



HIGHLIGHTS

 **HEADMISTRESS' DESK**

 **MAAN KI BAAT**

(Articles by students)

 **ARTICLES BY PARENTS**

 **WORKSHOPS ATTENDED**

 **WE APPRECIATE**

HEADMISTRESS' DESK

यथा चतुर्भिः कनकं परीक्ष्यते निघर्षणच्छेदनतापताडनैः।

तथा चतुर्भिः पुरुषः परीक्ष्यते श्रुतेन शीलेन गुणेन कर्मणा॥

Meaning: The gold has to undergo four tests to prove its purity. It is scratched to check its shine. It is cut to see elasticity. It is heated to check whether it turns black and softness can be examined by striking the hammer. Likewise, a man proves his goodness by being knowledgeable, by being righteous. A man can be examined by his virtues and character.

Irrespective of academic merit, one with knowledge, good character, pure mind and virtues overcomes trouble.

आयुष्यामध्ये येणारे प्रसंग हे खरी परीक्षा
असतात. त्याला सामोरे जाताना आपल्याला
पुस्तकी ज्ञानाबरोबरच मनाच्या सामर्थ्या द्वारे
मार्ग काढणे आवश्यक असते.

DO WATCH - <https://youtu.be/gfv8SRmsvrM>



NO EXAMS – AN EDUCATION WASTED?

It's always said, Education is an arch like process. It's the manifestation of knowledge already existing in man! And exams replicate this knowledge gained through the process of education. The historic decision of cancellation of board exams definitely startled everyone but that didn't conclude to the fact that knowledge gained through this entire year got wasted.

Knowledge is always unparalleled, the greatest gift and truest treasure! Though there wasn't a sigh of satisfaction, happiness in anyone's eye, but each and every of our experience in the 10th standard in this pandemic year, contributed in moulding our character. And undoubtedly it increased our tenacity to deal with different situations and patience to accept everything! Though the ball wasn't in our court this year, but the stupendous efforts taken by our school and our teachers, made us perceive everything in an optimistic way and made our journey more glorious. Though the decision wasn't as anticipated but surely the values learnt through the education, the knowledge gained through it will surely be useful to us at every phase of our life and would definitely help us to pave the path of happiness and success in our future lives. I hereby even thank the school for making our 10th standard journey more glorious even in the pandemic situation and providing us with all the necessities! Last but not the least, we would always be obliged for what school has done for us and would always be proud for being a "SYMBI-ITE".



CANCELLATION OF EXAMS-A WASTE OF EDUCATION?

In these times of uncertainty, we have lost all concept of normalcy. Every day brings forth a new challenge and newer ways to cope. As students of 10th grade, ever since the month of march last year, the impending board exam had been the only concern in our mind. However, amidst the worsening surge of the pandemic, the cancellation of the Maharashtra Board exam definitely caught us off guard. Hence the question that has been plaguing everyone's mind- With the exam cancelled, has education been wasted? In my opinion, absolutely not. Education, conventionally the academic forefront with which we all are primarily associated with, has definitely taken a blow in various ways. However, education does not pertain solely to what we study, but what we learn. No one can deny that we did learn a thing or two when it came to adapting to this new way of life. When we turn towards the mundane idea of studies, let us be completely honest. Would we have had any notion of cancellation of exams, none of us would have studied as hard as we did, or actually, study at all. Thus, by studying for exams, we learnt to work hard, the hard way. Because we studied for exams, we learnt to give it our all, even if it was half hearted. Studying for the exam taught us to do things because they needed to be done and we learnt that not every task is either a curse or a blessing in disguise, it's clear that sometimes, we have to complete it simply because we don't really have much choice. Studying quite normally, just for an hour or two more also gave us a first-hand experience- Not everything elders say is as tedious as moving mountains, sometimes its just your last exam as a school student. When we studied for the exam, we were prepared to put down the exact mathematical formulae, guess the element correctly, even mark the capital of Brazil with surprising accuracy. What we weren't prepared for was the fact that these wouldn't be necessary. We weren't prepared to be unprepared, to be caught off guard. And yet, we came off wiser- as a student and as a person, as an individual. With the changing milieu, we are in fact lucky to be able to prove what we had been claiming until we were in those shoes ourselves- "Some numbers on a piece of paper cannot determine our knowledge." What we studied was different than what we learnt, and knowledge didn't just increase academically. With that said, did 'education' really go waste?



"I never let examinations interfere with my education"
- Mark Twain

The word 'Educate' is derived from the Latin word 'Educe'. Simply put, to 'Educe' is to bring out.

To bring out the strengths, the intelligence and even the weaknesses of a person. Examinations technically hold no power over the roots of education and learning, as the purpose of education is not to give exams, but to help a person live his/her best life. Ever since we started school, every student is conditioned to believe school is a pathway to give exams and 'succeed' in life, while exams do not prepare us to face reality and its hardships. Unfortunately, our exams do not give priority to physical fitness, building creativity and other necessary procedures in life. This fateful year, while our exams were cancelled, it has allowed us to learn, adapt and even teach ourselves how to face adversity. We do not have exams, but I feel that this year has prepared us for life better than any exams. This year left us enough time to focus on our hobbies & our strengths which are equally important to live a happy life. The social conditioning for us to get good marks in exams, while being important, is not fully responsible for leading a happy life. Our 'career', however much we are told, is not the only way to be happy. Having fun, practicing our hobbies, making memories, travelling and even just relaxing with a nice book is equally important. Like that ancient saying goes, 'all work and no play make jack a dull boy'.

While having a long and big career in well and good, not having fun in the process in just going to provide regret. Also, my sympathies to Jack. We do not have exams, but that does not mean our education has been wasted. It has done its bit to prepare us, and frankly, I think we're better off without those exams. We must always remember, not exams but being happy is the key. I truthfully feel that while our exams are important, they're still overrated and not as important as education. Our cancellation of exams does not mean a wasted education, but rather a wasted test. That's not a big deal, considering that there are bigger tests ahead. My best to all my fellow classmates and students. Godspeed to you all.

SHAUNAK JOSHI
X C



MANN KI BAAT - JOURNEY THROUGHOUT THE CHALLENGING YEAR.

As it is rightly said that education is the first step towards success and our teachers are the ones who help us to climb the ladder of success by imparting moral values and of course knowledge. Certainly, this was an important academic year for all of the 10th graders which had an abrupt end. Though this year was not as we had thought, but due to unavoidable reasons we had this already been served on our plate. Unexpected things happened throughout the year. Truly speaking it was also not so easy to cope up with all of the changing things, but I am pretty sure that we did our best and have surely overcome this gigantic wave of e-learning. Virtual learning was more difficult for our beloved teachers than us. Including our teachers, students and parents we had to undergo a big change which was new to every one of us. But I feel that we all have embraced the virtual learning in stride.

This time it was about self-realization and self-motivation, we needed to be motivated all by ourselves without any external motivation and be responsible. But even through this pandemic our teachers were our path makers and our torch bearers as always. They have helped us sail through this tough journey with ease. Even though a historic decision was taken about the cancellation of board exams across all boards, this year taught me a lot of different things which I would have been unable to learn in normal circumstances. I understood the importance of self-motivation and taking complete control of oneself, being determined and being optimistic about each thing. Even though we missed out on the physical farewell we had different type of fun in a virtual one and I am glad that we atleast got one! Thanks to our teachers for the touching farewell.

Being in our last year of school it is very difficult for us to bid goodbye to our school where we have spent every minute and every hour of time filled with happiness and satisfaction. It is really sad that we are unable to meet our teachers for the last time but they are the ones who made us into who we are right now, in the development of our personality, establishing our identity and bidding us a good bye as proud SYMBIITES. Who so ever we become in the future we first will be proud SYMBIITES forever!

OJAL PARASNIS
X B



MANN KI BAAT – JOURNEY THROUGH THE CHALLENGING YEAR

Ever since the Coronavirus pandemic started in February 2020, life has turned upside down. What was normal before, is now a desire and what was practically unknown to us has become our new normal.

Masks, sanitizers, disinfectants are always kept in handy. Our rooms have now taken the roll of movie theatres, hospital rooms and offices as well. In the first few months, a relaxed routine came to be with the realization of the phrase 'Netflix and chill' and exercise became a foreign concept for most of us. This however did not distract us from the situation outside our homes.

As the year started, I hoped that school on campus would start soon. But that hope dwindled down soon enough. Instead, it was time for online education. It was a necessity, but not the best option. The connection between a teacher and a student in class where your attention is solely focused on the topic at hand was missing. I tried hard to focus but often couldn't build a connection and my attention wandered. I wasn't able to concentrate very hard, because I was in the comfort of my home. Home is a place where one is completely relaxed at, and that notion is hard to let go of. However, I am grateful to all the teachers who worked so hard to make sure that no student was left behind in any subject.

Before the pandemic, I spent at least 9 hours out of the house, engaged in various activities. During complete lockdown, the farthest I could go was from one building to another in my society. The biggest challenge of the lockdown was being restricted to my home without the company of my friends for a long time. Occasional video calls with friends helped the situation a wee bit but they could only do so much. Even though I had my dear family with me, we sometimes found ourselves intruding into each other's space and got into spats over that. Although I understood the seriousness of the situation, I longed to go out of the house, especially after being inside for weeks and weeks together.



Having a certain timetable in life is underrated yet certainly of essence. When in school, I knew my timetable for each day, which had loosely been the same for the last 9 years. Having been thrown off a set schedule into a new mix really affected my studies. Nevertheless, I soon realised that I had been given the perfect opportunity of time to study and that I should make the most of it. Due to all the changes, I had to give up some of my other hobbies including Bharatnatyam. Instead, I found solace in cooking, something which gives you immense satisfaction.

A few weeks after the first wave of the spread of the virus the number of patients started decreasing due to the measures taken by the Government and that came as a relief. Just as I was gearing up with my studies for the upcoming exams, something ominous happened: my brother and I tested positive for Covid-19 in March. This disrupted my studies and other daily activities for almost a month, as recovery was the first priority. The effects of the virus and potent medication was hard to deal with and I was advised complete rest by the doctor. Losing an entire month so close to the board examinations dampened my spirits. After spending 2 weeks in quarantine, I came out stronger and determined to work extra hard to get back into my stride.

Academics wasn't the only thing affected. We as students missed some of our most important memories this year; the FETE, Farewell, Teachers Day celebration and our last school trip. The last year has been a challenge and continues to remain so this year, but this time around we are better equipped to cope with it. Many of us have utilised the past year to learn new skills and pursue our hobbies and we can continue to do so in the next year. I myself learnt cooking, cleaning after myself, coexisting peacefully and adjusting to the needs of others.

We Indians are known for our big, bright festivals and celebrations. Unfortunately, we could not celebrate our beloved festivals like every year. Although we learnt to find joy in the little things in life. Playing board games with my family, video calls with relatives, celebrating festivals and birthdays with small intimate ceremonies became a norm. The Board examination cancellation news was received with a mix of emotions but I know that the education won't ever go to waste.



Lately, we have been hearing stories of brave frontline workers who risk their own lives to help others. This has given me a newfound respect for these brave individuals. After recovering from Covid-19, a few kind individuals donated their blood plasma for the use of those who need it. Looking at the worsening situation in our country and the extreme stress on medical infrastructure I urge you all to take safety precautions, spread awareness and

do your part in helping others in need. Yes, it has been a challenging year and yes it will go on. But then again, has anybody ever had to not pass challenges to win something?

To all my teachers, thank you for all the efforts you have taken to make sure that our education won't be affected during this period. To all my fellow students, good luck for your future!

Stay safe and stay healthy!

"Hope rises like a phoenix from the ashes of shattered dreams." - S.A Sachs.

AARYA SHAH
X B



‘When the going gets tough, the tough get going!’

We students, parents, and teachers have genuinely lived this phrase and are still experiencing it, throughout these trying times of the pandemic.

Our tenth standard was entirely a virtual business, the batch meeting only on the screen throughout the year. The once lively classroom, bustling with energy, now transformed into a still portrait. We neither could have lab experiments, PT periods, nor the much-awaited fête! Challenges existed at various levels, apart from education.

Securely being in the four walls of a home, imagination soared beyond them, and contributed to making these challenging times of the pandemic into the ‘new normal.’

Many of us contributed to aid the frontline workers for their noble deed of setting the sail to the boat which was journeying through the rough seas. As wisely said by Gregory S. Williams, “On the other side of a storm is the strength that comes from having navigated through it. Raise your sail and begin.”

The gale of the pandemic stirred all of us. Many strong trees from our meadow fell, and hope hence became of the essence. The Covid-virus has jumped from bats to humans. This situation also made us introspect and rethink human behavior. The study of human nature, hence, became the central theme of the study of many people. Not only humorous but also memorable incidences followed the ‘work from home’ and online education! Locked inside were we all fortunate ones, trying to settle in the ranging differences of our family, where, locked outside were the unfortunate homeless, settling in the ranging challenges of the calamity.



Due to the persisting life-threatening situations, we learnt the simple lesson 'Prevention is better than cure,' the hard way. Wearing a small piece of cotton over the mouth and the nose is the simple yet lifesaving need of the hour. How difficult can it possibly be to follow the safety norms to ensure the safety of our loved ones? The risk of this disease made us return to our roots. Everyone strode forward in acceptance and creativity with a healthier way of life. Moms got busy in the kitchen preparing dish after dish, with loads of nutrients! In the lockdown period, simple home-pharmacy, based on our efficacious traditional knowledge, supported us in building immunity for the prevention of COVID-19. During the lockdown, we could truly comprehend the thin line between our needs and our luxuries. In the least possible simple means, we sought joy, and we indeed received it!

The tension generated in the second wave of the pandemic led to confusion over the academic examinations. Although the decision to cancel the tenth standard board examination was a surprise, it came as a solution.

I conducted a survey to take into account the views of students and parents on the said decision. A total of 60 students of 10th standard from various locations including Pune, Jalgaon, Nagpur, and Dapoli responded to the survey.

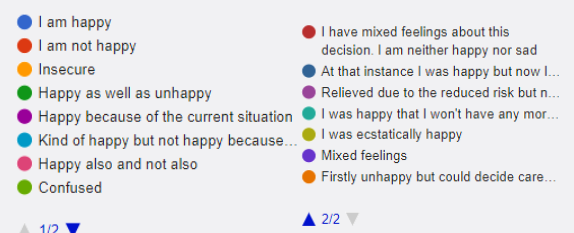
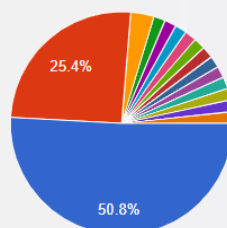
The key results of the survey are as follows:

Students' Responses

Graph: 1

What was your response to the decision of cancellation of the examination?

59 responses

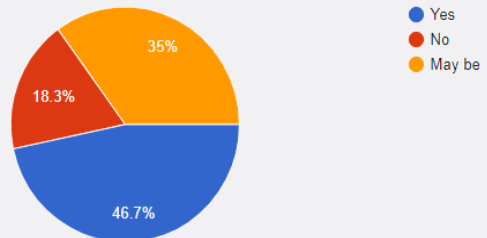




Graph 2

Do you think cancelling the tenth standard Board Exams is a good idea?

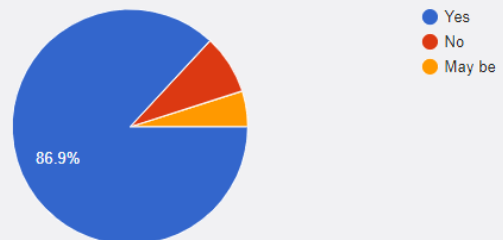
60 responses



Graph 3

Have you decided your career path?

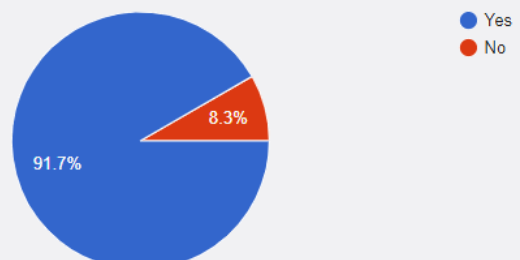
61 responses



Graph 4

Have you decided which side to take in eleventh standard?

60 responses



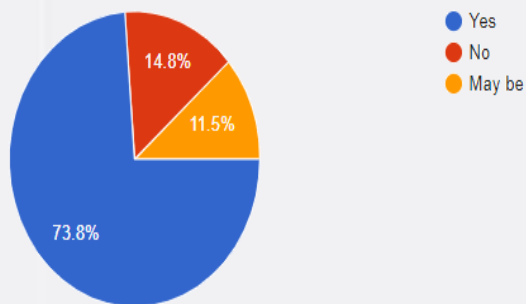


Parents' Responses

Graph 5

Were you expecting this decision of cancellation of the tenth standard Board Examination?

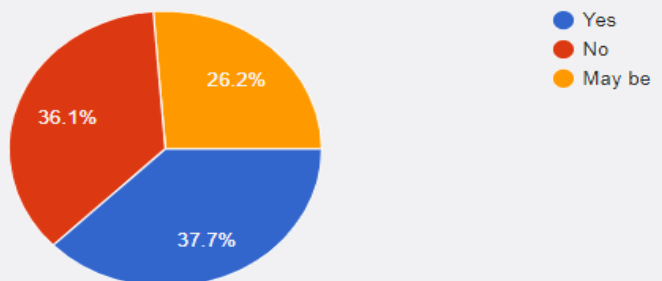
61 responses



Graph 6

Do you think that this decision is helpful in the long run?

61 responses



Conclusion:

This survey suggests diversity in the views of students on the decision of cancellation of the tenth standard board examination. Most of these students were determined about their career path. The parents are not sure whether the decision is helpful in the long run. Understanding the situation, the interaction between students, parents, and education experts is the need of the hour.



Mann ki baat – Journey throughout the challenging year

The Covid-19 of the corona virus family hit the human race and within no time we realized these were not sheer infections but a global pandemic where the world population got infected causing several casualties. The scientists struggled to get an appropriate antidote in the form of a vaccine that could either restrict or cure this virus. The situation across the globe was uncertain.

As students, perhaps the first message that we got was schools would be shut, especially in an important year where we had just graduated to class of standard tenth! How do we cope? What do we do? How do we learn? How do we stay safe? What about our exams? What about our unit tests and submission? What about our practicals? Our minds were flooded with these questions which neither our parents nor our teachers could address immediately.

At first, we thought this was a good opportunity to get a holiday amidst the tenth grade. Wow! such a good feeling. The fact that our classes would not be shuffled was a boon in disguise and we were eagerly waiting for the schools to reopen. Eventually, as the lockdown kept extending we got anxious. Parents and Teachers kept pushing positivity through all means, but we all knew how important this year was to us; the last year at school, the last FETE, the farewell party all this and much more.

The first thing I picked from the situation was to get self reliant as early as possible. This meant getting my day in a routine which included getting up early, doing my yoga, followed by a healthy breakfast. Along with a regimented routine of studies I decided to take up the online Japanese classes and cleared my N5 exams. When my kathak classes also went online, I started to believe that there is a solution to every problem. In fact within the online school, kathak classes, Japanese classes and regular reading and sketching, I began to realize the day was too short!

One thing I avoided for sure was to follow any news or information that was negative. My family was extremely supportive throughout the year, without a single instance to quote where they nagged me about my tenth standard and studies associated with it.



When I saw all my teachers adapting to the online classes, it was a phenomenal learning that adaptability and agility are key factors of collaboration. It was even more surprising to see my grandmother, who is now 76, take her religious lectures through online sessions. It got me thinking if the earlier generations were able adapt technology so fast, it is trivial for our generation, where 'digital' is not a new word.

This challenging year has taught me self-reliance, self-study, exploring newer avenues to engage and close-knit family bonding are key attributes in building one's personality. Although, we all immensely miss the physical attendance at school, the ground, the games, picnics and get togethers, this year has given us the wisdom that these could wait. Helping the needy, feeling for the deprived and being grateful for what you have, is a lesson for lifetime, I suppose.

The pandemic has compelled us to relook at many attributes of our lives that we took for granted over these years. It has made us all self-aware, responsible, wise, compassionate and more so accountable. I am confident eventually we will all grow up to be better human beings and torch bearers of positivity!



Mann Ki Baat....About 2020...

There are some evenings which are dark & cloudy not only on the outside but also within us. They make us upset & magnify our feeling of helplessness because of the unfortunate events we are surrounded by. However, somewhere in the corner of our minds we know that tomorrow light WILL shine on us, though not completely but at least a ray of light WILL show its magic by spreading its positivity all around.

COVID-19 & lockdowns brought with them this negative feeling of helplessness. But two things, Ramayana & Online classes, cast a ray of light, a ray of hope & covered me with their positive & cheerful vibes!

***The Age of Ramayana Serial...Again! ***

The epics Ramayana & Mahabharata teach us a lot about facing & handling any situation calmly, patiently, positively & wisely. Its teachings are immortal, because they were the things which kept us strong, happy, motivated & active even today, throughout this year of pandemic.

More than 1 year ago there was an atmosphere of fear, tension & negativity on the planet Earth. China, US, Italy were already captured by Covid- 19 & now it was rapidly sending its army across India. With this terrorist virus attack covering every corner of India, all were left inside their houses with board games, cards, movies & the renowned old classics of Ramayana & Mahabharata! The re-telecast of these serials brought a truck loaded with positivity & happiness to almost everyone in the country. In old days, people were crazy about these serials, so much that there used to be a lockdown-like atmosphere every Sunday morning from 9-10 as people used to be glued to their TV sets in order to watch Ramayana! Same was the situation, after 33 years of original telecast of Ramayana, in 2020. I, in 2020 had the same feeling of guilt after missing a single Ramayana episode as my grandparents had in 1980's. More than any other movie or serial, Ramayana was 'in the air' & its teachings were imbibed in all the 3 generations.

Ramayana & Mahabharata was a great key factor which kept us engaged in something NICE even during the lockdown months!



Educators of The 21st Century

LAST year of school! But we had already wasted 1 month of enjoyment during the most awaited year in school- 10th! Hearing of online classes made my spirits alive one more time & made my adrenaline rush on a large scale!

The dedication teachers showed in April 2020 was a thing which required something more than just appreciation or 'Thank You'. Sending videos of themselves teaching a topic, we understand, was a difficult & a challenging task to carry out. But, well, nothing is impossible for our teachers! **"No human can stop the wrath of nature but it seems that no wrath of nature can stop a teacher from educating his students"**. Well our teachers proved this absolutely right! 'Thank you' is a very a small word for what our teachers did for us. Online classes, online meetings & online activities were wonderfully & meticulously planned & executed by our teachers! Hats off & a big salute to them!

Whatever the teachers did for us will be unforgettable. I will remember the teachings of all my teachers at every milestone of my life. Not only their academic teachings but also something they taught us indirectly...The way they stood as firm as a rock in front of this storm of the corona virus and took up the challenge of adapting to the online teaching environment is very inspiring for all of us. Their quality of utmost commitment is now etched in our hearts and has had a lifelong impact on us. And one day I will surely be able to pay the debt of all my teachers' efforts & make them proud by my work!

TANISHA KOTHARI
X A



PRETTY SHADES

*Let's just balance love as well as hate
Cause it's like pretty shade of blue and grey.
If we keep on loving we won't see the hate
If we keep on hating we won't see the love.
It will be like a rose held across a knife
Showing love as well as hate.
It will be a perfect and balanced life.
All will be common and there will be no mean
Cause there will be no differences in between.
Like a pretty shade of black and pink
Showing love as well as hate.
Beautiful rose gardens filled with thorns
Like a pretty shade of green and red.
Showing beauty as well as threat
Love as well as hate
Pretty shades of love and hate...*



FOREVER INDEBTED

My daughter, Ojal, showed me the write up she has written for the school newsletter and I could not stop myself from writing to you.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your vision, guidance and mentoring to all of us as parents and students. Had it been a normal year, perhaps we would haven't been so neck deep in our child's study. But this year was different, you along with all the teachers left no stone unturned! Daily online sessions, videos, notes, mind maps, assessments, worksheets, terminals, assignments, practical videos, guidance sessions, LMR, CPR, Physical prelim, Prelim 1.1, (sent at 6.00am!), HOTS sessions, Prelim 2, all of you ensured that the students were systematically guided yet not burdened. All of you have been working round the clock without holidays over a year now! Making videos without sound interruptions definitely would have required burning the midnight oil. The Summer, Diwali and Christmas vacations were namesake, I am sure you all were more busy in the vacations than the regular days.

Change is difficult to handle, but the school embraced change very smoothly under your able leadership. All of you were doing it for the first time, it was a huge change specially for the Education field, teachers became tech-savvy overnight, they handled technology with the same ease they handled the chalk and the duster! Handling students and parents is not an easy task, but you did it gently yet affirmatively. Regular, crisp communication was the key! Meetings with parents, seeking constant feedback and inputs, being open to the feedback and incorporating the feedback, such a participative leadership is rare to witness! Every interaction only assured us that our kids (Babies!) are in able hands and we never had to worry about anything the entire year. You had planned everything for the students ahead of time! Loved the momentum, adaptability, timely and apt decisions right from day one! The best part was the implementation of the decisions by your efficient and synchronized team!



Well you may be humble and say that, it was our duty, all the schools did it etc –but I would humbly disagree because the differentiator was the Passion with which everything was driven, the positive attitude which was maintained and echoed in each and every session irrespective of the teacher who conducted the session – irrespective of the subject and the language used, be it Marathi, English or Sanskrit, Science, Maths or Social Studies, all of you kept saying we are sure you are studying, we are sure you will do well, we are sure your papers will go to the moderators – and the best was the message – ‘No Self-pity’. I think that turned the tables and our students were able to swim with the tide! The students were well prepared for the boards.

Boards or no boards...I am sure all the students have learned much more than the syllabus, they have learned from their teachers – not to give up, to be consistent, to face difficult times with confidence, not to give reasons and blame situations, focus on studies and do their part to the best of their abilities. I can say this because what the teachers imparted to the students in the two weeks physical school is beyond words. The confidence that was inculcated, the happiness they experienced will help them sail through any storm! You all surely have magic wands!

Proud to be associated with Symbiosis as a parent for over a decade! I now know why my daughter used to be so happy every single day when she returned from the school. The school has transformed our caterpillar into a confident, humble and value driven butterfly over the last 13 years!

My sincere gratitude to you, all the teachers, the office team, maushis and kakas and the security team (who patiently, politely and with a smile helped us drop and pick up the papers in the school!)

May God continue to bless Symbiosis to reach new heights under your Rock solid leadership!

Mrs. Vrinda Parasnis
Parent of Ojal Parasnis



NO EXAMS, AN EDUCATION WASTED?

Traditionally, the education system has been built around exams and scores. Students are evaluated academically on their grades or percentages they secure in paper-based exams. Both teachers and students are bound to a fixed curriculum usually set by the central board. For most parents, results are key indicator of their child's success. Even though we moved from percentile to a graded system, the society at large continues to believe that a greater number of A's is an indication of success and anything lower than a C is often failure. This gets alarming when students start believing that results are the only measure of their ability, potential, self-worth and social status. Even today, generally, it is considered that all students have equal abilities in all subjects. Students and their parents also concur to this thought with a fear of being singled out or bullied.

The current situation has compelled us to look at education with a new perspective. We are compelled to accept the power of digital, where innovation and creativity take the front seat. Even the key stake holders in the education system have begun to introspect. This is not less than any revolution with a cutting-edge advantage. These are times of tremendous opportunities to relook, rebuild, innovate and reconcile the education for the 21st century. These are also times with opportunities to relook at the methods of teaching, sharing and disseminating education.

Quote; Tony Wagner, Education Expert and Author points out in *Creating Innovators*, **"What gets tested is what gets taught."**

Since the advent of mankind learning has been associated with problem solving ability. Over the years, time, space, tools and outcome got associated with this ability. While traditional scoring may be one measure of evaluating the effectiveness of learning, students are compelled to prioritize their grades over real-life experiences, creativity, innovation, networking opportunities, entrepreneurial initiatives and skill development.

We are aware of Howard Gardner's renowned theory of multiple intelligences which differentiates intelligence into distinct 'modalities', as opposed to a single general ability. These include musical-rhythmic, visual-spatial, verbal-linguistic, logical-mathematical, bodily-kinesthetic, interpersonal, intrapersonal, naturalistic, existential and pedagogical. While traditional paper-based exams are helpful in testing verbal-linguistic or logical-mathematical abilities, it is seen that many students, particularly



with visual, artistic, athletic, social or existential abilities, are left with a feeling that they are not intelligent. These are times where such specific type of intelligence is also measured and students are prepared for a massive transformation, creative expression in order to become wiser and compassionate humans.

In order to revolutionize the future of education, it is about time we develop far more meaningful definitions of success. In such an education model, the key contributor needs to be the students' ability to solve local and global challenges with project based and solution-based initiatives. Often, abilities like critical thinking; problem-solving; creativity; imagination; agility; adaptability and collaboration are not tested completely in paper-based examinations. These are required for the students' personal growth and are helpful in developing entrepreneurship or employment acumen within the child.

The paradigm shift needs to happen at both ends. While schools continue to focus on building and developing the positive personality traits such as curiosity, self-responsibility, kindness, empathy and physical and mental well-being through spirituality, the industry needs to start evaluating the 'best man for the best job' scenarios rather than keeping grades as the entry-based criteria.

But then how do we evaluate learning? How do we measure the impact of a given curriculum?

Formative assessments with project and solution-based outcomes are an effective day-to-day assessment technique that are often done throughout the year in order to evaluate the students' learning with an appropriate feedback from time to time. Also, the teachers' training would be imperative for any such new innovative ways of evaluation. Students' ability to use knowledge in creating something new and innovative is key for personal and social growth. This can be populated through a curriculum that places emphasis on internships, apprenticeships, mentorships, volunteer work, entrepreneurial or creative projects.

Education can be an extremely powerful medium if the curriculum can be focused on empowering and skilling young minds to creatively express themselves rather than taking a paper-based exam on a given curriculum defined in a framework.

Mr. Ajay Todkar
Parent of Era Todkar



WORKSHOPS ATTENDED



- ♣ Ms Niyati Kapoor attended workshop on Nachhaltigen Themen im DAF – Unterricht and German course level 2.4 conducted by Goethe Institute. Mit Stimme Begeistern – Inspire the voice conducted by Theatre group Die Mimosen.
- ♣ Ms. Pradnya Tamhankar and Ms. Tanashree Mukherjee attended a workshop on Visual thinking.
- ♣ Ms. Shiuli Mandal and Ms. Tanashree Mukherjee attended a webinar on Answering Conceptual Questions in Mathematics organised by CENTA.



PROUD OF YOU



LOGICAL REASONING – FINAL LEVEL RESULT

NAME	STD	SCHOOL RANK	STATE RANK
Mihir Chitnis	I – Lotus	1	2
Malhaar Aghase	II – Jupiter	1	2
Sayuri Phanse	III – B	1	4
Soham Jathar	IV – B	1	36
Anish Birud	V – B	1	33
Atharva Lonkar	V	1	33
Anushka Mutha	VI -B	1	32
Pratham Jaipuriya	VII – D	1	7
Madhushree Harjarnavis	VIII	1	10
Ishan Ambekar	IX – A	1	3



PROUD OF YOU VAISHNAVI RATHI -

OUR ALUMNI

करोनारुग्णांचे अंत्यविधी करणारी वैष्णवी



पुणे : करोनामुळे मृत्युमुखी पडलेल्या आप्तस्वकीयांचे मृतदेह हाताळायला भल्याभल्यांचे हात थरथरतात, अशा काळात परक्या करोनाग्रस्तांच्या मृतदेहावर अंत्यसंस्कार करण्याचे काम वैष्णवी राठी ही २३ वर्षांची तरुणी धाडसाने करीत आहे. चितेची राख साफ करून सरण रचणे, मृतदेह उचलणे, चितेवर ठेवणे, गोवऱ्या लावणे, दहन पूर्ण होण्यापर्यंत त्याची निगराणी करणे, अशा विविध जबाबदाऱ्या ही संवेदनशील कार्यकर्ती सेवाभावी वृत्तीने पार पाडत आहे.

व्यवसायाने इंटरिअर डिझायनर असलेल्या वैष्णवीने करोनाच्या पहिल्या लाटेत गरवारे महाविद्यालयातील कोव्हिड केअर सेंटरमध्ये परिचारिका म्हणून सात दिवस काम केले. वंचितांना अन्नपदार्थांची पाकिटे वाटण्याचे कामही तिने केले. करोनामुळे मृत्यू झालेल्या व्यक्तींच्या अंत्यसंस्काराची हेळसांड होऊ नये,



समाजाच्या

हाकेला प्रतिसाद

देण्यासारखे

दुसरे

समाधान

नाही.

मोबाइल,

लॅपटॉप,

सोशल

मीडिया, मनोरंजन, गलेलट्ट

पगाराची नोकरी या

पलीकडेही एक जग असून,

आपण त्याचे देणे लागता.

- वैष्णवी राठी



यासाठी स्वरूपवर्धिनी संस्थेच्या वतीने यंत्रणा उभारण्यात येत असून, त्यासाठी कार्यकर्त्यांची आवश्यकता असल्याचे कळाल्यावर वैष्णवीने या कामासाठी आपले नाव नोंदविले. आई-वडिलांच्या परवानगीने ती वैकुंठ स्मशानभूमीत काम करू लागली. सरण रचण्यापासून मृतदेहाला भडगनी देण्यापूर्वी संस्थेची प्रार्थना म्हणणे, मृताच्या नातेवाईकांना धीर देणे, अस्थी गोळा करून देणे ही सारी कामे ती करीत आहे.



TO MY TEACHERS

I know all of you worked hard, this is the time you really need peace of mind in May. Wish you all happy holidays.

It was a great jump for all std 7 students to go to the Secondary section. Till that time, we were pampered by teachers. But, Wonderful teachers of Secondary built a friendship bond through the virtual medium. A simple poem from my end dedicated to you all.....

*'Teacher' - a word that takes me back to the start,
The start of my very first day at school.
I tightly clenched my mother's hand.
I was afraid to let her go,
But suddenly somebody held my other hand
and all my fear flew 'cause there was someone
to understand.
She wiped my tears and took me to class.
It's when my grooming starts.
I understood that a teacher is the second
mother or father I had,
For which I'm still glad.
I am glad that I lived under their guidance.
They taught me all, all they had.
All the manners and values I have are just
because of them.
In my growing life, they are the stem.
Like a tree, I have reached heights,
For my strength re-unites.
Teachers are my preachers,
They'll live in my heart forever.
For they have given me strength to endeavour.
They are my most precious treasure.*

ARNAV JOGLEKAR
VIII C