

*Frodo: I wish the ring had never come to me I wish none of this had ever happened .....*

*Gandalf: So do all who live to see such times, but that is not for them to decide. All you have to decide is how to use the time that is given to you.*

*J. R. R TOLKEIN  
The Lord of the Rings.*

### **NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2003**

Dear Parents,

The report card that accompanies this newsletter will give you an idea of how well your sons used “the time that was given to them “during the course of this academic year. The overall results of most are quite disappointing . I am dismayed to tell you that despite the best efforts of all the staff members involved we have had 9 failures among the class tens in their first prelim exams. This does not bode well for the ICSE results for the following year. There seems to be a great reluctance on the part of many of the seniors to really put their minds to serious study. We can only hope that they will use the 3 month holiday fruitfully.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES.**

School reopens : 8<sup>th</sup> March 2004. The Bombay and Delhi Parties will probably leave on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March. The details will be given to you in the first letter of the New Year.

**MEETINGS IN DADAR:**The dates are as follows:

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2004 : 9:00 am to 1:00 pm : Classes 4, 5 and 6  
2:00 pm to 6:00 pm : Class 7  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2004 : 9:00 am to 1:00 pm : Class 8  
2:00 pm to 6:00 pm : Class 9  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2004 : 9:00 am to 1:00 pm : Class 10  
2:00 pm to 6:00 pm : **ICSE 2004**

Parents can deposit pocket money for the new year and collect the calendar at the meeting. The meetings are slightly earlier on this year because I have to be back in school by the end of January. The ICSE boys are being called back to school in the beginning of February to do their second prelim exam starting from the 5<sup>th</sup> of Feb

**FINAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION:** The ceremony was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November.

One boy from each class was given the Hardest Worker prize. In addition the boys from each class who scored the highest overall percentage in each subject were given awards. The general proficiency prize was given to the best student of each class. The special awards for the year were won by the following:

**Student Of The Year**[ Highest overall percentage in both 10's ]: Rockey Agarwal

**Day scholar of the year** [ Most outstanding dayscholar of the year ]: Ajay Chauhan

**Most Hardworking Dayscholar From Both 10's:** Kalpesh Banjara

**Goyal Memorial Prize For Highest Marks In Hindi In Class 10 :** Rockey Agarwal

**Musician Of The Year:** Roshan Matthews

**Devotion To Duty:** Abhisek Tak.

**Best Calligrapher:** Saurabh Bishwas

**Best Photographer:** Pratik Patelia

**Award For Journalism:** Shannon Rodricks

**PRINCIPAL CUP** [ For Excellence in Character]: Shannon Rodricks

**THE LADY JACKSON TROPHY:** This unusually named trophy is probably the oldest object in school . It was first awarded in 1926 . This is 3 years before the brothers took over the school in 1929. Its origins are lost in the mists of time. It bears the inscription “ *Awarded annually to the boy whose character during the year has proved the best influence in the school*”

It was awarded annually from 1926 to 1941. After that it disappeared for 50 years and reappeared in 1991. It disappeared again from 1993 to 1998. Over the last few years the winners of this award have been Sibasis Sen, Varun Kashiva, Ronald Thakur and Sneedeen Vincent. This year the trophy was awarded to Sabby Dias from class 10 B.

The last two awards - namely the Principal Cup and the Lady Jackson Trophy are the highest honours that the school can confer upon any student. The winners are chosen on the basis of a majority vote from all staff members involved in teaching or supervision of senior boarders. I would like to mention the names of other boys who also received nominations for these awards from staff members.

Nominees for Principal Cup: *Joshua Britto, Karsten Fernandes and Sabby Dias*  
Nominees for Lady Jackson Trophy: *Joshua Britto, Abhimanyu Chouhan and Shannon Rodricks.*

**WINDS OF CHANGE:** The Platinum Jubilee year ushers a very significant change into the school administrative setup. The Congregational Leadership Team, in keeping with a general movement towards 'restructuring' in many of our schools worldwide, is contemplating the following change in our school system. A lay person is to be appointed "Vice Principal" of the school for the year 2004. It is envisaged that he will eventually take over as principal of the dayschool - perhaps in the academic year 2005. The boarding will remain under the direct supervision of the brothers. The details of this new way of doing things still need working out. A letter from our Leadership Team giving you a better idea of what is planned will be posted to you shortly.

**PLATINUM JUBILEE PREPARATIONS:**

The planning committee for the Jubilee have several Inter School Competitions lined up in the fields of games, athletics and academics. These will be spread out over the course of the academic session. The main commemoration will be during Parent's Week next year.

Parents/Well wishers wishing to contribute towards the *Platinum Jubilee Fund* are to send their contributions in the form of **Demand Draft only**. The name and account number are given below.

*" St Mary's High School Platinum Jubilee Fund" Ac/No 01100008128*

The details for advertising in the Brochure are given below:

Back Cover – Rs 15, 000/-, Inside Cover – Rs 10, 000/-, Coloured Page – Rs 5000/-, Full Page – Rs 3000/-, Half Page – Rs 2000/-, Quarter Page – Rs 1000/-

Contributions to the Brochure too are to be sent in the form of **Demand Draft only** in the same name and account number as that mentioned above. You are requested to be generous with your contributions as much of what will be collected will be used for repair, renovation and improvement of existing facilities.

While a great deal of maintenance work has been done over the last few years there is still much restoration and mending work required – particularly in the living quarters of staff members and in the dormitories.

**LAST BROKEN BONE** : Jonathan D'souza of class 6 has won the unlikely honour of being the last boy in school to break a bone in this year of broken bones. He managed to break his ankle while walking around. Please wish him a speedy recovery.

**MISSING TRUNKS** : Apologies to all the parents in Delhi who had to undergo great inconvenience this year on account of trunks which did not arrive on time. There has been some change in the trunk booking system on the Delhi Mail and the Ashram Express. We will have to figure out some other way of transporting the trunks from Delhi for the New Year.

**NEWEST BABY ON CAMPUS:** You will be glad to know that Mr and Mrs Pais became the proud parents of a baby boy on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December. Let us remember the parents and the baby in our prayers in a special way in this holy season.

I end this newsletter by wishing all of you on behalf of the staff of St Marys's - a peace filled Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Thank you.

Br Anish



*What Child is this, who lays to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?*