ങൾ പൂട്ടിയട്ടിട്ട ക്ലാസ് മുറിതൻ ഏകാന്തത എന്നിലെ കുട്ടിയെ പൂട്ടുന്നു മനസ്സിൽ മുറികളിൽ, അങ്ങനെ ജീവിതമാതിഥിയിലൊതുങ്ങി എന്നിലെ ബാല്യവും അതിലൊതുങ്ങി എന്നീ അതിഥിതൻവലയിൽ നിന്നെനിക്കുമോചനം?



അയനാ സാജൻ VIII B

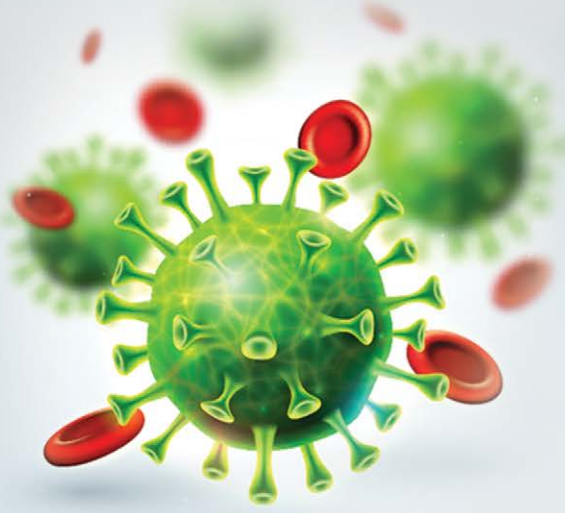
അതിജീവനത്തിന്റെ നാളുകൾ

കൊറോണ എന്നൊരു മഹാഭൂതം നാടിനെ മുഴുവൻ നടുകയെ രാക്ഷസൻ മനുഷ്യ ജീവിതത്തെ താറുമാറാക്കിയ കാലൻ ഒരു കാലൻ ദാരിദ്രത്തിലാക്കിയ കാലം കൊറോണയെന്ന മഹാമാരിയിൽ പേടിച്ചു നിൽക്കുന്നു മനുഷ്യരെല്ലാരും കഷ്ടപ്പാടിൻ ദിനങ്ങളും മരണത്തിൻ കാലൊച്ചയും കേട്ട് ഈ ലോകമാകെ വിറച്ചിടുന്നു അതിജീവനത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി മറക്കാതെ കൈകൾ കഴുകി വൃത്തിയാക്കിയും മാസ്ക് ധരിച്ചും മുഖം മറച്ചും യാത്രകൾ ഒഴിവാക്കിയും വീട്ടിലിരുന്നു ഒറ്റക്കെട്ടായി നിന്നു പോരാടിടാം നിയന്ത്രിച്ചിടാം ഈ ഭൂതത്തെ ഭയമല്ല ജാഗ്രതയാണ് നമുക്ക് വേണ്ടത്

गिरिदीपम कोविड से पहले और कोविड के बाद



Ganga J Sidhu, X C

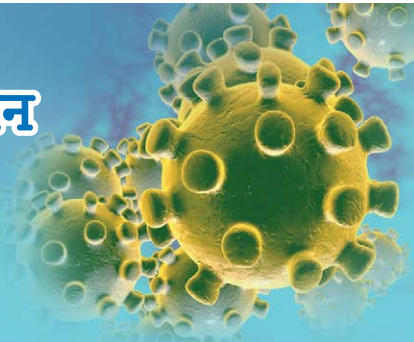


कोविड से पहले का जीवन सबसे अच्छा था। मैं हर रोज स्कूल जाती थी और बहुत सी चीजों का अध्ययन करती थी। उस समय पढ़ाई बहुत अच्छी होती थी। पढ़ाई के अलावा हमें ड्राइंग, पेंटिंग और म्यूजिक की क्लास भी थी। हमारा स्कूल बास्केटबॉल और वॉलीबॉल जैसे खेलों में बहुत अच्छा था। इसके लिए हमें कई पुरस्कार मिले हैं। सांस्कृतिक गतिविधि प्रतियोगिता में हमारा विद्यालय सदैव प्रथम स्थान पर रहा। संक्षेप में हमारा विद्यालय हर क्षेत्र में सर्वश्रेष्ठ था।

लेकिन कोविड महामारी के बाद सब कुछ बदल गया। कोविड के कारण स्कूल बंद था और हम ऑनलाइन क्लास कर रहे थे। सभी छात्र अपने घरों में रहे और कोई भी पढ़ने के लिए स्कूल नहीं आया। सब कुछ इंटरनेट पर निर्भर था। सभी क्लास गूगल मीट के जरिए आयोजित की गईं। पहले तो हमें इसकी आदत नहीं थी, लेकिन धीरे-धीरे इसकी आदत हो गई। अब यह हमारी नई दिनचर्या थी। सुबह से दोपहर तक हमारी क्लास होती थी और हम अपने घर बैठे मोबाइल और लैपटॉप से पढ़ाई करते थे। हमारे शिक्षकों ने हमारी ऑनलाइन कक्षा को बेहतर बनाने के लिए अच्छे प्रयास किए। भले ही हमारे बीच वास्तविक संपर्क नहीं था, हमारे शिक्षकों ने हमें ऑनलाइन कक्षा में बहुत स्पष्ट और सरल तरीके से पढ़ाया। यह इस महामारी की सकारात्मक बात थी कि स्कूल बंद होने के बावजूद भी बच्चों की पढ़ाई नहीं रुकी।

अब कोविड महामारी कम होती जा रही है। स्कूल धीरे-धीरे खुल रहे हैं और हमें उम्मीद है कि सब कुछ पुराने समय जैसा हो जाएगा। सभी छात्र स्कूल आएंगे और वे एक-दूसरे को देखकर खुश होंगे। कक्षा में सभी छात्रों को लंबे समय के बाद देखकर शिक्षक प्रसन्न होंगे। हम ईश्वर से प्रार्थना करते हैं कि यह महामारी जल्द ही खत्म हो और सब कुछ पुराने समय जैसा हो जाए।

कोरोना का आगमन



कोरोना वायरस की थी बारी,
अच्छे, कुशल वल्ल की समाजि।
२०१९ में आया,
आया....संख्या में
फिर फैला उसका नाश ॥
२०२० से सबकी
नाक में दर्द करके बैठा,
स्कूलों से कुंडी
हमारी शिक्षा में एक बाधा....
नहीं बन सकी।
अपना जलवा दिख डाला।
ऑनलाइन क्लास था एक संघरा।।
प्रधानमन्त्री ने अपना चाल चलाया
कोरोना का दुश्मन आया,
आया "को- वैक्सीन"।
फिर भी कोरोना को दया न थी,

हजारों - करोड़ों लागो की
जिंदगी खमोश कर दी।।
परीक्षा के बहाने, दोस्त्रों से.....
नो हुई पर फिर नहीं....
इस साल कब किया पजा-
ही ना चला,
कोरोना के मामले कुसी कस हो
नो कभी बहुज ज्यादा।
स्कूलों गो जाये का.....
कभी नहीं.....।।
उम्मीद है अभी भी,
कि कोरोना जाएगा.....
यह उम्मीद के साज
हम सब एक साज बने रहे।
अपनी नेजा का नियम
पालन करे.....।।



Bhavya Biju, IX A

जिंदगी भी क्या चीज़ होती हैं
एक पल में खुशी दी तो
दूसरे पल में गम
एक ऐसी ही बुरी वक्त हमारी जिंदगी में आई
तो हैं कारोना
और इसकी वजह से स्कूल बंद, ऑफिस बंद
और सब कुछ बंद "लॉकडॉन"।
ऑनलाइन क्लास शुरु,
दोस्तों की और आध्यापकों की बहुत याद आती थी
पर हमारे स्कूल ने क्लास को जितना संवादात्मक
हो सकता था, उतना किया
एक पल या जब हम जीते थे,
पता नहीं कब हम जैसे जी पायेंगे
उस दिन का इंतजार रहेगा।

AISSE 2020 - A1 IN ALL SUBJECTS



Asmimole M.S.
Science (96.8%)



Sharon Angel Joshie
Commerce (94.8%)



Sandra T. Prathap
Humanities (96.6%)



Sneha Chacko
Science (96.4%)



Sanjay Sunil
Science (96%)



Febi Tom
Science (95.8%)



Anika Saju Thomas
Science (95.8%)



Aparna Sreekumar
Science (95.6%)



Emie Treesa Abraham
Commerce (94.6%)



Ebin Babu
Humanities (94.6%)

AISSE 2020 - A1 IN ALL SUBJECTS

SCHOOL TOPPER



Meenakshi Satheesh
99%



Aysha Naourin
98.5%



Mani Prasad
98%



Karthika R. Nair
97.7%



Negha George
97.7%



Aleena Anna Kuriakose
97.3%



.Krishnendhu P. Nair
97.2%



Bhuvana S
97.2%



Jane Reeba Jilu
96.5%



Johaam J. Jacob
95.8%



Diana Liz Thomas
95%

School Toppers - AISSCE March 2021

100%
Result

Stream Toppers

Overall School Topper



Rose Mary JKV



Commerce
Angela J Antony
97%



Humanities
Allen P. George
97.4%



Science
Rose Mary JKV
97.4%

**Glorious Achievement in Class XII
AISSE March 2021**

**A1 in all
Subjects**



Rose Mary JKV



Abel Joseph
Parampathur



Karun Johny



Swathi N. Iyer



Allen P. George



Nikhita Saira Philip



Aparna B
Namboodiry



Merlin Sara Vinod



Anjum Aysha



Aiswarya Lakshmi



Donald Mathew
Sajan

AISSE 2021 - A1 IN ALL SUBJECTS



Abel Varghese Roy



Hansel Oommen
George



Hanaa Anas



Jennifer Elizabeth
Thomas



Jennifer Ann Shaji



Nanditha Elsa Abraham



Navaneeth B. Nair



Neha Moncy



Roshna Elizabeth



Sona Ann Sunil

Agna Jaison Class XA - Thaliru Scholarship 2020-21



Mrs. Maya Susan Jacob
School Counsellor

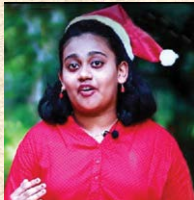
Childrens Day



Gandhi Jayanthi Celebrations



Christmas Celebrations



Drawings



Aina Sajan
Class VIII B



Akshaya Raj
Class IX C





Aleena Elma John
Class VII C



Angela Susan John
Class XII B



Ann Mary
Paramundyil
Class IX A



Arya Sanal
Class IX C



Jaganath A Nair
Class VIII B

This is a stencil drawing of Pranav Mohanlal done with 280 a4 papers. It is having 4.27 meter length and 3 meter width. This was done by Jaganath A Nair in 8B of Girideepam Bethany Central School. This is the biggest drawing done by a under 18 year old boy in India



Mrs. Leelamma Philip

TEARFUL TRIBUTES FROM GIRIDEEPAM BETHANY INSTITUTIONS



Mrs. Manju M. Nair