

Annual Report of Holy Cross International School (CBSE) Salem - 636014

INTRODUCTION

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonian
5:18

A warm good evening to one and all gathered here. Annual Day marks yet another milestone of an academic year. This year had been equally bountiful and lovely for us. I consider it a tremendous honour to present Holy Cross International School Annual Report for the academic year 2023 – 24. We have a ton of positive news and stories to share after a fantastic year. Together with their teachers, our students have excelled in both academic and extracurricular pursuits. Let me give you a bird's eye view of this academic year's Events and activities.

SCHOOL

A rose doesn't invite anyone to enjoy its beauty but its natural, pleasant fragrance attracts people to it.

Holy Cross International School is located in a stunning area that fosters a positive learning environment. Parents are drawn to Holy Cross because of the morals, goals, and most importantly, vision and mission that we put into practice here. We uphold inclusivity and believe in setting standards. We are fortunate to have a group of capable, energetic and intelligent leader with Bro Sesuraj as our correspondent and Bro Yesu Thasan as our Administrator.

The administration provides us with timely advice. So that we may realize our purpose of carrying out the founders vision which aims at imparting a balanced and all round development through academic education and extracurricular activities.

STUDENTS AND FACULTY

The school reopened on 10th April 2023. The students had a joyful healthy come back to resume their studies. They stayed focused on communication skills and in Academics. Currently, we have 844 students enrolled. We have 40 committed teachers and 3 clerical and more than 30 non-teaching employees. We foster a culture of respect for all teachers and elders, which is antithetical to the way things are today. At the beginning of the academic year, we welcomed a group of talented and dedicated educators into our school community. Their passion for teaching, committed to excellence and innovative approaches have made a positive impact on the lives of our students.

PRAYER SERVICES

Throughout the academic year, our school has conducted prayer services on special occasions, including religious festivals, national observances, and commemorative events. These services have

provided students with opportunities for spiritual reflection, cultural appreciation, and community bonding. Attendance has been consistent, with active participation from students of all faiths and backgrounds. These prayer services have served as meaningful moments of unity and reverence within our school community, fostering a sense of inclusivity and respect for diverse beliefs.

INVESTITURE CEREMONY

To inculcate the leadership qualities in students and to give them a feel of functioning of an administrative body, School Student Council was formed. Investiture Ceremony was held on 1st July 2023. The House Captains and School Pupil Leader majestically took oath and were honoured with badges, promising to live up to the expectation of the institution and its noble mission. The twelve clubs were also installed and the newly formed PTA board members were honoured with their designation.

SPORTS DAY

The second Annual Sports Day was held on 26th August 2023. The sports day of the school was celebrated in all its grandeur, beauty and purpose this year. The sports day, besides showcasing the innate talents of our students drove home the message that sports remains an integral part of one's learning. Inter house matches were conducted for the students, the winners and runners were felicitated by the Chief Guest Dr. Meenakshi Sundaram, Guest of Honor Dr. Thilak Kiruba and the Provincial Superior Bro Santhosh.

CBSE INTER SCHOOL KALOTHSAV CULTURAL COMPETITIONS

It was our maiden Kalothsav inter-school cultural competition this year for all the CBSE Schools which provided all of us with an opportunity and a platform to display the cultural skill and to nourish the aesthetic spirit with the magnificence of multi-flavoured events. 15 schools from Salem participated to exhibit their talents and won prizes. These activities have not only strengthened our ties with the other CBSE schools but also broadened the students' horizons beyond the classroom.

DIAMOND JUBILEE SCIENCE EXPO (Inspira 23)

To celebrate the service of Holy Cross in India for the past 60 years, both matric and CBSE schools organized Science Expo (Inspira 23) on 21st and 22nd October 2023. The expo showcased the remarkable scientific endeavors of our students and highlighted the importance of fostering a passion for science within our educational community. This mega event was inaugurated by Bro. Santhosh PJ, the Provincial of Saint Andre Province. The expo brought together students from various grades, exhibiting their innovative projects, experiments and scientific investigations. The winners were recognized with awards in various categories.

PTA MEETING

To enhance student learning and enrich the lives of the students within the school and at home the PTA meetings were held on October 7th, 12th and 13th. The Principal highlighted the activities of the campus and expressed deep concern about bringing up children amidst the Internet age.

EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO KERALA

The school organized two day educational tour to Kerala on 29th and 30th of September 2023 for the high school students. This tour was designed to provide our students with unique and enriching learning experience outside the classroom, fostering cultural appreciation and academic growth.

FUNCTIONS AND FESTIVALS

In Holy Cross, education also involves respecting different faiths, traditions and culture. The Teacher's Day celebrated on the 5th of September was a moment of reckoning for our students as they took a pause on that day and remembered with awe, the contributions that the teachers were effecting in the process of their acquiring knowledge. Children's Day was an occasion for the teachers to celebrate the gift that the children are to the entire campus. Also on display was the sheer freshness of the teachers' talents and capabilities. Celebration of Christmas was very much in line with our fundamental ideals and belief. The Pongal celebrations had a special purpose this time around. They sensitized our students to the plight of the farmers and their significance to human existence. Important national festivals like Independence Day and Republic Day were celebrated to create a feeling of patriotism and oneness.

MIRROR

"Art has the power to transform, to illuminate, to educate and to inspire."

It is this sentiment, the newsletter, "MIRROR" which stands as a testament to the creative pursuits undertaken by the students. The students have given shape to their insightful thoughts and ingenuity through their creative outpourings of poetry, riddles, scientific facts and art which are showcased in the entire editions.

INAUGURATION OF SCIENCE LAB

The newly added facility of science lab in Dujarie Block was inaugurated on January 22nd 2024 by Bro Santhosh PJ C.S.C. the provincial superior of Saint Andre Province. Fr. Austin Joy, the parish priest of Udayapatti blessed the building. In addition to that third floor of Saint Andre block was also inaugurated which consists of four class rooms.

MOTIVATIONAL SESSION

To shape and mould the students into honest citizens the School had motivation session for students of grade 8 & 9 which enabled the students to focus with determination and confidence to do the best and be the best. Mr Gopinath, motivational speaker was a resource person. The session was indeed an eye opener for the students who wished to pursue their career.

STAFF SEMINAR

A seminar for teachers on “Efficient and Effective Teachers today” was organized on 18th December. Rev. Dr Lawrence Soosainathan was the resource speaker. He enlightened the teachers about intrinsic extrinsic motivation and emphasized on the type of intelligence of appreciation, care and love for children.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY SERVICE

The gift of giving during Christmas is much more rewarding than receiving. In order to inculcate in the students a sense of empathy and compassion towards the poor and elderly, the Community Outreach Club organized a social visit to places like Amala Anbu Karangal, and Anbu illam, Home for destitute and orphans. Such visits opened up students’ minds to more philanthropic kinds of experience and enabled them to develop empathy to those who are suffering in society.

GAMES AND SPORTS

Mr Arul Prabhu and Mr Robin Raj are physical training instructors, show great care and interest in preparing the students to perform well in the field of games and sports. Our pupils took part in a variety of interschool events this year. CBSE cluster level sports and games were held at Sports University, Chennai. They took part in athletics, table tennis, badminton, skating and swimming.

I am delighted to announce that our students took part in Salem Sahodaya Sports competitions and Master Lingeswaran of grade 8 won first place in long jump and second place in 200 metre Dash. And also our students got second position in relay category and took part in Basketball and Cricket.

Our students took part in Kids Sports Fest 2024 held at Erode and Master Sai Sundar of grade 6 won second place 100 metre and third in 200 metre at the district level. I am proud to share that Master Bawin of grade 8 was selected by Tamil Nadu Amateur Net Ball Association and represented our state in Jharkhand.

A BOUQUET OF GRATITUDE

If I were to put all the events of Holy Cross International School in a nutshell, we encourage a child to observe, to explode, to experiment, to probe, to analyze, to confront problems and find the solutions. This would not be possible without these people, so it's my duty to deliver a note of gratitude.

I would like to place our heartfelt gratitude and prayers at the feet of the Almighty for His innumerable blessings and guidance throughout the year. I owe my gratitude to all my confreres especially Bro. Sesuraj, Bro. Yesu Thasan and Bro Arul Raj for their encouragement and support. I also avail this opportunity to record a very special word of thanks to Bro Santhosh, the Provincial and the Chairman of our school, all the teaching and non-teaching staff and everyone else who helped me in various ways to function in a smooth manner.

My sincere thanks to all the PTA board members of our school who serve as steadfast cornerstones. Your support and encouragement serve as a source of inspiration for us. With utmost care and commitment, you carried out your duties and deserve a bouquet of appreciation.

I would like to conclude by extending my sincere thanks to each one of you. I assure you all, that in the years to come, Holy Cross International School will continue to persevere, to surge forward in the path of progress. May God bless you all and bless Holy Cross.

Thank you.

Bro Kulandai Samy V CSC
Principal