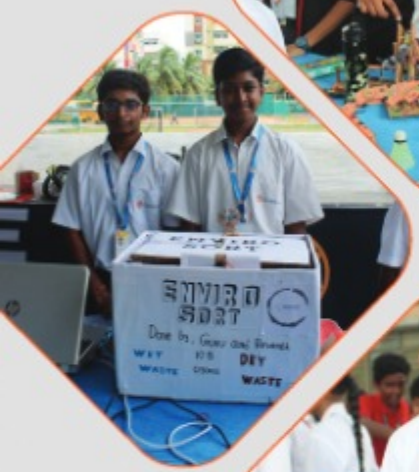
# CORNERSTONE TIMES















## INNOVOYAGE

- Director's Message
- A Showcase of Innovation
- Shiksha Saptah
- Toxin Taxation
- Entrepreneurship
- Workshop for Teachers
- Monthly Events
- Field Trips
- Assemblies

JULY 2024

## Your Failures Don't Define You!

Success is a combination of hard work, persistence, patience and support from the right people. And during the journey we may fail, we may be frustrated and disappointed. Do not stop! Keep going! After all, your failures don't define you.

There's this short story I wanted to share here, which is very close to my heart and also is the need of the hour for every parent and student out there.

There was a young man who tried his level best, to clear his exams at university, but he repeatedly failed and finally, he just gave up. His parents encouraged him to take up a job as a primary school teacher. But due to lack of experience, he was mocked by his students and finally removed by the school authorities. When he returned home that day, he was sad and depressed. His parents comforted him and said to him.

"WHEN GOD SAYS YES TO YOUR PRAYERS, HE GIVES YOU WHAT YOU WANT.
BUT WHEN HE SAY NO TO YOUR PRAYERS, HE GIVES SOMETHING BETTER."

His parents encouraged him saying, probably there's a better opportunity waiting for you out there. Gathering some hope, the young man kept trying to find opportunities and when he did finally find one, he was once again chucked out of the job.Yet again his parents tried to encourage him by saying, maybe there are many people out there who are better fitted for that job, than you.

Remember,

"WHEN GOD SAYS NO TO YOUR PRAYERS, HE GIVES YOU SOMETHING BETTER.
BUT WHEN GOD SAYS WAIT TO YOUR PRAYER, HE GIVES YOU THE BEST."

The young man kept trying with several other jobs, which never lasted for more than a couple of weeks, at best a few months. Each time, he would return home dejected and depressed. And his parents would comfort him. Never once, his parents were disappointed or resentful. By the time he was in his thirties, he had found his calling and had acquired a flair in languages. He ended up being a counselor in a school, for those kids who were challenged. And a little later, he opened his own school for specially abled kids. In a couple of years, he set up a chain of stores in different cities and provinces selling apparatus and equipment for the specially-abled and went on to become a multi-millionaire.
One day, the now rich man asked his parents, "When I was so negative about my own future, how could you have so much faith in me?"

The reply that his parents gave him was simple yet very profound and inspiring. They said, "When a piece of land is not suitable for planting wheat, we should try planting beans. And after all the years of effort, if the beans are not growing well, we should try planting fruits."

Dear parents and students, no one is useless, it takes a while to figure out what your passion is, what works for you, once you discover your passion, your dream, excellence and growth will simply be a consequence. Until then, believe in yourself, more so, have someone who believes in you and keep you going till you see your day.

Sharmila Solomon

## A Showcase of Innovation

It is through Science that we prove, but through intuition that we discover. This year's exhibition featured a diverse array of projects from students of all grade levels, each showcasing unique approaches to scientific inquiry and problem-solving.

## Innovate and Inspire for a Sustainable Future (Grades 6 - 11)

This year's theme, "Innovate and Inspire for a Sustainable Future," challenged young minds to tackle real-world environmental challenges through creative solutions.

Students built working models of solar panels and wind turbines, demonstrating the potential of renewable energy. Interactive displays compared the efficiency of these technologies with traditional methods, Projects showcased smart home technologies that promote energy efficiency.

Students presented models of homes equipped with motion sensors that automatically adjust lighting and temperature based on occupancy.

Technologies for responsible water usage were explored. Some groups presented prototypes for self-watering gardens, while others focused on smart irrigation systems that optimize water usage based on weather conditions.

The success of the exhibition was also a testament to the strong support from the parents, educators, and administration who played a crucial role in making the event a success.

Our Principal Ms. Shilpa Sethi praised the collaborative spirit of the event, stating, "The science exhibition is more than just a showcase; it's a platform for our students to explore their interests and share their discoveries.

In her words she stated that the exhibit was a retrospection into the scientific temperament in students and their incredible talent which doubles the responsibility of the school as a whole in shaping the future of young scientists and innovators.

Our school science exhibition has once again proven to be a powerful catalyst for learning and discovery.

By opening doors to new areas of exploration and instilling a strong scientific temperament, the event continues to play a crucial role in shaping the future of young scientists and innovators.

A huge shout out and congratulations to the science team and the events team!



## Shiksha Saptah:

The school celebrated Shiksha Saptah from 22-28 July, marking the 4th anniversary of National Education Policy 2020.
Each day of the week was dedicated to a different aspect of education providing teachers, students and stakeholders with insights into various aspects encouraging the overall development of those involved.

Day1: Teaching Learning Material Day (Teachers were encouraged to bring their innovative TLMs (shadow puppetry, rangoli, models, charts, dance, flash cards etc.) for the exhibition.

Day2: Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Day (A wide variety of engaging activities and games focused on foundational literacy and Numeracy skills were organised by the teachers)

Day3: Sports Day (Organized activities of indigenous games out of the list of 75 indigenous games)

Day4: Cultural Day (The day involved storytelling in different folk, regional and contemporary styles)

Day5: Skills and Digital Initiative Day (Learning from Household Chores Cooking, Cleaning, Organization and Gardening)

Day6: Eco Club (Plantation Drive)

Day7: Community Involvement (Talks by the Teacher/students/DIETs in Morning Assembly about Vidyanjali Program)

The week-long celebration ensured the socio-emotional well-being of students and provided an ecosystem for skill development.



## Toxin Taxation:

Taxing your toxins away.

To save our income from paying taxes we do a lot of investments; similarly one should initiate investments in our own mind, body, soul, and environment, to tax our toxins away. With the very same thought the school organised a workshop on the same by Dr. Surabhi Somani on 1st of July.




The session took an interesting turn when young minds were introduced to the fact that every year tobacco causes more deaths (nearly 1.35 million deaths every year) than any other disease in India.

The session aimed to initiate toxin-free behaviour among the younger generation and motivated the young minds to initiate investments in their own mind, body, soul, and environment for a healthier well-being and healthier society.

The school envisions a toxin free world and promotes wellness and health.

## Entrepreneurship: It's the life we choose

Entrepreneurship is living a few years of your life like most people won't so you can spend the rest of your life like most people can't.

An intriguing workshop was held on 6th July 2024 at Cornerstone by Mr. Ashwani Pahwa (Director at Price Waterhouse Coopers), a renowned expert in the field of finance and stock markets.

The session aimed to provide Grade 9 & 10 students with a comprehensive understanding of the stock market.

The primary objective of the workshop was to introduce students to the fundamentals of the stock market, including the functioning of primary and secondary markets, types of financial instruments, and the basics of derivatives and mutual funds.

Cstians enthusiastic responses and increased interest in finance is a testament to the success of the session.







## Workshop for Teachers:

A Session focusing on effective grammar and writing techniques

The workshop provided a valuable learning experience for teachers of the Hindi Department.

Mr. A V Seshagiri Rao delivered insightful presentations on key aspects of Hindi grammar, particularly the often-confusing uses of (k ), (ki), and the (ra) form.

He also equipped teachers with practical strategies for explaining these concepts to students in a clear and engaging manner.

Feedback from the attendees indicated a highly positive experience.

Teachers appreciated the clear explanations, practical exercises, and opportunity to share best practices.



## Monthly Event:

Monthly events at school create a rhythm of growth and reflection, ensuring that development in various life areas is consistent and well-rounded.

They offer a structured approach to improving physical health, mental well-being, social skills, intellectual abilities, and much more.

The umbrella theme for the month of July was 'INNOVOYAGE' This umbrella theme took us on a thrilling journey through the amazing world we inhabit. Young CStians dazzled us with their knowledge of the solar system. We saw planets crafted from papier mache, models explaining eclipses, and even presentations about Chandrayaan.

This theme allowed for a wide range of skills to be developed, catering to different aspects of personal and professional life, all while maintaining a cohesive and purposeful direction.



## Field Trips:



Students of Grade 5 were taken on a trip to Lily The School for Toddlers.

The visit was an exciting educational experience for our students, focusing on Rocks and Minerals.

This hands-on excursion allowed them to observe and learn about different types of rocks, enriching their understanding of the subject.

Students engaged in comparing and classifying the rocks they encountered, reinforcing their classroom learning and fostering a deeper understanding of geological concepts.

Overall, the trip to Lily School was a memorable and inspiring adventure, encouraging our young scientists to explore and appreciate the natural world.

## Assemblies:

Assemblies at Cornerstone are the heartbeat of the school, where students and staff unite to celebrate achievements, address challenges, and foster a shared sense of purpose.

**Van Mahotsav: Grade 4 Asters:** A thought provoking assembly was presented by the students of Grade 4 Asters on "Van Mahotsav" – a celebration of the annual tree-planting festival in India.

The skit reinstated the importance of trees and forests in our lives, emphasizing the need for environmental conservation. The children creatively portrayed various scenes, from a bustling forest teeming with wildlife to the community gathering to plant trees.

A huge shout out to the class teacher for all the efforts went into making the props and putting up a flawless assembly.

**Global Energy Independence: Grade 4 Daffodils:** A resounding assembly was conducted on 11th of July, by the students of Grade 4 Daffodils on: Global Energy Independence - the need to transition from non-renewable to renewable energy resources.

The skit raised awareness about the importance of energy independence for a country's progress and prosperity.

Kudos to the class teacher for choosing this amazing theme and ensuring the smooth flow of the assembly.

**The Royal Parade: Grade 3 Thinkers:** An extravagant assembly was presented by the students of Grade 3 Thinkers with a unique title "The Royal Parade " – a unique friendship between an elephant and a little girl.

The skit showcased the community's togetherness in a joyful celebration of tradition and unity. It also honoured the royal heritage, showing how cultural events can unite and inspire people. It also showcased the unconditional love between human beings and their pets.

A special mention about the class teacher who left no stone unturned in putting up a flawless assembly.

**Global Forgiveness Day, a day to forgive and be forgiven: Grade 6 Alpha:** The assembly by the students of Grade 6 Alpha on the said theme was an eye opener. It showed how letting go of grudges and forgiving others genuinely makes life easier and improves mental health.

The performance highlighted forgiveness as a key tool for personal growth, a strong message with amazing dialogues and props.

Class teacher should be appreciated for choosing such an amazing theme.

## Assemblies:

**Nelson Mandela Day: Grade 6 Beta:** Students of Grade 6, led by their teacher, Ms. Swathi B, presented a remarkable skit focussing on Nelson Mandela Day, which reflected on the enduring impact of racial discrimination.

In a solemn assembly, the class acknowledged the profound injustices faced by Mandela and countless others due to prejudice based on skin colour.

Mandela's legacy inspires us to combat discrimination and promote equality, fostering a world where every individual is valued irrespective of race or ethnicity.

**Explore one's talents and develop essential skills: Grade 7 Rubies:** The assembly focussed on exploring talents and developing essential skills.

This aligns with the UN's vision of empowering youth through skill development.

The assembly's interactive format encouraged students to explore their potential, embrace lifelong learning, and strive to be well-rounded individuals.

It echoed the UN's vision of empowering youth through skill development.

Class teacher is worthy of all the praise for ensuring a flawless assembly.

**Ted Talk & Panel Discussion by G10 and G11:** Incorporating TED Talks and extempore speaking into assemblies not only enhances public speaking skills but also fosters a culture of knowledge sharing, critical thinking, and active participation.

The month of July students of Grades 9-11, had a panel discussion.

An excellent way to engage students in meaningful conversations, develop critical thinking, and explore multiple perspectives on important topics.

July 4th A Panel Discussion was held on Time Management by Shubham Mishra, Nitya Joshi, Amal Sahu, and Srivanth.

The session was a fruitful one, the panelists provided students with valuable insights and practical tools that can help them manage their time more effectively, reducing stress and enhancing their academic and personal lives.



As we wrap up this edition of our school newsletter, we look forward with excitement and anticipation to the many events, accolades, and challenges that lie ahead.

Our journey continues to be filled with opportunities for growth, learning, and achievement.

Together, as a school community, we will embrace these moments with enthusiasm, determination, and the spirit of excellence that defines us.

Stay tuned for more stories of success, inspiring events, and the collective efforts that make our school a thriving hub of activity and innovation. The best is yet to come!