

Dear Parents,

This is a brief note to give you some important information.

PLATINUM JUBILEE YEAR

March 2004 will mark seventy five years since the Congregation of Christian Brothers took over the running of St Mary's High School, Mt Abu.

Seventy five years ago, on the 4th of March 1929, three brothers by the names of Anselm Cooney, Stanislaus Joachim and Maximus Cooney began classes here with 19 boarders and 3 dayscholars. The school has come a long way since those pioneering days and next year we will be commemorating its Platinum Jubilee. St Mary's is a very special school. This fact will be testified to by all who have had the opportunity to live and work here - be they teachers or students. Ex-students in particular share a common bonding which seems to survive the passage of time and the separation of distance. Students, staff members and parents – all who have been touched by the extraordinary and unique spirit of St Mary's - will be invited to celebrate and give thanks for this spirit in the year of the jubilee. What exact form this celebration will take I am not sure at this time.

However some initiatives have been taken and these have been outlined below.

1. A committee of staff members has been set up to plan for the Jubilee Year.
2. A group of parents have volunteered to be 'contact persons' to assist in the areas of getting sponsors, advertising, fund collection etc. These parents are Mr Kevin Dias, Mr Dicky Pereira, Mrs Everilda D'Mello and Mr T.S. Narayanan Iyer. Other parents who would like to assist in any way are requested to get in touch with me at the earliest.
3. A souvenir to mark the occasion is being planned.

Funds collected in connection with the Jubilee could be utilized towards the completion of some of the projects which are given below.

1. New desks in the classrooms.
2. Renovation of Servants and Staff Quarters.
3. Restoration of the façade of the Old Dormitory Building.
4. Repair of the approach road to school.
5. Improvement of Science Laboratory.
6. Renovation of Old Gymnasium building.
7. Improvement of equipment/facilities for washing and drying clothes.
8. Inoculation of Grade 4 staff and families against Typhoid and Hepatitis A/B.

NEW TELEPHONE LINE.

You will be glad to know that another phone line is now available on school for phone calls on Thursdays and Sundays. The new phone number is 09414295933.

That is all for the present. Thank you all once again for your presence at the parents week celebrations and for helping to make the celebrations so enjoyable.

Best wishes,
Br Anish