

# Sacred Heart Times



## PAINTBRUSH STROKES GALORE

2nd April, 2022

Sacred Heart School, Siliguri marked the first Saturday of April with a colour filled afternoon. The event titled **Paintbrush Strokes Galore** was an Art and Board Display festival which saw participants across the school ponder, draw, sketch and paint their way into the consciousness of the school.

Though marked as a competition, it was a creative distraction meant to engage, explore and hone talents that remain hidden otherwise.

The event was hosted by **Nehru House** and was organised by the Art Club. The themes of the event were;

- 1. Conservation- Middle School
- 1. World Peace- Senior School

The event was attended and judged by the Director Mr. Anil Gupta, the Principal Mr Prafulla Mani Pradhan, Mrs Priyakee Gupta and Mr. S Ghosh, the art teacher.

The programme was conducted by Master Soham Sao who oversaw the entire organisation under the aegis of the student council.

The winning house was Gandhi, followed by Tagore, Nehru and Netaji.

### 'Paint , Brush Stroke and Galore'

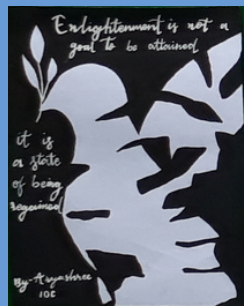
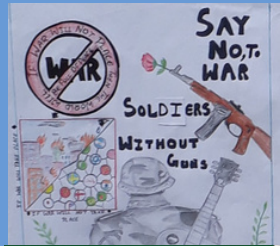
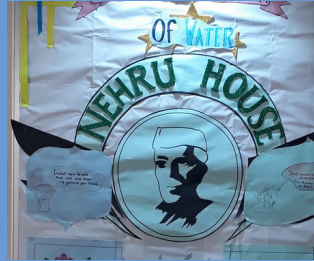
Art not only improves nature, it paints our patience into flow and heart to assemble excitement. An house event –“Paint, Brush, Stroke and Galore was held on 2nd April,2022.

While the middle school girls engaged themselves in the decoration of the house board, the senior school girls actively prepared their posters. Sarojini Naidu house which stood first in the board decoration threw light on the topic-‘energy conservation’. Madam Cama house winning the second position enlightened us about-‘soil conservation’, followed by Sister Nivedita house with third position chose to portray -‘water conservation’ while mother Teresa house with fourth position displayed beautiful decoration on the topic-‘flora and fauna.’

The posters made by the senior school girls, were on the theme –‘world peace.’ longing for dramatic victory we chose war to kill innocence. At the end, do we grow beautiful flowers when the tears of bereaved family curse you to death? The theme of world peace was wonderfully communicated by the senior school girls with Sarojini Naidu house winning the first position, Mother Teresa securing the second, Sister Nivedita with the third position and Madam Cama with the fourth position.

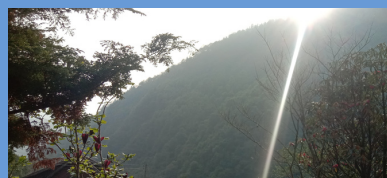
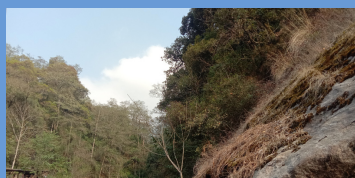
Arya Anand from Madam Cama house, Renisa Basu from Sister Nivedita house, Pragya Saha from Mother Teresa house and Mayuri Churiwal from Sarojini Naidu house took the initiative to very eloquently explained the ideas behind the posters made by their fellow house mates.

It was a successful event which not only showered the bliss of learning but also the bliss of growing together as a team.





# "MISTERIOUS" EXCURSION -2ND TO 6TH APRIL 2022



Many journeys begin with a thought, ours began with a burst. It was at Mirik when the comedy of errors happened; however it failed to dampen our boisterous troupe and we marched on till Dhotrey, where we were joined by our guide Mr Pema.

Our stopover for the climb was at Shikhar Lodge Tumling, which was at a distance of 6 kilometres.

The trek from Tumling to Kalipokhari is 6 kilometres; while the path was treacherous, it was an exhilarating experience; one filled with cramps, falls, trips and whole lot of laughter and frolic.

## HITTIN' D ROAD



We arrived at Kalipokhari dead tired but alive and ravenous.

The 7 kilometres trek from Kalphokari to Sandakphu though rewarding was a challenging experience, It was an unforgettable hike.

And though there was a lot of unintended drama at the lodge where we stayed, we didn't much appetite left to join or further the drama.

The reward that one awaits for once reaching Sandakphu is the awe inspiring sight of Mt Everest, Mt Lhotse, Mt. Makalu and Mt Chomo Lhamu peaks; unfortunately owing to the prevailing weather conditions, we were deprived of that opportunity, but it did not matter much. What mattered is we achieved what we had set out to achieve.



## THE CLIMB

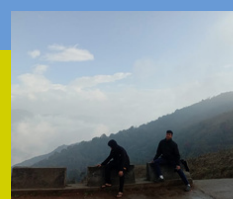
The trek is not just uphill, we also had to trek downhill, and so we did. This included clambering down to Shrikhola around 18 kilometres away, skinny dipping in the cold waters and coming out rejuvenated for the rest of our lives.

It might seem to many that the entire trek has been one big misadventure, but no, it was not. Rather it was an experience that has enriched our lives forever.



## THE RETURN

The 26 of us who were on this trek owe a great deal to our teachers Mr R.K Das and Mr Rahul Das who accompanied us on this trek.





# THE RHODODENDRON TRAIL 3RD- 7TH APRIL 2022

A trekking expedition to Sandakphu comprising of 19 boys and 2 teachers began with a lot of excitement from Dhotrey and the destination for Day 1 was Tumlin, which is nearly 6 kilometres from Dhotrey. It was here where we caught up with our guide Mr Manoj Tamang, The undulating route was filled with scenic sights and fragrance emanating from Rhododendrons and Magnolia flowers blooming against azure skies.

The desire to see the famous sunrise woke up the boys earlier than scheduled and the effort was appreciated as the sky was clear and we got a clear view of the sunrise.

What awaited us on the 2nd day was a walk through Singalila National Park, famous for the rare specie of Panda, The Red Panda. However it was not just the Panda that enthralled us, there were many tiny multicoloured feathered friends to keep us company along the rather tumultuous path.

Fortunately, as fate would have it, as we headed towards Kalipokhri approximately 18 kilometres away from Tumling, we came across a bamboo forest where awaited a Red Panda.

Though it was a long tiring walk, the sight of the lake more than made up for the exhaustion, and one cannot but be thankful because the sore feet and legs helped us sleep through brutally cold nights.

The last phase of our ascent began with a challenge as the harsh freezing wind blew and we had to climb various inclined slope to reach Sandakphu which was approximately 7 kilometres from Kaliphokri .

Slowly but surely around 2 hours later, our tired legs did scale the highest point of West Bengal, unfortunately as was the case with our previous batch of trekkers, the gods didn't wish for us to see the Sleeping Buddha.

Despite the tiny disappointment, we could not help but pose for photographs that will encapsulate a little bit of heaven for all of us.

The following day which was rather the last day of the excursion, we headed towards Srikhola, 18 unforgettable kilometres, which took us around 7 hours to cover. What was memorable about Srikhola was the opportunity to dip ourselves in the fresh mountain waters, sparkling in glee as it wined down the cliffs.

Penultimately, the fun did come to an end, but not before a brief halt at Mirik, where we got to roam and accustom ourselves with the maddening crowd that we had left behind a few days ago to embrace Mother Nature.

We owe our health, security and safety to our teachers Mr. J.P Hembrom and Mr Norden Tamang, who were kind and patient with us through the trek.



## SCALING THE HIGH



## BEAT IN TREK



## TRAILBLAZING







A student's life and Responsibility are entwined together that weaves a strong pattern in the fabric of life. Young people are motivated to helm difficult tasks to test their endurance and patience. The dogged few who emerge victorious are the ones who have realised the true meaning of responsibility. It goes beyond the display of badges or honours. What responsibility truly does is shape the character of an individual and strengthen the attitude. Every year, Sacred Heart School recognises its new leaders holding hands in solidarity and also felicitates the achievements of students in various aspects. The Investiture Ceremony and the Awards Day 2022-23 were held on 8th April, 2022 at 1 pm in the school basketball court. Nilakshi Hait of grade 8 conducted the Investiture ceremony with flair.

The Sacred Heart family was honoured to have Mrs. Rajani Parmar as the Chief Guest and Ms. Rozy Mehta as the Guest of Honour. The event commenced with the welcome dance by Renisa Basu of grade 10. Her graceful movements were equally supported by the wonderful poetry recited by Pragya Saha and Mayuri Churiwal. After that brilliant performance, the MOC announced Subhrajyoti Mondal and Mehek Khatun of grade 12 as the Head Boy and Head Girl respectively. Following that the names of the respective House Captains (Boys & Girls) were announced. Sacred Heart School has four houses for the boys and the girls. From the Boys' wing Somnath Paul of grade 12 was elected as the House captain of Tagore House, Swarnim Srijan of grade 12 as the captain of Netaji House, Ritesh Kumar of grade 12 as the captain of Gandhi House and Kishan Kumar Gaur of grade 12 as the captain of Nehru House. Likewise from the Girls' wing Sandhya Dhamala of grade 12 was declared as the captain of Mother Teresa House, Palak Singh of grade 12 as the captain of Sister Nivedita House, Anshika of grade 12 as the captain of Naidu House and Simran Jaiswal of grade 12 as the captain of Madam Cama House. A sense of leadership arose in the students when the school choir got the enthusiastic air into rhythm after Principal sir administered the oath of office.

After the Investiture, we moved on to the Award Ceremony which was conducted by Mrs. Spandita Purkait. The students were awarded with certificates and prizes for achieving academic excellence in their respective classes. There were also certificates given to the students who had progressed and also for displaying leadership qualities. Getting recognized in front of the entire Sacred Heart family was indeed a proud moment for the students.

In the end, the Chief Guest and The Guest of Honour addressed the students and congratulated them on their achievements. It was an enriching experience to hear them speak.







## A ROAD OF ONE'S OWN

A trek through a valley of rhododendron flowers, lurking leopards and wild flowers and striking landscapes is an opportunity to not just explore nature but also to overcome the great fear of the hitherto unknown, and to put ourselves to test. Accordingly 41 senior girls (of grades 10 and 12) of Sacred Heart School embraced the opportunity to visit Gorkhey with great enthusiasm and sheer joy.

Eagerly boarding the bus from the school premises our journey began on the morning of 9th April 2022. Our escorts were Ms Ranjana Sharma, Ms. Poonam Mishra and Mr Nigam Pradhan. It was to be the first real trek taken solely by the girls section. As the bus wended up the hilly terrain, we were ecstatic and clad in the wings of youth our bus propelled on in lighthearted joy.

The bus made its first halt at Mirik a picturesque little hill town, which opened its watery arch for us to enter and savor the sights, sounds and delectable cuisine it had to offer. Our next stop was to be Srikhola, where The Goparma Hotel was to be our niche for the night. After a languid evening we entertained ourselves to an impromptu Disco where everyone danced to their heart's content unburdening the cares of the world.

As the sun rose on the morning of 10th April, we set out for our destination Gorkhey with a staff in hand and a trekking bag on our backs. It was to be an adventure as we walked up the steep and slippery pathways, however, undeterred we went on undaunted. Under the care of our able guides, Mr. Khundop Sherpa, Mr. Norden Sherpa, Mr. Phurba Tamang, we continued our climb up hill. The dulcet sounds were soothing and the sights refreshing with the red and white rhododendron lining our eye view and the colorful chirping birds egging us on. Often times we stood a while and stared in wonder.

After a stretch of 7km, we rested at Rammam where lunch was served. Being a hungry batch of travelers, we readily did justice to the fare that graced the table. Energized with the lunch, we stepped into the unknown to partake of the adventure that lay ahead. The jungle was dense, the roads were slippery and it was getting dark. Soon the rains poured down; but we were undaunted. Clad in raincoats to the battering of the rain we plodded our way through another 7 kms that brought us to Gorkhey. It was an exhausting 4 hour walk but no one in the world was as happy as us.

Tranquility awaited us when we crossed Srikhola the next day. It was to mark our descent. Here we stopped over for group photographs. The hanging bridge which is built across a local river was an obvious choice. The cold river that replenished the small populace, refreshed us, making us realise why man chose to build his first habitation on the banks of a river. The stay over at Srikhola was something that we will always remember. Here as silence spread across the horizon, we just had to stand in the balcony to reach out to the breathtaking view of the mountains. The gurgling river told a sweet tale of cascading love and unrequited feelings. Our tired feet rested and we dozed off to much deserved sleep.

The following morning we hurtled down to Rimbik, a small hilly market place. Here we rested a while and treated ourselves to tea and snacks, observing the sights and sounds of a bustling town that would soon grow quiet to the awake to the sound of cicada and howl of the jackals. It was a 4 hours drive to Mirik where we halted briefly for lunch and trinket shopping. Soon we returned to school late in the evening at 8: 30. We were tired no doubt but had come back wiser and stronger; we realised that physical stamina is an essential quality to be cultivated, and help us hold when a path falters because our steps never should.

In completing the trek we managed to become the first batch of Sacred Heart girls to complete a trek in the wilderness and return. We not only proved our naysayers wrong, we broke a psychological roadblock.

We seek to offer a sincere note of thanks to the school management for giving us this opportunity.



PETAL CRUSHERS



CLAMBERING



TRICKY STEPS



LEADING THE PACK



REST A WHILE





## Vernacular Creative Writing Presentation

Culture is a rainbow of the different shades of society and writing is the expression of soul and mind. The theme for the Vernacular creative writing Presentation was 'Culture and Heritage'.

The Vernacular Creative Writing Presentation was held on 16th April, 2022 at 1.20p.m. The meritorious pieces were read out commendably by a representative of each house. Thus we had Archana Kumari, IXC (Mother Teresa House), Diya Sahani, IXC (Madam Cama House), Ishita Kumari, VIIC (Sarojini Naidu House) and Srishthi Mukhia, VII C (Sister Nivedita House) reading out their innovative creations. Nilakshi Hait, VIIC read out her lovely poem on Culture as a special participant. Mahesh Acharya of grade VIII and Abdullah Ahad Joy of grade X created quite an impression with their works written in Nepali and Bengali respectively. Equally commendable were the compositions in Hindi that were penned by Swayam Krishna of grade VIII, Trideep Raj of grade X and Utkarsh Raj of grade XII.

Competition is fun but what is more cherished is the work that you do for the sake of pleasure and not just to attain victory. The same could be said about this event.

With Sister Nivedita House and Netaji House as the organisers, Renisa Basu, XC and Rohit Jain, XII hosted the event with great confidence and poise.

The Head of the Vernacular department, Mr. Dharmendra Poddar Sir addressed us after the event. He was glad that we had retained the command over language though we could not come to school for two years.

We were very lucky to have Director Sir, Priyakee Ma'am and Principal Sir with us. After the event, our Principal Sir narrated a story which pointed out that Culture is something that keeps growing. Priyakee Ma'am in her inimitable style told us that it was essential that we cultivated multi linguistic skills. No doubt their words were very encouraging.

It was indeed an afternoon well spent. We relaxed outdoors as the pieces were read out. Chahat Sitlani and Utkarsh Raj of grade XII took the opportunity to thank the organisers, teachers and students for their kind co-operation.





Orchid Basketball Academy hosted a 3:3 open tournament on Saturday, 9th of April, 2022.

The categories for the tournament were -Under-12(boys and girls), Under-16 (boys and girls) and Under-18(boys and girls). A total of 6 teams were in the Under-18 category, while the Under-16 had 6 teams.

The boys who represented our school were as follows-

Under-18 :

- Subhrajyoti Mondal.
- Somnath Paul.
- Saksham Bhagat.
- Priyanshu Raj.

Under-16:

- Vedant Jaiswal.
- Vaibhav Jaiswal.
- Abhinav.
- Gitesh.

Our team was accompanied by Mr Diwakar Ghosh, our coach.

Our first match was against Birla Divya Jyoti which we won comprehensively and made our way into the semi-finals that was against the formidable Jalpaiguri Club. As expected, it turned out to be a challenging match, but we managed to scrape our way past the opponents and booked our place in the finals. Unfortunately our Under-16 boys despite playing courageously failed to make it to the finals.

Owing to an exhausting schedule the organisers decided that the finals would be played the following day(10th April,2022).

The final was to be played against Kaba Juniors.

Our match started at frantic pace with neither of us willing to give an inch to the other. The points were scored in quick succession, some were missed, angry glances were exchanged, the referee's whistle blew more often than not, but our pace didn't slacken. We were like two gladiators in the Roman Coliseum fighting for our trophy, though the analogy might be inappropriate. Often, when we looked over at our coach on the sidelines, he looked bemused not only at our ability and agility but also at our inability to follow instructions, esp. when things went south.

But as fate would have it, despite our valiance, we lost ground, and the more desperate we got, the more mistakes we committed, consequently at the end of the match, the score card read in our opponents favour.

Fortunately not all was lost, because we had our captain of the under-18 team Subhrajyoti Mondal being awarded the most promising player of the tournament and we had something to show our friends on our return to school.

Though victory would have tasted sweet yet the satisfaction of having left behind nothing on the court makes us proud of what we have achieved.







Music brings solace to the soul, happiness to the mind and harmony to environment. "Incipimus iterum", the Inter House Singing Competition was a platform given to the budding singers of the school.

Finally the D Day arrived and the venue was set up at the Girls' Hall on 23rd April 22 at 1:20 PM.

Tagore House and Mother Teresa House jointly hosted the event that was almost a brainchild of our music teacher Mr. Pankaj Biswakarma Sir.

The musical journey flagged off with an inauguration where the judges were felicitated with khadas and bouquets. The Sacred Heart Family was delighted to have Mr. Niraj Sharma, Mr. Anuj Gurung and Mr. Anand Kharka as the esteemed judges to grace the musical event.

Each house presented a solo number and a group song each and the musical sojourn went on smoothly.

The participants were equally good and competition was tough.

The Masters and Mistresses of ceremony showed not just an immense potential for public speaking but also excellent presence of mind.

A guitar presentation by our Principal Sir came as a surprise as well as a mark of encouragement.

The judges too were gracious enough to enthrall the excited audience with a melodious number.

The presence of Director Sir, Priyakee Ma'am and Principal Sir was indeed very encouraging.

Finally the moment that all had been waiting for with bated breaths arrived. The points were tallied and the winners for the solo and group were announced by Principal Sir and Ruby Ma'am for both the Boys and Girls.

We look forward to more such events that aim at a holistic development of children.

## THE FINAL RESULTS:

### Girls

#### Category A - Solo

- Samridhi Sarkar 2. Sanskriti Singh 3. Shreeja Ghosh 4. Helen Das

#### Category B - Group

- Naidu 2. Mother Teresa 3. Madam Cama 4. Sister Nivedita

### Boys

#### Category A - Solo

- Aditya Aryan 2. Mahesh Acharya 3. Om Kumar 4. Darshil Raj

#### Category B - Group

- Netaji 2. Nehru/Gandhi 4. Tagore





# POWER PRESENTATION

## Annual Interhouse Ppt Competition

30th April 2022

The Annual Interhouse Power Point Competition was jointly organised by Nehru House and Madam Cama House .

The date of the event was 30th April 2022 and the Venue was the Girls Main Hall.

The judges for the competition were, Mr Rakesh Das, Mr Niloy Hait, and Mr Pankaj Biswakarma.

Principal Sir, Director Sir and Director Ma'am were in the audience to encourage the participants to do their best.

The Competition was hosted by Mehak Khatun (Madam Cama House) and Md Sadman Sadaf (Nehru House).

The topics for the respective houses were picked by a draw of lots and the houses had been given a week's time to prepare their slides.

The programme began with Mother Teresa house who spoke on the *\*Role of Youth in Building of the Nation\**

The House was represented by Nilakshi Hait and Sonakshi Saha. The presentation was made by Aarya Shree and Karishma Singh

who were followed by Sister Nivedita House. The representatives were Shristi Mukhia and Aarya Kamal. The presentation was prepared by Palak Singh and Renisa Basu. Their presentation spoke about *\*Information and Technology\** and its journey across the ages.

The house to speak next were the members of the Naidu House. The Naidu House was represented by Samridi Srijan and Samridi Sarkar. The presentation was prepared by Anshika and Mayuri Churiwal. Their presentation was on *\*Power of Media\** and its relevance in the Modern Society.

To wrap up the presentation Madam Cama House Members spoke on *\*The Bermuda Triangle\**

The presenters were Sanskriti Singh and Udisha Karn. The presentation was prepared by Aarya Anand and Simran Jaiswal.

After successfully completing the girls presentation, the competition moved onto the boys leg.

The boys presentation started off with the members of Tagore House speaking about *\*The Top Business Personalities of India\** The speakers were Swayam Krishna and Avinash Shah. The presentation was prepared by Sagil Babu and Somenath Paul.

The House to speak next was Netaji House. The topic they had chosen was *\*Earth and Space\**. The representatives were Mayank Agarwal and Krish Raj. The presentation was prepared by Irfan Ahmed and Ayush Bhakat.

Gandhi House followed its peers to put up their presentation on *\*Possibility of Life on Mars\** The presentation's representatives were Adhyant Gupta and Ayushman Sharma. The presentation was prepared by Pranish Rai and Utkarsh Raj.

To round up the presentation was the Nehru House. Their topic was *\*The New World of Cryptocurrency\**.

The presentation's representatives were Arpan Pathak and Vedant Jaiswal. It was prepared by Kishan Gaur and Soham Sao.

In his observatory speech Principal Sir congratuated the organisers, the participants and the entire school community for coming together to make the event really significant despite the challenge thrown by weather and the technical glitches.

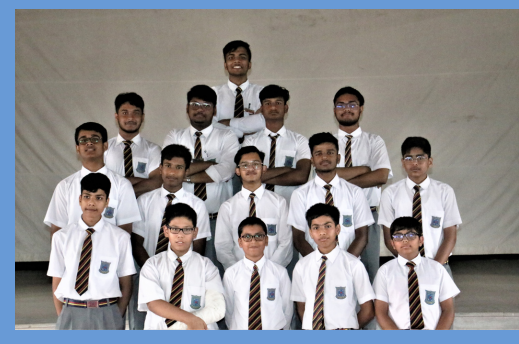
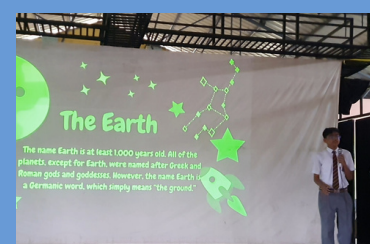
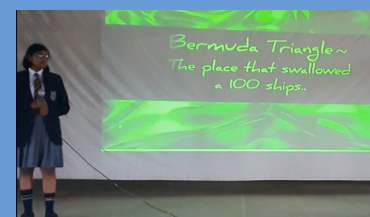
Priyakee Ma'am in her speech singled out the presenters from the Middle School for a special commendation and congratulated the organisers on the effortless flow of the event.

The rankings of the Girls Ppt competition as declared by judges were as follows-

1. Madam Cama
2. Naidu House
3. Mother Teresa
4. Sister Nivedita

The rankings of the Boys Ppt competition as declared by judges were as follows-

1. Nehru House
2. Gandhi House
3. Tagore House
4. Netaji House





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