



**GOLDEN JUBILEE SOUVENIR**  
**1973 -2023**



**ST. THOMAS CONVENT SCHOOL**  
**PAURI, UTTARAKHAND**



*We lend our ears to humming mounts  
The dwelling place of God, the great  
The plants and trees and lovely birds  
Sing tuneful songs to praise His name.  
Our minds we shape to learn the love  
That spells on us our precious path, ways  
We move the world "To serve with love"  
That makes our lives a blissful gift.  
The words of gracious joy and love  
That give the suffering man a touch  
And make him see the lives true worth.  
We serve them all with love we pledge.*





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Let the  
*little children*  
come to me  
for the  
*Kingdom of Heaven*  
belongs to  
such as these

Mathew 19:14





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We envision a child centered co-educational school in which everybody irrespective of caste, creed, gender, social and economic status, privileged or under privileged, gets equal opportunities and contributes his/her best for the cause of the society.

To realize our vision, we are working towards grooming each child as a responsible and sensible citizen by:-

## OUR VISION

- Imparting holistic education to children for their all-round development.
- Working on child centered techniques of teaching-learning.
- Trying to draw out the best in children, as we believe each child is bestowed with some special talent by God Almighty.
- Inculcating a sense of responsibility and social awareness among children.
- Instilling in them self-control, self-discipline, self-dependence power of Initiative and winning attitude.
- Helping them learn the norms of social behaviour and interaction and dignity of Human behaviour in particular.
- Helping them get prepared to face the challenges of tomorrow.

# ST. THOMAS CONVENT SCHOOL

## PAURI, UTTARAKHAND



### Prayer for Golden Jubilee Year

Lord of mercy and compassion, we thank you for the manifold blessings you have showered upon us and upon our society during the past fifty years through Saint Thomas Convent School. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our beloved institution, we pray that we may be inspired by the teachings of Jesus Christ and our patron saint Thomas. Bless all the people who worked tirelessly for the progress of this school, especially our pioneers, bishops, managers, principals, teachers, parents, former students, non-teaching staff, civil authorities, well-wishers and benefactors throughout its fifty-years of history. Thank you, Lord, for giving us the opportunity to be part of this temple of learning, and to be an instrument of love and justice in our society and nation. Enlighten us and strengthen us with your Spirit to prepare ourselves to celebrate the Golden Jubilee with zeal and enthusiasm. Lord, continue to bless us, and our institution with your grace so that we become true witnesses of your love and be true nation-builders, Let our institution be a light and life to the Pauri-Garhwal Region.



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GOLDEN

YEARS

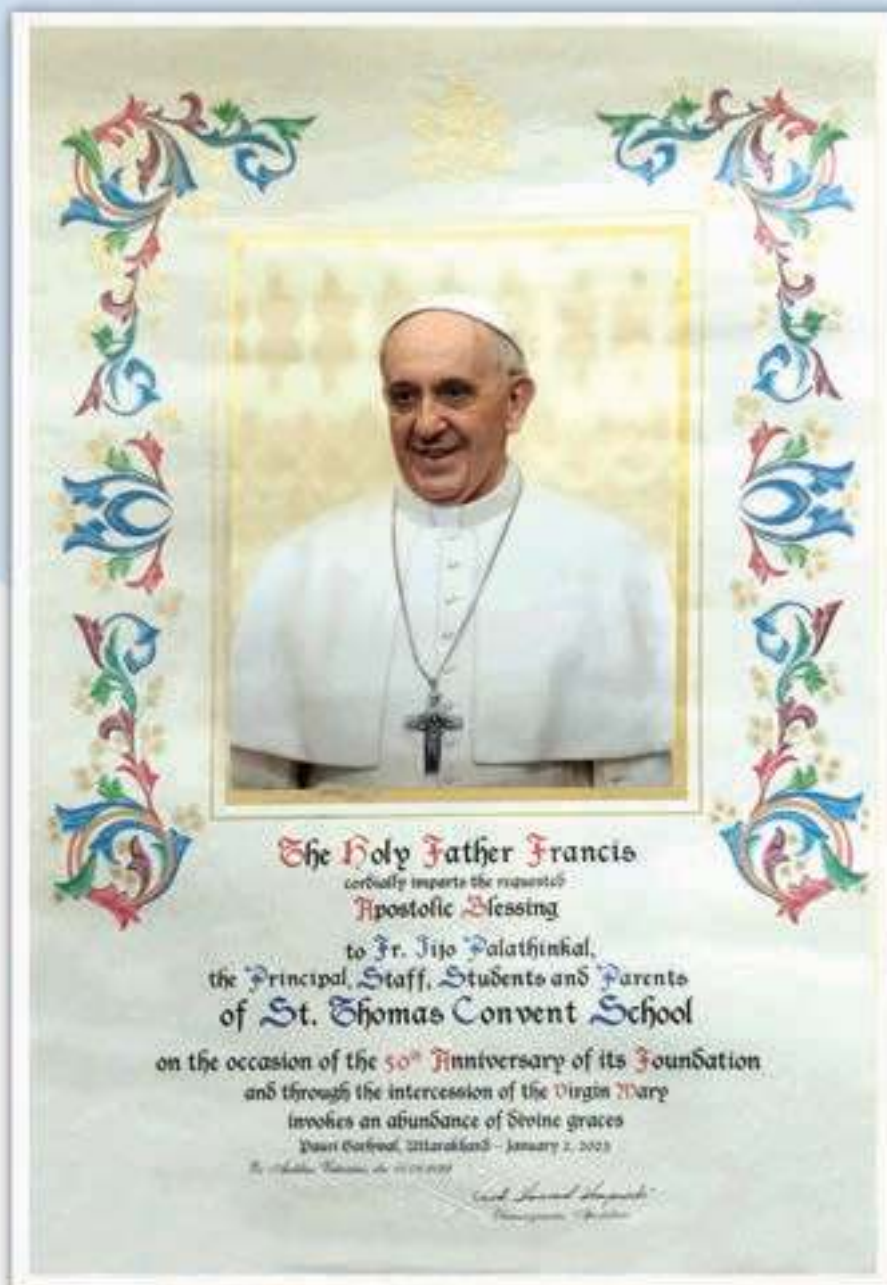
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# Contents

01	05	60	75	97	125	136	139
Blessings	Empowering voices: Messages	Seeds of success: Cultivating Excellence from Day One	Deeper look at our school: School Profile	Celebrating the Golden Milestone	Celebrating Unforgettable Moments: A legacy of Photos	Rekindling the Flames: The Alumni Reunion	Fifty Years of Gold: Golden Jubilee Celebration
A vision for Tomorrow	Celebrating our pioneering spirit	The threads that shaped us- Former teachers	Nostalgia Blooms: Alumni messages	Sharing by Teachers	Showcasing Potential: Our Rising Stars	Parents Forum	
02	45	68	80	115	132	138	



Pope Francis



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# GOLDEN

# YEARS



**MAR RAPHAEL THATTIL**

Major Arch Bishop  
Syro-Malabar Church

*The bridge builder*

*“I would like to  
extend my  
appreciation to the  
Management,  
staff and  
students”*



## Mar Raphael Thattil

Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church

Prot. No. 0176/2024

### MESSAGE

I am delighted to learn that St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri-Garhwal, under the management of the Education Society of the Eparchy of Bijnor, is publishing a souvenir to commemorate its Golden Jubilee. Over the past several decades, the school has excelled in shaping the character and enhancing the academic standards of countless students. Education, as Aristotle beautifully expressed, is not just about imparting knowledge but also about moulding the character of individuals. According to him, “The roots of education are bitter, but its fruit is sweet.” Students should gain the wisdom to discern right from wrong and utilize their knowledge for personal growth and societal benefit.

St. Thomas School has effectively achieved this, providing students with a taste of the sweetness of education despite the challenges of the learning process. The effort of the school for the past fifty years has contributed significantly to the transformation of the society by shaping the youth. A Christian institution like yours aims to impart knowledge as well as to guide students in navigating life's challenges with moral integrity.

On the occasion of St. Thomas School's Golden Jubilee, I am confident that it feels proud of its achievement in shaping the minds and hearts of students for their betterment and the progress of society. I would like to extend my appreciation to the Management, staff and students and send my blessings to all!

**Mar Raphael Thattil**

Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church



Syro-Malabar  
Major Archiepiscopal Curia

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**GEORGE CARDINAL  
ALENCHERRY**

Major Arch Bishop Emeritus  
Syro-Malabar Church

*Compassionate  
Mentor*

“  
A school is like a  
lamp on the  
hill tops to  
light up its  
surroundings.”

George Cardinal Alencherry



Prot. No. 0858/2022

## MESSAGE

I am very happy to know that St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri, Garhwal founded in 1973, under the management of the Education Society of the Eparchy of Bijnor, is publishing a souvenir on the occasion of its Golden Jubilee Celebration. It is commendable to learn that all these 50 years, this institution has tried to retain its identity by infusing academic excellence and moulding good citizens for tomorrow, inculcating in them the values of faith in God, humility, compassion, forgiveness, moral uprightness and so on. I hope that the school will further strengthen its focus on its contribution in the field of education, personality development and charity etc.

The amount of knowledge that is available today will prove meaningless if the children are not directed properly. A school is like a lamp on the hill tops to light up its surroundings. It provides students with a noble vision and an appropriate approach to life.

I congratulate everyone who has added up towards the betterment of the children and the institution. I extend my warm greetings and felicitations to all those who are associated with this school and I wish every success to this souvenir. I appreciate all those who worked behind this noble effort.

May God bless you all

+ *George Alencherry*

Cardinal George Alencherry



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**BISHOP VINCENT  
NELLAIPARAMBIL**  
President, ESDB

*Wisdom in Holy Grace*

*“I salute those  
architects who  
made the  
impossible  
possible”*



## EDUCATION SOCIETY OF THE DIOCESE OF Bijnor

Bishop's House, P.O. Box 1, Kandiwar, Pauri-Garhwal (Dt.), Uttarakhand, INDIA, Pin - 246149

Bishop Vincent Nellaiparambil  
President

### MESSAGE

Being in the 50th year of existence is undoubtedly a remarkable achievement for any institution. It is a proud moment for the entity as it has a long story to tell: the story of pain and gain, the story of victories and failures, the story of sweat and blood, the story of fears and uncertainties... As for St. Thomas, Pauri, those stories have now turned out to be pebbles of memoir, to be engraved in the golden letters of history. May I, right at the beginning of this message, salute those architects who made the impossible possible! My humble prayers are for those pioneers who materialized this dream for St. Thomas, Pauri. There are few among them who are no more with us today but are gone for their reward in heaven. Bowing my head in prayerful homage to them, I thank God Almighty for all those that are with us today, and for all that we have received from time to time through their instrumentality. Many Rev. Fathers, Sisters, Brothers, and other committed people have been part of this institution of learning, making it what it is today. I am sure that, looking at this institution now, they all must be feeling proud to have been a part of it.

St. Thomas School, Pauri, has always stood for certain principles without compromising its honour and integrity. A fact check would paint a clear picture of the truth that the institution has had an immense impact on the socio-politico-economic growth of Pauri.

Ever since the arrival of the missionaries in Pauri, the hill district has seen multi-dimensional growth in all facets of its life. The age-old Messmore Inter College, another Christian education institution in Pauri, established in 1873, has always stood as a beacon of knowledge and learning in all aspects of its life. Thousands got educated at this prestigious institution. A century later, with the founding of the St. Thomas Convent School in 1973, there was a leap in English education that unwrapped new avenues and possibilities. The immense trust the people of Pauri placed in the missionaries while sending their wards to the school and the support and guidance it received from various departments throughout these years are all recalled at this moment with a grateful heart. Over these years, St. Thomas School has seen a collective growth in its glory, and I pray to the Almighty

that the same spirit of unity and solidarity may continue so that this institution may achieve greater heights.

'Education is that which remains, if one has forgotten everything he learned in school,' says Albert Einstein. In fact, the sole purpose of education is to make a person, a human being—a being who has a sense of God and fellow human beings. An educational institution is therefore, a place where the transformation of every person takes place—the transformation from a person to a human. Once a person goes out of school after having completed his/her studies, he/she is expected to put all those values, disciplines, and morals into action, thus making himself/herself a person of integrity and truthfulness. Even if he/she forgets everything else but succeeds in living for society, serving it with love, as the school motto suggests, and making a difference in it with his/her existence, then his/her education is considered worthy and productive.

Education is also the window that opens an individual to the outer world. It is a force that drives a person toward uprightness. It connects people, societies, countries, and continents. At this juncture, I remember all those students who, once part of the St. Thomas Family, have made their impact on various levels of life, be it within the country or abroad!

Pope Francis calls for a global education pact with humanity at its centre. "To educate is always an act of hope, one that calls for cooperation in turning a barren and paralyzing indifference into another way of thinking that recognizes our interdependence." He also endorses that any form of education, devoid of the sense of fellow brethren, is futile. He encourages parents to accompany their children in the education process: "Parents themselves enjoy the right to choose freely the kind of education—accessible and of good quality—which they wish to give their children in accordance with their convictions".

My special congratulations go to Fr Jijo Thomas, the Manager, Sr Prasada CMC, the Principal, all Rev Sisters, staff members (teaching and non-teaching), parents, students, and all well-wishers for being part of this historical milestone—the 50th founding year of St Thomas School, Pauri. May God bless you all!

With warm regards and blessings,



+ *Vincent*

✦ Vincent Nellaiparambil  
President, ESDB



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# GOLDEN

# YEARS

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**PUSHKAR SINGH  
DHAMA**

Chief Minister  
Uttarakhand

*Inspirational  
Architect of Development*

“ मेरी ओर से विद्यालय को अपनी स्वर्ण जयंती के सुअवसर पर प्रकाशित स्मारिका के सफल प्रकाशन के लिए हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनायें। ”

## पुष्कर सिंह धामी



मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

उत्तराखण्ड साहित्य अकादमी  
देहरादून - 248001  
फोन : 0135-2650433  
0135-2716262  
फैक्स : 0135-2712827  
कैम्प कार्यालय  
फोन : 0135-2750033  
0135-2750344  
फैक्स : 0135-2752144

## संदेश

मुझे यह जानकर अत्यन्त प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि सेंट थॉमस कॉन्वेंट स्कूल पौड़ी गढ़वाल, उत्तराखण्ड, अपनी स्वर्ण जयन्ती के सुअवसर पर एक स्मारिका का प्रकाशन करने जा रहा है। मुझे आशा है कि इस स्मारिका में एक ओर जहाँ विद्यालय से जुड़ी विभिन्न गतिविधियाँ आम जनमानस तक पहुँचेंगी, वहीं दूसरी ओर यह छात्र-छात्राओं में पठन-पाठन एवं लेखन कार्य के प्रति उनकी अभिरूचि भी बढ़ेगी। स्मारिका में प्रकाशित विभिन्न लेखों/विचारों से विद्यालय की अन्य शाखाओं में अध्ययनरत छात्र-छात्राओं एवं सभी पाठकों को भी जागरूक करने का कार्य करेगी। विद्यालय के द्वारा समय-समय पर समाजहित में किये जा रहे उत्कृष्ट कार्यों एवं ऐसे विभिन्न लेखों/विचारों को एक स्मारिका के माध्यम से प्रकाशित किया जाना निःसंदेह प्रशंशनीय कार्य है। मेरी ओर से विद्यालय को अपनी स्वर्ण जयन्ती के सुअवसर पर प्रकाशित स्मारिका के सफल प्रकाशन के लिए हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनायें।

पुष्कर सिंह धामी  
मुख्यमंत्री उत्तराखण्ड



**BISHOP  
JOHN VADAKEL CMI**

**Bishop Emeritus  
of Bijnor**

*Innovative Trailblazer*

*“The school was started with just two students whom they managed to get after waiting for many days.”*

## MESSAGE

Garhwal had been an unknown land for the new CMI missionaries. It was Fr. Tom Jose who took daring steps to explore the hazardous hilly region. Fr. Tom Jose reached Pauri on June 12, 1973. Initially he met Mr. Ivor Chowfin who had been staying at Gadoli and started living in his house. From August '73 he shifted his stay in a rented room close to the Prayer House at Chopra on the way to the small Pauri town ship. Br. Augustine Keemattom CMI, the first regent in Bijnor also gave his company for a few days. Later Fr. Tom Jose shifted his tent into a Bhotia house on the road, before Dandapani from where he launched into the initial stages of the school at Pauri. Later, late Fr. Raymond and Fr. Lucas Kapiarmala also joined Pauri and they together continued exploring to see into the possibilities all through the area. Fr. Tom Jose purchased the present school campus.

On June 28, 1973 they got a building of Mr. A.B Singh on rent at Chopra as the first residence building (convent) for the newly arriving CMC Sisters to look after the then proposed school at Pauri. The first Sisters were Sr. Januarius, Sr. Gina and Sr. Reenet. Later Fr. Tom Jose managed to get space meant for a small shop close to the BijliGhar, in which he opened the new school on Sept 07, 1973 and named it as Vimala Convent School.

The school was started with just two students whom they managed to get after waiting for many days. With the help of the CMC Sisters, the strength of the school slowly but steadily grew and the school was shifted into the basement of the Bata shop opposite to Garhwal Sweet House. Later Fr. Tom Jose was transferred from Pauri and Fr. John Vadakel was appointed in-charge of Pauri mission station and Manager of the school. Later as the number the students and sections went up, new building was successively arranged on rent for five years, and the school was partially or fully shifted into them. Finally, step by step, all the classes were shifted into the shed built and the present priest's residence in the present school campus.

The new school building was completed and blessed, classes were shifted into it but the nursery classes continued functioning in the shed attached to the Priest's residence. Since the second building was completed all the classes were accommodated in the school buildings. The school steadily grew in strength and quality. Till to date all children passed out both in class X and XII with enviable distinctions. In short God has been so gracious and generous down through the 50 years in the envious growth of St. Thomas School for which the dedication of CMC Sisters has to be remembered with thankful hearts. All the priests as Managers rendered their untiring efforts to bring the school to its qualitative fame. Bp. Gratian Mundadan CMI has to be remembered as the heroic captain who sailed the ship of St. Thomas even in turbulent rough waters down the years.

As the Golden Jubilee of the school is being solemnly celebrated, I wish abundance of God's Blessings on the Staff and the Management to strive that the school will touch the zenith of success in educating new generations of students who will further the fame and glorious success of St. Thomas School, Pauri.

+ Bishop John Vadakel CMI



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**Sr. GRACE  
THERESE CMC**

Superior General, CMC

*Cherished  
Guardian*

*“The institution has  
risen to great  
heights of excel-  
lence by contant  
striving to better the  
best.”*

**Congregation of the Mother of Carmel**

Mount Carmel Generalate, Aluva

**MESSAGE**

I am delighted to know that St. Thomas Convent School is bringing out a souvenir to commemorate its Golden Jubilee Celebration. The school has left an indelible imprint in the field of education by completing 50 years of commendable service to the people of Pauri.

It is a matter of great pride that this institution has risen to great heights of excellence by constant striving to better the best. Excellence is the distinguishing mark of this institution. The school is pledged to providing quality education. The pride in providing a caring atmosphere to all its students is just conducive for the young minds to be nurtured. Besides academic excellence, the school is committed to inculcating in all its students strong ethical values of integrity, politeness, kindness and respect for all. It ignites the young minds and moulds the pupils into good citizens as well as the good leaders of the nation. The school plays a great role in shaping the character and personality of the child, the society and its people in the sphere of social, economic, mental, moral and physical development.

I would like to extend my heartiest felicitations to the Manager Fr. JijoPalathinkal, Principal Sr. Prasada CMC, teachers, non-teaching staff, students and the parents for being a great support and source of inspiration in all matters of the school.

May God bless you and all your endeavors.

*Sr. Grace Therese CMC*Sr. Grace Therese CMC  
Superior General

Thakurukara P.O. - 683106, Emakulam Dt., Kerala, India. Tel: 0484/2627050, 0447027050  
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**SUSHIL KUMAR IAS**

Commissioner  
Garwhal

*Advocate for  
Public Welfare*

“ इस पत्रिका में उल्लेखित  
विषयों से आज के युवा  
वर्ग को एक नई दिशा  
मिलेगी। ”

**सुशील कुमार**  
आई.ए.एस.



आयुक्त  
गढ़वाल मण्डल

दिनांक : 17.05.2023

## संदेश

अधोहस्ताक्षरी को यह जानकर हार्दिक प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि सेंट थॉमस कॉन्वेंट स्कूल, पौड़ी अपनी स्वर्ण जयन्ती पूर्ण होने के शुभ अवसर पर स्वर्ण जयन्ती स्मारिका का प्रकाशन करने जा रही है।

सेंट थॉमस कॉन्वेंट स्कूल, पौड़ी द्वारा प्रकाशित पत्रिका की स्वर्ण जयन्ती के उपलक्ष्य में मेरी ओर से ढेर सारी शुभकामनाएँ अर्पित करते हुए यह आशा करता हूँ कि इस पत्रिका में उल्लेखित विषयों से आज के युवा वर्ग को एक नई दिशा मिलेगी। विद्यालय पत्रिका, विद्यालय के समस्त क्रियाकलापों का एक प्रतिबिम्ब है, इसके द्वारा उभरते रचनाकारों व सृजनशील प्रतिभाओं को अपनी सृजन क्षमता को प्रदर्शित करने का सुअवसर प्राप्त होता है और उसे परिमार्जित करने का एक मौका। अपनी रचनाओं को पत्रिका में प्रकाशित देखकर विद्यार्थियों को अत्यधिक आनन्द प्राप्त होता है। लेखन और चिन्तन, सृजन के लिए अत्यन्त आवश्यक योग्यताएँ हैं। विद्यालय पत्रिका के माध्यम से इनका विकास किया जा सकता है।

मैं विद्यालय के स्वर्ण जयन्ती के इस शुभ अवसर पत्रिका के प्रकाशन से जुड़े सभी लोगों को हार्दिक बधाई देता हूँ और इसकी सफलता की मंगल कामना प्रेषित करता हूँ। मुझे उम्मीद है कि पत्रिका सभी आयु वर्ग के विद्यार्थियों को उचित स्थान प्रदान करेगी।

(सुशील कुमार)

आयुक्त  
गढ़वाल मण्डल पौड़ी।



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GOLDEN

YEARS

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**DR. ASHISH  
CHAUHAN IAS**

DM, Puri

*Our Administrative  
Maestro*

“  
Hardwork  
contributed in  
scripting the  
success of this  
institution”

**डॉ० आशीष चौहान**

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जिलाधिकारी गढ़वाल



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आपका पत्र संख्या 202/HSP/

दिनांक पेट्री 17/12/22

## MESSAGE

I am indeed happy to know that St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of its existence in this hill town Pauri. On this occasion I extend my deepest appreciation for all those people, the pioneers and the present ones, whose commitment to their mission combined with hard work contributed in scripting the success story of this institution

I do appreciate and acknowledge its achievements in academic excellence and the contributions it has been making in building up a healthy society rooted in values and moulding citizens who are conscious of their responsibilities and rights towards the nation.

My heartiest congratulation to the management, staff and students.

May the good Lord continue to bless you all.

*With Regards*

  
( Dr. Ashish Chauhan )



**SHWETA  
CHOUBEY I.P.S.**

Sr. Supdt. of Police  
Pauri, Garhwal

*Strategic Visionary*

“  
I wish the  
commemorative  
edition  
all success”

श्वेता चौबे  
मा०पु०से०  
**Shweta Choubey**  
I.P.S.



वरिष्ठ पुलिस अधीक्षक  
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दिनांक/Date 12/2/22

## MESSAGE

It's a matter of immense pleasure that St.Thomas Convent School, Pauri has entered into its Golden Jubilee year to commemorate the occasion, school is bringing out its Golden Jubilee Souvenir.

St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri has been playing an important role in imparting education. They have made significant contribution in educating students as well as have enabled them to take lead role in the society. I hope the collective efforts of the teachers, students and management would enable the institution to scale great heights in the future.

I compliment St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri on this auspicious occasion and wish the commemorative edition all success.

Best wishes.

  
Shweta Choubey



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**MAHAVIR SINGH BISHT**  
**P. E. S****Director**  
**Secondary Education***Passionate Educator*

“ This Golden Jubilee celebration is not merely a commemoration of the past but also a celebration of the bright future that lies ahead ”

**Mahavir Singh Bisht**  
**P.E.S**

Director, Secondary Education,  
Garhwal Mandal Pauri  
mahavir.edu@gmail.com,  
Ph No. 941236742

**MESSAGE**

It is with great pleasure and profound admiration that I extend my heartfelt Congratulations on the momentous occasion of the Golden jubilee celebration of St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri. As we gather together on 21 September 2023, to commemorate Fifty years of excellence in education and service, We reflect upon the remarkable journey of this Christian Minority Institution Under the esteemed management of Education Society of Diocese of Bijnor.

Throughout the past five decades, St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri has stood as a beacon of knowledge, compassion and faith, nurturing countless young minds and shaping them into responsible and compassionate individuals. It is truly a testament of the dedication and unwavering commitment of the school's management, faculty and staff that this institution continues to thrive and leave an indelible mark on the lives of all who have been associated with it.

This Golden Jubilee celebration is not merely a commemoration of the past but also a celebration of the bright future that lies ahead, the values instilled within the students here will undoubtedly continue to inspire them. It has become a beacon of hope and agents of positive change in society.

As we gather to celebrate this significant milestone, let us also express our gratitude to all the visionary leaders, diligent educators, supportive parents and above all, the generations of students who have contributed to the rich legacy of St. Thomas Convent School.

May this Golden jubilee celebration be filled with joyous memories, heart-warming reunions and a reaffirmation of the values that have guided this institution through the years. Let us cherish the bonds of friendship and camaraderie that have been formed within these walls and look forward to many more years of success and accomplishments.

On behalf of the Education Department, I extend my warmest greetings and best wishes for a memorable and inspiring Golden Jubilee Celebration. May God's blessings continue to guide and protect St. Thomas Convent School, illuminating the path for greetings to come.

With utmost respect and admiration .

**Mahavir Singh Bisht**



**DR. ANAND  
BHARDWAJ**

Joint Director  
Secondary Education

*Pillar of Knowledge*

“  
St. Thomas Convent  
School is setting  
outstanding land-  
mark in the sphere  
of education”

## **Dr. ANAND BHARDWAJ**

Joint Director  
Secondary Education

### **MESSAGE**

It is a matter of immense pleasure that St. Thomas Convent School Pauri is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year and on this landmark the management, principal and staff is publishing its Golden Jubilee Souvenir.

According to Swami Vivekanand - “Every soul is potentially divine and manifestation of that divinity is leading to realization of the supreme”.

On the same line St. Thomas Convent School is setting outstanding landmark in the sphere of education. I extend my best wishes for the same.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Anand Bhardwaj)



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**Dr. S. B. JOSHI**  
Additional Director  
School Education  
Garhwal Mandal

*Creator of Bright Futures*

*“St Thomas School,  
Pauri has proven  
itself as a pace  
setter centre of  
knowledge,  
compassion and  
faith.”*

## Dr. S. B. JOSHI

P. E. S

Additional Director, School Education  
Garhwal Mandal

### MESSAGE

It is a matter of immense pleasure and profound admiration that St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri has been celebrating its Golden Jubilee Year, I wish to extend my warm wishes to commemorate Fifty years of excellence in educational services. The institution has a remarkable and splendid journey in the leadership of the esteemed management of Education Society of Diocese of Bijnor.

During the past five decades, St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri has proven itself as a pace setting centre of knowledge, compassion and faith through nurturing of young minds and shaping into responsible and compassionate citizens with utmost human values.

It is manifestation of the dedication and unwavering commitment of the school's management, faculty and staff that this institution continues to thrive and leave an indelible mark on the lives of all who have been associated with it. I hope that Golden Jubilee celebration will not only be a commemoration of the past but also a celebration of the bright future that lies ahead through the path of National Educational Policy 2020.

I also congratulate all its stakeholders for this significant milestone, along with gratitude to all the visionary leaders, diligent educators, supportive parents and the generations of students who have contributed to the rich legacy of St. Thomas Convent School.

May this Golden Jubilee celebration be filled with joyous memories, heartwarming reunions and leveraging the values that have guided this institution through the years, Let us cherish the bonds of friendship and camaraderie that have been framed within these walls and look forward to many more years of success and accomplishments.

On behalf of the Department of School Education, I wish to extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to whole staff and students for a memorable and inspiring Golden Jubilee Celebration.

With Regards,

**Dr. S. B. Joshi**



**DINESH CHANDRA GAUR**  
CEO, Pauri

*Mentor of Wisdom*

“  
I wish the school  
steadfast  
development  
towards the road of  
its Platinum  
phase”

## OFFICE OF CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER PAURI

### MESSAGE

I feel immense delight to know that Saint Thomas convent school seated in the tranquil town, Pauri has completed fifty years of its glorious journey. The institution has made the most of its opportunities and carved a place of pride in the heart of the town. My sincere felicitations to the management, staff and students on this momentous milestone of their journey.

I wish the chosen path of the school will lead to more glory, much more grandeur and steadfast development towards the road of its platinum phase.

With regards

मुख्य शिक्षा अधिकारी  
पौड़ी गढ़वाल  
Mr. Dinesh Chandra Gaur  
CEO Pauri



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**V. S. RAWAT**

Additional Director  
Elementary Education (Retd.)

*Architect of  
Educational Innovation*

“  
St. Thomas Convent  
School Pauri is an  
epitome of  
education in the  
town”

## V. S. RAWAT

### MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to extend my good wishes to St. Thomas Convent School Pauri and its family on the occasion of its Golden Jubilee celebration. St. Thomas Convent School Pauri is an epitome of education in the town. Since my daughters studied in the school, I personally feel emotionally attached to it.

I believe the Golden Jubilee celebration will make the students, staff and the parents jubilant with the success the school has achieved so far. The messages, articles, experiences of alumni and staff in the souvenir will enable the students to be benefitted in a larger way. My best wishes to the management, administration, staff, students and the parents.

With regards

**V. S. RAWAT**



**GOVIND KUMAR**

SHO Pauri

*Supporter of  
Public welfare*

*“I hope you  
all have a  
bright future”*

## GOVIND KUMAR

SHO, Pauri

### MESSAGE

Congratulations St. Thomas Covent School on your 50th anniversary, I'm glad that I got this opportunity to add few words to your souvenir. Firstly, lots of love for the students. I hope you all have a bright future, work hard and stay away from all the negativity. Focus on your goals, and best of luck for the future. And many many happy returns of the day for the school.

With regards

Govind Kumar



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**SAVED AALAM****Block Education Officer (BEO)  
of Pauri***Empowering  
Influencer*

*“Let us work together  
to make this  
institution an even  
more vibrant hub of  
knowledge,  
compassion, and  
progress.”*

## SAVED AALAM

**Block Educational Officer (BEO)  
Pauri**

### MESSAGE

Dear Students, Teachers, Staff, Parents, and Well-wishers of St. Thomas School Pauri,

Warm greetings to all on this momentous occasion - the Golden Jubilee celebration of St. Thomas School Pauri!

As the Block Education Officer of Pauri, I am honored and privileged to witness the profound impact that St. Thomas School has had on generations of students and the community at large. Over the last five decades, this school has consistently upheld its commitment to academic excellence, moral values, and holistic development of its students.

This Golden Jubilee serves as a remarkable milestone for us to reflect on the school's legacy of dedication, passion, and tireless effort in providing quality education to countless individuals. St. Thomas School has not only been a beacon of knowledge but also a center for fostering a sense of responsibility, empathy, and resilience among its students.

The success stories of St. Thomas School alumni, spread across various walks of life, stand as a testament to the exceptional education imparted here. From accomplished professionals to leaders in diverse fields, the school has contributed significantly to society, instilling in its students a commitment to service and the pursuit of excellence.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the visionary founders, the dynamic management, the diligent staff, and the supportive parents, all of whom have played a vital role in nurturing the school's growth and development.

I urge every student and member of the St. Thomas School community to take inspiration from the past achievements and use them as a stepping stone towards even greater accomplishments in the future. Let us work together to make this institution an even more vibrant hub of knowledge, compassion, and progress."

I extend my warmest wishes to the entire St. Thomas School Pauri family as you embark on this jubilant celebration. May this momentous occasion mark the beginning of a new chapter filled with boundless opportunities, continued success, and unwavering dedication to the pursuit of excellence.

Congratulations once again on this remarkable milestone. May the spirit of St. Thomas School Pauri shine brightly for generations to come!

**Saved Aalam**



**Sr. SMITHA CMC**  
Provincial Superior

*Our Inspirational  
Guide*

*"The institution grew  
into a big tree giving  
shelter to many  
under its roof."*



**Sr. SMITHA CMC**  
Provincial Superior

## MESSAGE

*"O give thanks to the Lord for His great love is without end". (Ps:136:1)*

My heartfelt felicitations to St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri, as it celebrates its Golden Jubilee this year. It is both a remarkable achievement and an auspicious occasion for the school Management, staff, students and people in and around the town to be grateful to God for His providential care and strengthening presence, since the inception of this institution in the year 1973.

Rolling back 50 years, the situation of this particular place was just a piece of forest land clustered with trees which was the habitat of wild animals. The far sighted vision of the then authorities and the sincere collaboration of the missionaries together with the dedicated staff made the dream of a school in to a reality.

"A dream does not become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work", Colin Powell had rightly said and the same is true in the case of St. Thomas School Pauri. At this juncture the initial struggle the beginners faced is deeply cherished and valued. It was their indomitable spirit and commitment that brought such an achievement to this institution.

For the last five decades, under the able guidance of Reverend fathers and CMC sisters, the institution grew into a big tree giving shelter to many under its roof. With the advancement of years the students spent time and talent, thus leading to the discovery of their future exhibiting the values learnt in various fields.

I send my warmest greetings and pray "May the good Lord bless you and keep you always in His care. "Let this temple of wisdom continue to be a Lighthouse providing meaningful education, spiritual direction, guidance and leadership to students, parents and society.

**Sr. Smitha CMC**



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**Sr. RICCI CMC**  
Former Provincial Superior

*Dedicated Mentor*

*“We CMC especially Pushparam with a legitimate pride join this mood of celebration”*

## Sr. RICCI CMC

Former Provincial Superior

### MESSAGE

It is a great occasion for St. Thomas Convent School Pauri to rejoice. It is a landmark in the history of any institution to complete 50 years of its existence-these 50 years, a period of testing, growth and survival. And let us thank God St. Thomas Convent School Pauri had successfully overcome all these stages and today it can rejoice. We CMC especially Pushparam with a legitimate pride join this mood of celebration as we too are a part of this institution from its very conception.

And as a person, who had been watching this institution from its infancy, I am glad to record that this milestone the institution reached is as not a small thing, not a small achievement. When Bishop Gratian Mundadan CMI was appointed as the Exarch of Bijnor, what he inherited was a blank paper, no churches, no convents, no institutions. Just the snow-clad mountains and serpentine rivers. Those days travel in the uphill mountains along the narrow roads were not that easy and comfortable But Bishop Gratian, with his apostolic zeal, daring spirit, amicable ways motivated his small team-a group of committed and hardworking priests. He himself was a reason for them to leap into the dark. He visited every nook and corner of the Garhwal hills and was deeply convinced that the immediate need of the area for its human development is education. To build up the institution, its infrastructure, to equip it with proper staff etc. was not that easy. Much more difficult was to convince the people about the importance and need of education. Some people were even suspicious about our intention in starting the institution.

But the deep conviction, deliberate determination, untiring hard work, indomitable spirit and friendly approaches and relationships of the bishop and the pioneer team created wonders in the hills. So, fulfilling the words of the Holy Bible this educational institution on the mountain tops, in the true sense became the lamps lit on hills; shedding its rays of knowledge and wisdom.

Education, a birth right of every citizen, but was deprived of, due to many reasons had become a reality for the people of Garhwal. And among them, you the public of Pauri stands first in the list. I do really recall and appreciate the humble services and the great achievements the Bijnor diocese made under the leadership of the first bishop and the pioneer team of hardworking priests and all those who followed and kept up the initial spirit alive, and taken this institution to these glorious heights and others who collaborated with them.

My prayerful wishes to St. Thomas Convent School Pauri, and may God's blessings be with you in abundance in the years to come.

**Sr. Ricci CMC**



**FR. MATHEW  
VAZHAPILLY CMI**

Former Manager  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*The Value Inspirer*

“  
They called it  
Garhwal's Taj”.  
Today it is more than  
Taj  
”

## **Fr. Mathew Vazhapilly CMI** Former Manager of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### **MESSAGE**

St. Thomas School Pauri is one of the most out-standing temples of learning, the pride of Pauri Garhwal. This prestigious institution has completed 50 awesome years of its presence and golden service wonderful to behold. Taking shape with a humble beginning in the rented facility in Pauri town around 1974 moved into the present magnificent campus. Early part of 1980s has made unforgettable strides in growth in every respect. People, of Pauri especially the youngsters are witnesses to this fact. St. Thomas has grown as a beacon of light outstanding in discipline, learning and excellence. I remember someone told me soon after the School buildings had come up and were functional at the present site, they called it Garhwal's Taj ". Today it is more than Taj, a holy temple of learning, of discipline, of excellence, helping hundreds of young lives achieve their coveted dreams of a better education, a success filled future for themselves and our country. I happened to be a part of this prestigious project in the mid-1980s. We praise God for the phenomenal growth. Many of our Fathers have made pioneering work here to make this real. I greatly appreciate and acknowledge highly creative vision, meticulous and incredible planning and relentless efforts and the unique pastoral vision of His Excellency Most Rev. Bishop (Emeritus) Gratian Mundadan CMI in shaping this institution. His Successors, His Excellency Most Rev. Bishop (Emeritus) John Vadakel CMI and present Bishop His Excellency Most Rev. Vincent Nellaiparambil have continued and consistently augmented its growth. Pioneering works were done by Rev. Fathers. Tom Jose Verumkal CMI, (Fathers Lucas Kapiarmala CMI, Raymond Mancherril CMI. Were associates, also Regent Thomas Podimattom), John Vadakel CMI (later became Bishop) Rev. Bro. Romuald Kalambatt as associate], Mathew Vazhappilly CMI (John Nambia-parambil CMI - associate), George Edathiparambil CMI, Thomas Vazhappilly CMI which is then taken by diocesan Fathers starting with Fr. James Thekkekaithackal. I need to highlight the very important decisive role played by the CMC community in these endeavors. They have remained unrelenting partners with their continuous support, great sacrifices and unified efforts. Adventures of the pioneers, could be lengthy topic to dwell on.



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## GOLDEN

## YEARS

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Typical mountain village type facilities to live in, learning the local language (A mix of Hindi and Garhwali), mountainous culture, and terrain, local travel: always on foot on winding up and down trail through the mountains, life style, food habits, limited drinking water supplies, limited travel facilities, changing climate conditions that we could feel, see and experience -Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn. Winter is very challenging with nearly freezing temperatures, icy cold winds, and sometimes lots of hail and snow leaving days without electricity. It has been challenging, but our Fathers and Sisters have weathered it bravely and joyfully (most of them), all being always purpose bound. It is a unique bond of love and trust, and unity of purpose that the management Bishop, Fathers and Sisters, and teachers staff students and good-willed people of Pauri and nearby villages that made this institution of St. Thomas unique. I recall some, especially, families like- Ivor Chowfin Family, Rony Chowfin Family and so on who lovingly helped us start up and get established. There have been many in Government administration too who were very helpful to us. Once I was talking to students of Tenth (Class), and one among them asked (I am paraphrasing here) me- "Father, what use is this for us that we learn all these herein the school, giving total attention to studies, being punctual, regularity, being always truthful, being neat and clean, no cheating, no copying, no fights, being always good mannered but out there after passing Tenth, we are going into very weird situations." I told him it is a very good question.

We have been trying to give you some tools to work with. You have to challenge the world out there sometimes hostile, harmful and bad. Make your choices, good ones and right ones. All discipline you learn in the School is to help you and equip you. Wherever you are, to discern and make the right choices and right decisions set good and solid goals, and you will not regret in life. Never choose easy paths. You will have to sweat it out.

Another time, I was meeting with a bunch of students on their interval, a girl student, a 9th grader told me a story: She is studying, staying with her Grandpa. Grandpa one day told her "I have sent you to a convent School. They will give you First Class education, study well. They will love and care for you alot. Do not fall into any trap. I want you back with us". So I asked her how is it going? She said "grandpa is right so far. My study here is going very well. Sisters and staffs are really good. It will surely help me to be a good person". Most of the friends who were with her, agreed. I thought, "that is so good to know!". In conclusion, thinking of Pauri : What comes to mind is the environment of the serene Hills of Pauri- Garhwal, always fascinating and enchanting, always rich with oxygen filled air, mind-blowing hill sides, lines and lines of pine and cedar, the oak trees, birds and wild animals, flora and fauna, the systematically placed terraced gardens and fields, with tiny villages scattered around all these bring an avalanche of memories that reminds me of a wonderful, peace loving people of Garhwal. Our worshipping community was also very vibrant and unified. So, at this Golden Jubilee moments my prayerful heartfelt greetings to everyone. May God's blessings continue to be with you all the times to come.

**Fr. Mathew Vazhapilly CMI**



**FR. JAMES  
THEKKEKAITHACKAL**

Former Manager  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Empowering Influencer*

*“  
St. Thomas Convent  
School will always  
be a TILAK for the  
Hill Town, Pauri.  
”*

## **Fr. James Thekkekaithackal** Former Manager of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### **MESSAGE**

The Hill City of Pauri Garhwal in Uttarakhand has been blessed with the embrace of Snow Clad Himalayas and St. Thomas Convent School has adorned this beautiful city as a Tilak on her forehead for the past fifty years. I have vivid memories of my association with this hill town and its Tilak even before I was appointed as its manager in the year 1997.

St. Thomas School was a halting place for those who were travelling further towards Badrinath, Chamoli and during those stopovers one could witness the hard work of the pioneer missionaries like Rev. Fr. Tom Jose, Sr. Franco CMC in moulding the future bureaucrats and leaders of the country through this institution. There is no doubt that St. Thomas School stands tall today on the foundation of their commitment and determination.

I was privileged to experience the cooperation and involvement of all the people especially of the parents of this small town. The government servants, the political leaders and members of the civil society extended their cooperation and applauded every effort of this missionary school as Pauri was not a stranger to the missionaries but had greatly benefitted from the activities of the Missionaries in the past.

St. Thomas himself was a pioneer who ventured into India to share the Love and Compassion of Jesus Christ and I wish and pray that this institution as it completes fifty years of its presence in Pauri continue to carry forward the Mission of Educating young minds with commitment and dedication in this challenging times as well. I am aware that Rev. Fr. Jijo Palathinkal has been enthusiastically pumping joy and confidence into the hearts of his coworkers and St. Thomas Convent School will always be a TILAK for the Hill Town, Pauri. God Bless the institution and all associated with it.

**Fr. James Thekkekaithackal**



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**FR. DR. JOHNY  
THAZHATHUPURAM****Former Manager  
St. Thomas School, Pauri***Spark for Promising Future*

“  
There is a certain  
sense of satisfaction  
and pride in  
acknowledging  
St. Thomas Convent  
School.”

## **Fr. Dr. Johny Thazhathupuram**

**Former Manager of St. Thomas School, Pauri**

### **MESSAGE**

It is with immense joy that I extend my hearty congratulations and prayerful wishes on the happy occasion of the Jubilee of St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri. Fifty years of commitment to the cause of education with the motto TO SERVE WITH LOVE, sum up the secret of excellence that this educational institution breathes today.

Half a century is not a short span of time for an educational institution that has been striving to provide quality education to the people of Pauri-Garhwal. It was from very humble beginnings in 1973, St. Thomas Convent School has grown leaps and bounds, and now stands tall and proud with impressive building, equipped with the latest innovations in technology and beautiful landscaped gardens. The school has grown from strength to strength under the able guidance of many generous hearts.

Swami Vivekananda once said, “The education which does not help the common people to equip themselves for the struggle of life, which does not bring out strength of character, is not worth the name. Real education is that which enables one to stand on one’s legs.” Here I recall the beginning of Intermediate section in our school. The education after 10th was difficult in Pauri town, which was filled with complexities and increasingly challenging – socially, emotionally and economically. The parents of the students requested to begin an intermediate school here. It was their humble request and we too realized the need of the time. To fulfil this mission, we had to face many challenges and difficulties. But a network of noble hearts, able minds and deft hands did make the dream into reality. The plus 2 session was begun with well-equipped labs and a well-arranged library. I am grateful to the CMC sisters and teachers for their wholehearted co-operation.

Looking back with a nostalgic feeling, it is not easy to forget the twist and turns, and the ups and downs that has taken place. The amazing success of our school and realization of its goal is made possible due to the constant support and co-operation of the esteemed parents, benefactors and well-wishers. I express my gratitude and appreciation to them for their selfless interest and support for the welfare of this institution.

There is a certain sense of satisfaction and pride in acknowledging St. Thomas Convent School that has taken rapid strides to establish itself as the leading school in Pauri. This exciting journey has been marked by a period of visionary planning, sustained hard work, exposition of talent and clear focus on our vision and mission.

Our school takes its name from the Apostle of Christ who has become immortal for all that he stood for – fearless in preaching the truth and a relentless search for answers.

Catholic Diocese of Bijnor-Garhwal established educational institutions in this region with a vision to promote brotherhood, love, harmony, solidarity, whole round development of every child and forming a child to become better citizens of tomorrow. St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri has excelled in all these fields in the past.

I would like to see this legacy receive continuous nurturing in the form of innovations and opportunities for all the stakeholders of the school – the students, the teachers, the staff and the administrators, who will then be able to work in collaboration to achieve the synergy of excellence and empowerment that are the hallmarks of any great institution.

In this Jubilee year ‘When we honour the past, we energize the future and the present becomes a celebration.’ On this joyful occasion I take the privilege to congratulate the management, the staff and students, the parents and the well-wishers.

MAY GOD BLESS EACH ONE OF US

**Fr. Dr. Johny Thazhathupuram**



**FR. C. V. SEBASTIAN**  
Former Manager  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Visionary Leader*

*I wish the school  
imperishable glory  
and prosperity in the  
years to come in the  
service of the nation.*

## **Fr. C. V. Sebastian, Kiratpur** Former Manager of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### **MESSAGE**

The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of any temple of learning is a joyous occasion and it is heartening to note that St. Thomas School has produced many outstanding students who are in service in our country with distinction and dedication. The institute has gained its fame and name through the service of its students in all walks of life.

These 50 years of academic life at St. Thomas School, Pauri have been eventful and some instances transformational. The present publication, golden moments, which I believe is based on authentic information from the golden jubilee committee of the institute captures some of the main events in its life, and should be of interest to the alumni.

It gives me immense joy to learn that the 'St Thomas school' has completed half a century of its existence to celebrate with visible pride its golden jubilee, an important milestone in the life of an institution dedicated to the cause of developing humanity. School is a workshop where self esteem, positive attitude and confidence is to be built, where sharing, bearing, and friendship to be nurtured. School is a home where we receive the basic psychological needs, the love, care, support, mercy, sympathy and empathy.

On this auspicious and historic occasion of Golden Jubilee, I wish the school imperishable glory and prosperity in the years to come in the service of the nation.

As this prestigious school celebrates its golden jubilee I too am happy that I had spent few years as manager of the school, I consider it a God-given opportunity and privilege to serve this school during that given time. I am confident, with God's blessings and with the collaboration and ceaseless efforts of the staff along with that the students who are whole heartedly supported by their parents; this school can make a difference in the lives of everyone who steps in this institution.

Few things that come to my mind during that time as I remember was the issues connected with the traffic especially during the departure time of the students, as it happens in many areas of the hills, the school bus had real tough time to keep the normal flow to reach the students to their destination. But, indeed, I was really helped and supported by the administration and the people.

I also remember our boys of the cricket team, during their Diocese level inter school competitions, although we had few occasions as champions in the cultural events which takes place time to time, it was heartening to feel that our boys had performed well in their matches up to one short of the final with the limited situations and facilities we normally face in the hills.

It is really a refreshing experience that I had witnessed along with the children to accompany them to their village exposure programmes as part of their curriculum. Whereby they usually put up very many awareness programmes and by which they get equipped themselves to face the hard realities of life.

Fr. C. V. Sebastian



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# GOLDEN

# YEARS

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**FR. CYRIAC  
KIZHAKKAYIL CMI**

Former Manager  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Innovative Guide*

“  
I am extremely happy  
that St. Thomas is  
marching in  
consistency with its  
motto that is  
'To serve with love'  
”

## **Fr. Cyriac Kizhakkayil CMI** Director, Chavara Seva Samaj, Najibabad

### **MESSAGE**

I confer my warm congratulations to the management, staff and students of St. Thomas school Pauri, as it celebrates 50 years of its existence.

I am extremely happy that St. Thomas is marching in consistency with its motto that is 'To serve with love'. When I look back the past golden years, I see the providence of God all throughout its journey towards perfection and success. At this juncture together with the management and well-wishers my heart also whispers "My Lord and my God".

Education is an on-going process of holistic formation and transformation. The commitment and dedication of the management and staff are really praiseworthy in order to enkindle this transformation in the hearts of young minds. I wish and pray that the end product emerging from this institution May turn out to be a decent individual, well mannered, compassionate, charitable, knowledgeable and friendly towards all creation in order to build up a better society. The constant companionship of the heavenly patron St. Thomas may enable the institution to make steady progress in the field of education.

May the God Almighty continue to bless St. Thomas School in this year of Golden Jubilee and years to come.

**Fr. Cyriac Kizhakkayil CMI**



**FR. GEORGE  
THEKKUMCHERIL**

Former Manager  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Our Knowledge Catalyst*

*“The school is  
devotedly committed to  
promote the rich and  
vibrant culture of  
Garhwal.”*

## **Fr. George Thekkumcheril** Former Manager of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### **MESSAGE**

I am delighted to know as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebration the Thomasians, Pauri are planning to bring out a magazine as a souvenir to mark the solemnity of the occasion. It is indeed a great moment of abundant blessings and jubilation for St. Thomas school, Pauri to reach up to the golden land mark of golden jubilee celebration of the institution. A house built on a hill top cannot be hidden. Similarly St. Thomas school has stood tall in all these years not only in the field of education but also introducing a prosperous and progressive culture in the whole District of Pauri Garhwal. During these past fifty years St. Thomas convent school has left no stone unturned to explore, excavate and blossom the potentialities of the young minds and hearts. It has helped numerous students and teachers to shoot out from orbits to discover newer and more enhancing horizons in life. Being the headquarters of the District as well as the Commissionerate, the school plays a vital role in shaping future leaders and strong pillars for the entire region. As a caring mother, the school under the able leadership of Different Managers, Principals and efficient teachers has spread its wings of blessings to numerous villages as well. The school is devotedly committed to promote the rich and vibrant culture of Garhwal.

On this jubilant occasion, I would like to congratulate the Manager, Principal, the members of the staff and the entire student body for such a great achievement.

May God Bless you

**Fr. George Thekkumcheril**



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# 50

# GOLDEN

# YEARS



**FR. PIOUS PHILIP**

Former Manager  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Our Compassionate Mentor*

*“It merely marks the beginning of a new chapter in the book of our achievements.”*

## Fr. Pious Philip

Former Manager of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### MESSAGE

It brings me immense joy and nostalgia to reflect upon the glorious journey of the past fifty years as we commemorate the Golden Jubilee of St. Thomas School, Pauri, Uttarakhand. I am honoured to have been part of this historic milestone as the Manager. Today, I take great pleasure in presenting this write-up for the Golden Jubilee souvenir, a token of remembrance for this remarkable occasion.

The inception of our school fifty years ago was not just the birth of an organization but the planting of a seed that grew into an oasis of knowledge, innovation, and inspiration, all the while keeping our core values and principles intact. Over the years, we have witnessed countless success stories and remarkable achievements of our students, faculty, and staff, all of which have shaped the very fabric of our institution's legacy.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has played a part in shaping the legacy of St. Thomas School. Remember, the journey does not end here; it merely marks the beginning of a new chapter in the book of our achievements.

As we step into the future, let us carry forward the same spirit of innovation, collaboration, and resilience that has defined us for the past fifty years. By carrying the spirit of the Golden Jubilee celebrations, let us continue to achieve greater heights, leaving a lasting impact on our society. As we turn the page to embark on the next chapter of our institution's journey, Together, let us continue to foster a community that values knowledge, embraces diversity, and empowers individuals to make a positive impact on the world.

With heartfelt wishes for a future filled with prosperity and success,

Happy 50th Anniversary!

May God Bless you.

**Fr. Pious Philip**



**FR. DR. MATHEW JOHN**  
Former Manager  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Our Tech Enthusiast*

“  
Indeed  
this is a worth  
milestone to  
celebrate.  
”

## **Fr. Dr. Mathew John** Former Manager of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### **MESSAGE**

I am happy to learn that St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri is publishing a Souvenir in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the School. With great joy I pen down a few words on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations. Indeed this is a worth milestone to celebrate. St. Thomas School has a glorious past, enthusiastic present and optimistic future. As a result of last 50 years of service our country has got thousands of responsible citizens. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Management and Staff of the past and present for their commitment towards value based quality education imparted in this part of the country.

On this happy occasion of the Golden Jubilee, I pray to Almighty God to continue to bless St. Thomas School to deepen its spirit of dedication and pursuit of excellence in every aspect of human and intellectual formation in the years ahead. May St. Thomas the Apostle of Jesus intercede for you.

I wish and pray that St. Thomas Convent School will have a glorious future.

Fr. Dr. Mathew John



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# GOLDEN

# YEARS

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**Sr. Ranitta CMC**

Former Principal  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Our Committed Guardian*

“  
it is indeed a safe  
haven of knowledge  
to the sons and  
daughters of Pauri  
”

## **Sr. Ranitta CMC**

St Ann's Convent Muttom, Cherthala

### **MESSAGE**

I was immensely delighted to hear from you that the golden stars are sparkling in the horizon of St. Thomas' School Pauri, as it is celebrating its Golden Jubilee. Instantly my thoughts dashed on to the reminiscent pathways of my life in Pauri as the Principal of an elfin institute with all its scarcity. But the Almighty held it close to His heart and shielded it to make it an amazing establishment today. Yes, it is indeed a safe haven of knowledge to the sons and daughters of Pauri. My cordial felicitations to the management for this excellent accomplishment. May the good Lord continue to bless, steer, inspire and escort in ways He thinks best for you.

Sincerely Yours

**Sr. Ranitta CMC**



**Sr. JOYCE CMC**

Former Principal  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Ignited Passion,  
Inspired success*

*“It is a time of  
Jubilation, a time to  
recall the countless  
blessings of God”*

## **Sr. Joyce CMC**

Former Principal of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### **MESSAGE**

Golden Jubilee is an occasion to rejoice in the Lord and to be thankful to Him for all His mighty deeds. It is in His sheltering shadow this institution has grown up and flourished to see the light of this glorious day.

For half a century, St Thomas School Pauri, has successfully rendered commendable service to the society in the field of education and total formation. It is a time of Jubilation, a time to recall the countless blessings of God to give thanks to Him for all the school has been able to achieve in the past fifty years. At this golden juncture, I am elated and congratulate all those whose sincere efforts contributed towards the realization of this noble vision

It is a matter of great honor, pride and delight that ten years of my humble service in St Thomas Pauri constitute a part of these glorious fifty years.

We should also thank Bp Gratian Mundadan CMI who had a dream to set up a school in this remote hill area for the upliftment of the poor. Another unforgettable person to whom we should thank God for is Rev Bp John Vadakel- the pioneer of this school who strived for the growth of the school. I would like to recall the untiring efforts and hard work put in by all the Principals and Managers and the staff of St Thomas Pauri that has brought up this institution to the heights of academic excellence and a wholesome stature.

May St. Thomas, the patron saint of our school, continue to shower abundant blessings upon the school and everyone associated with it. May the school for eons to come continue to provide the students with many opportunities for their all round development inculcating in them the values of social concern along with personal, intellectual and spiritual growth.

**Sr. Joyce CMC**



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**SR. SHIBEENA CMC**  
Former Principal  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Our Motivational  
Catalyst*

“  
*Rely on God and do  
things creatively &  
differently*  
”

## Sr. Shibeena CMC

Former Principal of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### MESSAGE

I am delighted to learn that St. Thomas School Pauri is bringing out a special edition of the school magazine on the completion of its Golden Jubilee in the field of education.

I love to remember with deep appreciation and gratitude the pioneers and all the past staff of the school who worked tirelessly since its foundation. Journey of thousand miles begins with a single step. True to this Chinese proverb St. Thomas school, Pauri began with a single step has successfully created exciting mile stones and witnessed colourful seasons.

**“There will be obstacles, There will be doubters, There will be mistakes,  
But with hard work, there are no limits.”**

St. Thomas had a legacy of looking at every challenge in the eye and overcoming it with utmost zeal and passion. Indeed, St. Thomas has achieved commendable progress under the able and dedicated management & staff. There is always good rapport with the students because they consider teaching not as a profession but as a mission.

Jubilee is an apt time to celebrate its vivacity and proclaim its vitality. Aristotle once said, “Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all”. Let us endeavor constantly to instill this quality in our children. The best gift one can give to another is to show them their own wealth. Jesus was able to help the people to discover the treasures hidden in themselves. The staff of St. Thomas can be proud of awakening in the students the dormant potentialities and to discover their own hidden treasure and true identity as children of God.

**Attitude, Happiness, Optimism, Kindness, Giving, Respect is a Choice. Whatever choice you make, makes you. Hence choose wisely.**

**Only God can change A Mess into Message A Test into a Testimony A Trial into Triumph A Victim into Victory.**

This faith in God makes you stronger.” Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark.” No one rises suddenly in the world, not even the Sun. Hence do not let people pull you into their STORM, pull them into your PEACE. This experience of God is helping the school to serve & love as a lamp for many in the field of education. Rely on God and do things creatively & differently.

I wish and pray St. Thomas school, Pauri to turn Gold to Diamond, Platinum and much more. May Almighty God bless the Manager, Principal, staff & students.

With best wishes

Yours Sincerely,

Sr. Shibeena CMC



**Sr. RosmiCMC**

Former Principal  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*A Dedicated and  
Graceful visionary*

*“St. Thomas stands  
erect proclaiming  
the beauty of  
Himalayas giving  
every soul a touch of  
natural beauty”*

## **Sr. Rosmi CMC**

Former Principal of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### **MESSAGE**

School is not only the basic foundation of knowledge but also a holy temple to mould the students in values. The lessons learnt at the school become real source of inspiration for the students in the lives to come. The seed sown in the mind of children comes in to fruition at every step of life.

Over the yester years, St. Thomas Convent School has rendered amazing service to the people of Pauri. To complete 50 years- half a century, is a big achievement for the institution. At this juncture the memory of students who entered the portals of institution and the inspiring managers, committed principals, vibrant teachers add beauty and colour to the celebration. It is a matter of pride for all the persons who have been a part of this family of St. Thomas fraternity.

Let the noble values which the school holds high may be lived by every member of this institution and let it spread to everyone who is connected to this Alma mater. I wish and pray that the institution may turn into its platinum and later to the centenary in the coming years. May the young minds be transformed and shine as jewels ever excelling the human dignity and make a difference wherever they are.

St. Thomas stands erect proclaiming the beauty of Himalayas giving every soul a touch of natural beauty. I consider as my blessed opportunity to serve the institution for almost half a dozen years. Let me join in expressing immense gratitude to God for all the worthy persons who offered their undaunted hard work and service to make the school to what it is today. Heartiest congratulations to the management, staff and students of St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri. Warmest greetings of Golden Jubilee.

**Sr. Rosmi CMC**



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# GOLDEN

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**Sr. Rita CMC**  
Former Principal  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*Our Pillar of Support*

*“I cherish, and I am proud of being a part of this temple of wisdom.”*

**Sr. Rita CMC**  
St Ann's Convent Muttom, Cherthala

## MESSAGE

Where ever we are, whom so ever we are called to serve, we do not need to do extraordinary things, we are called to be presence of God's love.

In the lap of magnificent hills stands out like a rising sun our beloved Alma mater. You are a gift to those around you.

I cherish, and I am proud of being a part of this temple of wisdom.

The simplicity of people, attracts everyone. Well knit staff, who tirelessly work for the betterment of students in and out of time is great gift to the institution. Students are the shining stars with high ambition to soar high. I am privileged to pen few lines on the occasion of its Golden Jubilee.

St. Thomas Pauri, stands as a light house to direct everyone towards the right destination. It is right blending in the fields of Art and Academics that give birth to great souls. A band of committed staff with total dedication, toil day in and out to be the true masters of their own field. As rightly stated by Michelle Obama " Be courageous and undeterred, and persistently work hard towards achieving your goals. Do not let any external force get in your way of achieving your dreams".

I appreciate and congratulate everyone who in one or the other way worked for the growth of this Alma Mater. You may dance like no one's watching but everyone's watching because you are an amazing dancer.

Congratulations.....God bless you all

**Sr. Rita CMC**



**Sr. Sudha CMC**

Former Principal  
St. Thomas School, Pauri

*The Strategic Planner*

*“  
Real education is  
that which enables  
one to stand on  
one's legs.  
”*

## **Sr. Sudha CMC**

Former Principal of St. Thomas School, Pauri

### **MESSAGE**

On the occasion of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of St. Thomas Senior Secondary School, Pauri, I am happy to send you my heartiest Congratulations and Best wishes and also the assurance of very special prayers for the most abundant blessings of Almighty God upon all of you.

Half a century of honest striving in the pursuit of knowledge, fifty years of commitment to the cause of education and five decades of untiring service to the society sum up the secret of excellence that this education institution breathes today. As we look back over the milestone of half a century that the school has traversed, we recognize in it a sign of God's tremendous Love, His providence and faithfulness. I have all appreciation and praise for the great work of our Managers, Principals and staff for their hard work with a spirit of dedication and commitment. The school has been trying to excel in everything and you have not spared any efforts or left any stone unturned in order to make steady progress.

Swami Vivekananda once said, "The education which does not help the common people to equip themselves for the struggle of life, which does not bring out strength of character is not worth the name. Real education is that which enables one to stand on one's legs." Keeping this in view, St. Thomas School has been taking care of the character formation and all round development of the students, making them self-reliant. I am sure, the school over the years has been rendering a very great service to the people of Pauri and I am confident that the school will make further progress in all fields.

On this happy occasion, I wish you all the best and call down God's choicest blessings on all your efforts.

Sr. Sudha CMC



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**Sr. PRASADA CMC**  
Principal

*Our Harmonious Anchor*

*“My head bow down  
in reverence to all  
the stalwarts who  
have contributed to  
the institution from  
its humble begin-  
ning to its present  
progress.”*

Estd. 1973



## ST. THOMAS CONVENT SCHOOL

Pauri P.O., Pauri - Garhwal, Uttarakhand - 246 001

E-mail: [paurischool1937@gmail.com](mailto:paurischool1937@gmail.com), Web: [www.paurischool.in](http://www.paurischool.in)

(An Unaided Christian Minority Institution)

Ph: 8650484562

I feel greatly honoured and privileged to be chosen to lead St. Thomas Convent School, an esteemed institution with a cultivated and enriched history, as the principal. The golden bells that ripple in the sky above St. Thomas school reverberates a tale of success. Half a century of sincere toil in the quest of knowledge, five decades of devotion and fifty years of unceasing service to the society summarise the secret of excellence and distinction that this educational institution breathe today.

We have reasons enough to glorify the colossal growth of the school that started in 1973 with a handful of students. Ever since its simple and humble beginning, the school has been thriving from strength to strength and has transpired today as one of the leading educational institutions of Garhwal region known for its value based education, excellent infrastructure and dedicated staff.

When I flip the pages of the school's history, my head bow down in reverence to all the stalwarts who have contributed to the institution from its humble beginning to its present progress. This thrilling journey has been marked by a stretch of ingenious planning, diligent and meticulous labour, and clear focus on the vision and its pursuit.

The school now celebrates 50 years of its sturdy foundation, captivating infrastructure, lush green ambience and tranquil aura. All through these years the school has stood as a gleaming light dispelling the darkness of illiteracy and instilling in hearts of the young a thirst for truthfulness, ethics, justice and service.

A chain of virtuous hearts, competent minds and proficient hands have made the golden jubilee year an ecstatic and memorable one. I extend a big thanks to all the pioneers,, the staff both teaching and non-teaching, the little angels- the students and the parents who walked with us helping in the growth and development of St. Thomas convent school down through the past 50 years.

Above all, my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the Lord Almighty who has been the guiding light in the progressive march of the school. As we cross the portals of the golden jubilee year, I gratefully count the blessings showered upon us by the good Lord. I would like to offer in the eternal presence of God all the students: past, present and future who passed and will pass through the threshold of the school.

I would like to compliment the concerted efforts of the Editorial Board in bringing out this jubilee souvenir.

**Sr. Prasada CMC**  
Principal



**FR. JIJO PALATHINKAL**  
Manager

*Our Strategic Visionary*

*“Our School continues in its mission to enlighten the little minds to fly to the heights of knowledge.”*

Estd. 1973



## ST. THOMAS CONVENT SCHOOL

Pauri P.O., Pauri - Garhwal, Uttarakhand - 246 001

E-mail: [paurischool1937@gmail.com](mailto:paurischool1937@gmail.com), Web: [www.paurischool.in](http://www.paurischool.in)

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Fifty Glorious Years of excellence, commitment, perseverance and adherence of St. Thomas Convent School is certainly a celebration that calls to rejoice over the wonderful things worked by the Almighty God. I bow before God in reverence for the abundant graces and blessings and the loving and caring providence we enjoyed throughout these years. It is a joyful era in the life of St. Thomas Convent School, as it celebrates its golden jubilee. Our School continues in its mission to enlighten the little minds to fly to the heights of knowledge. This jubilee is a time to rejuvenate, revitalize and refresh the nostalgic and sentimental memories of the journey of past fifty years.

With heart full of gratitude and appreciation, I remember Bishop Gratian Mundadan CMI, the pioneer who initiated the challenging responsibility to start this institution in the hill station of Pauri, and Bishop John Vadakel CMI who fostered this institution into a higher realm. We are indebted to Bishop Vincent Nellaiparambil who is nurturing this temple of learning in the present scenario. We gratefully remember all the former Managers and Principals who worked tirelessly day in and day out in leading this institution to its glory. I take this opportunity to appreciate the great and valuable efforts of all the teaching staff and non-teaching and all the well-wishers and benefactors of this institution who have been contributing in varied ways to achieve the objectives and goals of this institution since its inception. This school has been an edifice of knowledge and wisdom for the last 50 years and I am sure the students who have walked through the sacred doors of St. Thomas Convent School feel gratefully contended to be a part of this place of learning. Our School remains committed in advancing into prime of life and constancy and reaching out to all segments of the society.

The Golden Jubilee Edition of the school magazine is a landmark that witness to our growth, invigorates our passion and strengthens our imaginations and visions. It provides a wide spectrum and a large horizon of creative skills hanging from writings to editing and even designing the magazine. I congratulate the editorial team for this selfless hard work and dedication that has resulted in the publication of this issue.

**Fr. Jijo Palathinkal**  
Manager

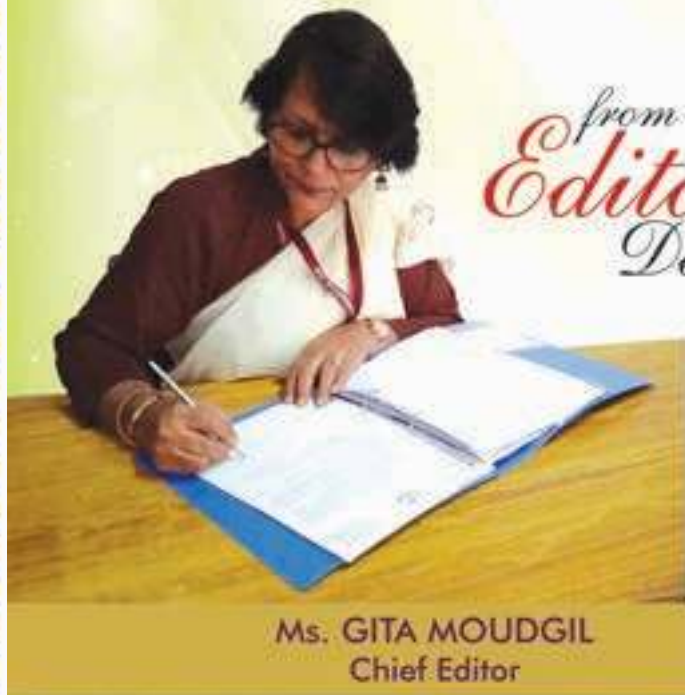


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Ms. GITA MOUDGIL  
Chief Editor

## *from the Editor's Desk*

It is time to plunge deep into the sea of nostalgia, gather the jewels of memories, relive, revive and refresh the replenishing reverie of the past for in your hand is the golden jubilee Souvenir of St Thomas convent school, Pauri Garhwal. A place where students enter as a plain slate and the unceasing toil of the school inscribe on it the marks of valuable values apart from knowledge ultimately handing back to the society well groomed civic citizen. The students, and the alumni of the school, have ample of misty and nostalgic moments to rekindle and celebrate . Here is a wonderful opportunity to flip through the pages of the 50 years history of the school as well as satisfy the craving of the memorable memories of the past.

Nestled in the lap of nature, Saint Thomas Convent School which started in a shack has now transformed into a majestic structure with an aura of warmth, bliss and wisdom. This souvenir is not just a book but the heart and soul of the school and I can assure you that you will sail through an awesome journey of your childhood. Circling around the sun fifty times has enriched the school with versatility and made it affluent in diverse fields.

Go and step once again into the world of rhymes and march through the memory lanes, for, on each crossing you will shake hands with your fondest cherished memories.

Genuine and Earnest efforts have been put by the school management and Editorial board to make this string of recollection, The Souvenir, a feast for you all.

Have fun reminiscing the past.



Left to right : (First row) Mrs. Gita Moudgil, Sr. Prasada CMC,  
Fr. Jijo Palathinkal, Mrs. Jayanti Rawat  
(End row) : Mrs. Geeta Rawat, Mrs. Bhansati Lakhera, Mr. Sanjay Juyal, Ms. Shivani Tamta, Mrs. Preeti Negi



Rest in  
Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



**Fr. Tom Jose Verumkal CMI**

(Manager 1973-1975)

Birth: 20.09.1933 - Death: 14.12.2020



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IN LOVING MEMORY OF



**Sr. Januarius CMC**  
(Principal from 1973 - 1974)



**Sr. Mable CMC**  
(Principal from 1979 - 1980)



Rest in  
Peace



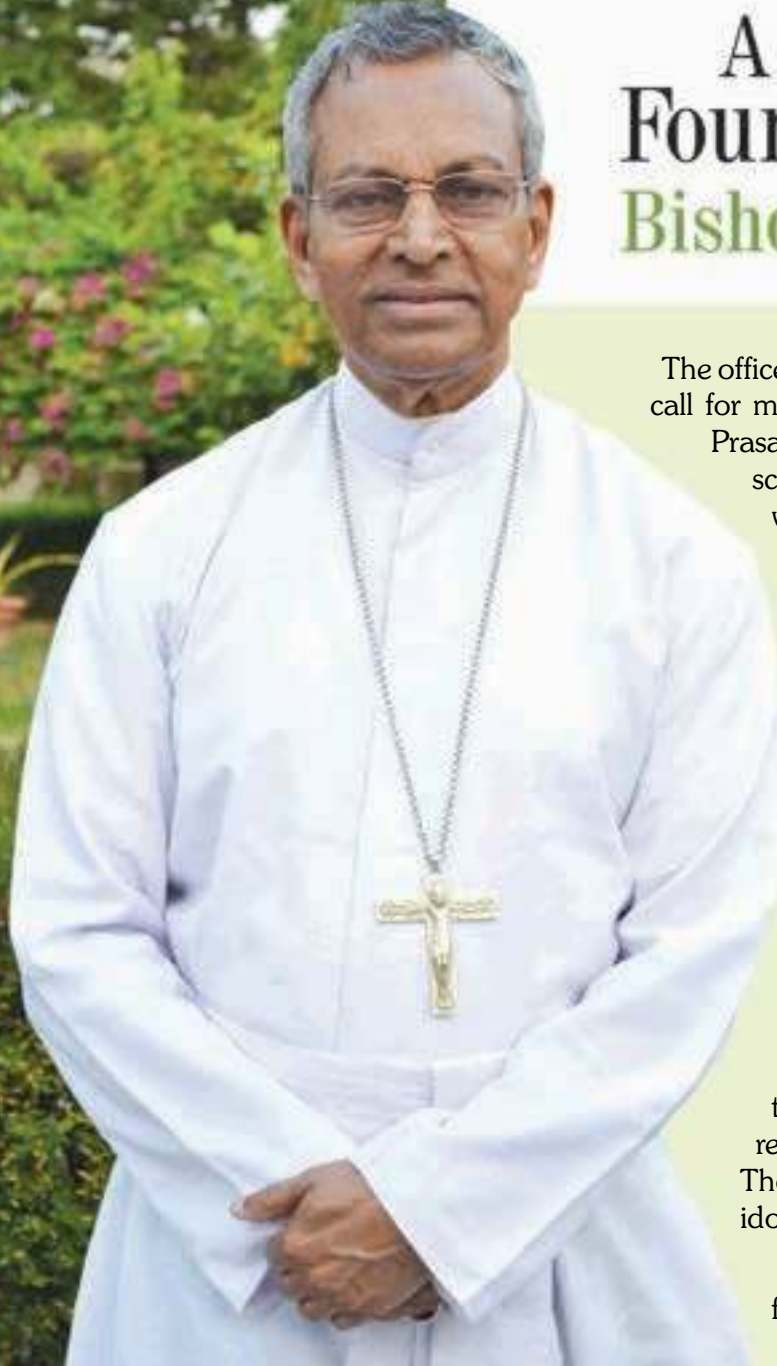
**Sr. Finia CMC**  
(Principal 1974)



**Sr. Franco**  
(Principal from 1983 - 1995)

# A Rendezvous with the Founder of the School

## Bishop Gratian Mundadan CMI



The office bell rang, and there was a call for me. I rushed and found Sr Prasada, the principal of the school, standing near the window pondering over something. My apprehensions grew wild, but when sister said, "you have to come with us to Najibabad to interview Bishop Gratian Mundadan," I was wonderstruck. Interview Bishop ji!!!. I doubted at my own capabilities. Will I be able to do justice to this mission? But One corner of my heart was elated. Bishop ji is a person greatly praised and highly revered by each and every Thomasian and for me - I idolise him.

Thus commenced our fateful journey towards Najibabad with Fr. Jijo

Palathinkal, the manager of Saint Thomas convent School, Rev. Fr. Jimmy Painukal and Sr. Prasada, the principal of Saint Thomas convent school on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. The drive was quite comfortable and at sharp 6 o'clock we knocked at the gate of Provincial House, Najibabad. Provincial House and me standing there!! Indeed it was a far-fetched dream for me. But yes, I was there. It was not a fantasy.

Soon we were standing outside a closed-door with the name plate Bp. Gratian . Father Jijo knocked at the door and we were called in. From far I saw a-man clad in all-white, sitting in his office chair, face towards his computer screen intently doing something for his fingers were moving on the keypad. I was amazed -a man of 90 years of age, at 6 PM, busy working - it was incredible. I straightaway went and touched his feet. I heard a joyous voice, "A"ha ha! So it is you". It was not my first meeting with him. Bishop Gratian is a name familiar to all the Thomasians. The air in the room scattered optimistic vibes and to tell you frankly, I felt as if I was meeting my father. The same joy, the same affection reflected on his face.



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Father Jijo placed on his table, the questionnaire we had prepared. Bishop ji asked us to freshen up and then come back after sometime. It was almost 6:30 PM. I was wondering at the discipline and strength of this 90 year old man, but then why I doubted at his potentials for he is THE BISHOP GRATIAN MUNDADAN CMI.

We were led to our warm and cosy rooms and after delicious evening Tea we again, knocked at the same door with my heart, bursting with anxiety. Sr Prasada and I sat opposite to Bishop ji. Holding the questionnaire in his hand, Bishop ji chuckled at the questions and asked, "So you want to know every thing about my childhood too". I said gathering courage, "yes, Bishop ji, I am curious to know".

And thus began the pilgrimage - ( it was no less than a pilgrimage for me).

Reminiscing the past, he recollected the memories of his small town Koonammavu in Ernakulam District, where he was born in 1933. The gratification on his face sharing about his family is unexplainable. He started narrating how his parents, an agriculturists, worked hard to take care of his six siblings and him. How tragedy struck their family when two of his sisters passed away within a span of 20 days due to an epidemic of which he too was a victim for he ran high fever for 102 days and remained unconscious for 36 days when he was six years old. God's immense blessings pulled him out of the deadly tentacles. He laughed heartily when I asked him his childhood name and immediately he said "Paappu".

After finishing his high school in Koonammavu, from Thevara college he completed his intermediate. He joined Religious Congregation and was sent to Madras to complete his Bachelors degree in Mathematics, studied Theology and Philosophy in Dharmaram College, Bangalore. Later taught in Sacred Heart College, Thevara. He joined Kerala Catholic Students League, was giving retreats to parish people and then finally came to North.

Choosing a rigorous path, leaving behind the cosy sojourn and the warmth of the family is definitely not a child's play. It requires

intense perseverance and profound conviction. So it was quite obvious for me to ask what was the stimulus that inspired him to tread this path. And, yes, it was his family members - his three aunts (Two CMC sisters and one from the Holy Family) and one of his Uncles who ignited the flame of Spirituality and Philanthropy in his young heart.

I could not put a tab on my acquisitiveness and asked what pulled him towards hills. His reply touched my soul that a man left alluring Kerala and came to such a remote place lacking comforts and facilities with a drive in heart to serve the people. After starting a school in Bijnor next year they initiated the plan in Najibabad and Pauri to open school. Initial help of Ivor Chowfin to settle, to meet The District Magistrate facilitated Bishop Ji's journey. The District Magistrate insisted him to start an English medium school and promised all possible help. With bare minimum facilities (not even electricity) school started in 1973 when CMC Sisters lend a hand to work in collaboration. Initially the school was named Vimala School but later renamed as St Thomas Convent School. After moving from one building to another he finally purchased this present land along with Rev. Fr. Tom Jose CMI. Day by day and year by year School climbed up the rungs heading towards success carving a paramount niche in the tranquility of Pauri town..

I cannot forget his sublime smile that radiated his face when I asked him How different is Pauri school now since it's inception in 1973. He travelled through the memory lane recalling the time of construction of the first building. The motive was that the building should be rock solid and long lasting and thus emerged an imposing, majestic structure with a captivating scenic beauty around. It was a satisfying feeling for us when Bishop ji expressed his absolute joy on the progress of the school.

I just listened with rapt attention to Bishop ji about his perception about Success. Talking about this important aspect, he passed a simple joyous smile and focused attention on the importance of Focus and Concentration in student's life. I have been fortunate enough to be a part of the life lessons delivered by Bishop ji during his



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visits for the Board classes farewell and blessing ceremony. I remember how we, the students as well as the Teachers, used to quench our thirst of knowledge and wisdom by his rational and prudent sermons. For the young readers of this Souvenir, he specifically talked about the importance of Consistency, diligence and above all Prayers. If these three are clubbed together a child can do wonders.

The august personality of our dear Bishop ji so distinguished with a towering charismatic magnetism has always enthralled me. I really wanted to know how he felt when people adored him. In a very plain and humble manner he replied that God has put him in a place, asked him to work. He simply followed the path. He had pure conviction that working in collaboration can do marvels. To create homely environment had always been his priority. Whenever he returns back to Pauri school it is like coming back home for him.

I believe to take a life lesson from a man overloaded with experience is our delight. So obviously how could I wind up this fruitful session without his precious counsel. He started by advising that we must have total trust and faith in the Almighty. Whatever field one is called to work, one must be focused in that. The students must have a clear vision about their career plans. The combined efforts are always fruitful therefore cooperation is a must.

Sr. Prasada asked Bishop ji what more can we do for the younger generation, our students, to make them better human beings. According to Bishop ji, the students are well protected confined in the four walls of the school. It is the prime duty of the Management as well as the staff to teach the students to decipher between the darker and brighter side of life.

It was almost 8 p.m - the supper time. Though we wanted this session to never end yet we had to take leave from Bishop ji. I really wonder that will I ever get another chance to talk to him for so long.

**Geeta Moudgil**  
Teacher





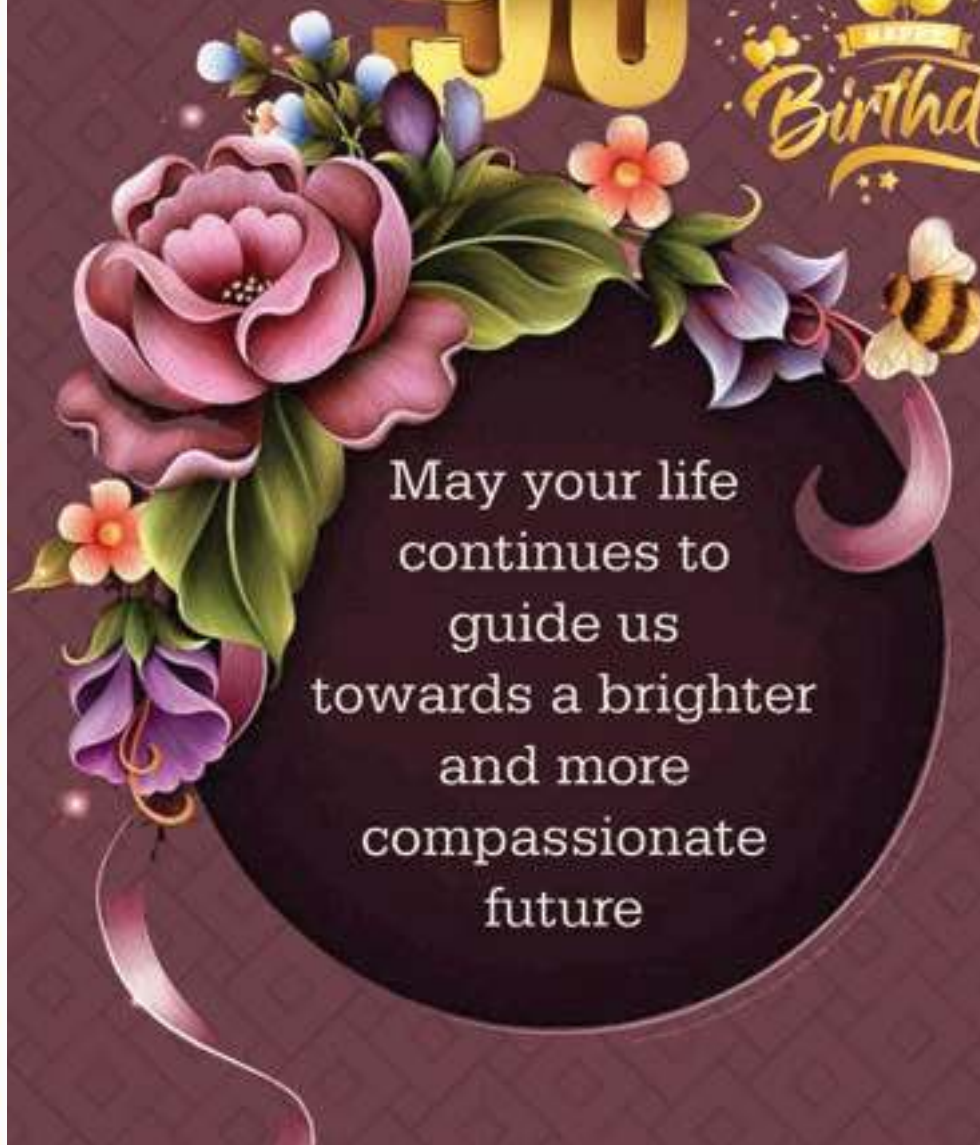
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Birthday



May your life  
continues to  
guide us  
towards a brighter  
and more  
compassionate  
future

Wishing a very joyous 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to our Dear loving

**BISHOP GRATIAN MUNDADAN CMI**

(President of ESDB from 1973-2009)



Fr. Tom Jose who reached the Bijnor mission on May 16, 1973, had been asked to go to Pauri and investigate regarding the possibilities of starting a mission centre there. Fr. Tom Jose, the first CMI Missionary to the hills, reached the place on June 12, 1973. He could, initially, meet some of the Methodist people and befriended with them. Among them were Mr. Ivor Chowfin, Mr. Silas. Mr. Chowfin welcomed him to his house for his stay during the initial days at Pauri. He also introduced Fr. Tom Jose to various people at Pauri. Fr. Tom Jose could make friendship with many a people with his smile and broken Hindi and with a few words in Garhwali. In a few days Fr. Tom shifted his stay in a small building near to the town in the month of August 1973. He got an upper room in the building on rent. But there was no stair to reach his room. He had to use a plank with small pieces of wood nailed to it to guide his steps to his room. Bro. Augustine Keemattom the first regent to Bijnor also joined Fr. Tom Jose as a companion for some time. Later Fr. Tom Jose shifted from the house to another room at Dandapani where a few Nepali families were also residing. The roof of the room was so low that even Fr. Tom Jose could not stand. The room was good enough at that time to accommodate him and the few guests. They never felt inconvenient even to arrange a kitchen in the same room. Later he arranged a very small room as good as to keep sheep, for his kitchen into which he had to creep in and do his cooking always sitting. After a few days Fr. Lucas Kapiarmala CMI joined Fr. Tom Jose. Together they started exploring new fields for pasturing.

Fr. Tom Jose who did great pioneering works at Pauri, the new station, without any convenience whatsoever. He managed to purchase the present school campus and got constructed the present priest house with the help of local Garhwali masons and carpenters and started living in it. On June 28, 1973 Fr. Tom Jose rented a building from Mr A.B. Singh at Chopra for the CMC Sisters who would join the mission shortly. They reached on July 16, 1973. The names of

my Journey



Bishop John Vadakel CMI

the first group of sister were, Srs. Januarius, Geena and Reenet. With their help Fr. Tom Jose opened a small room in the township on September 17, 1973. The school was named as Vimala School. In a week they could enroll a couple of students. That was the beginning of the present prestigious St. Thomas School today at Pauri with strength of more than 2000 students with no fail till today in the board examinations. 100% good results till today.

The house was later given to CMC Sisters for convent and Fr. Tom Jose shifted into a house in the vicinity that was being used by Bhotias. I also joined Fr. Tom Jose sharing the same room with the least convenience. My stay continued in the same room, Fr. Tom Jose was transferred from Pauri.

### 1. My stay at Dandapani in the Bhotia House:

I continued to stay at the Bhotia House on rent. The room was so low that I could not stand erect. As I entered into the room I needed to sit on a mooda or a cot. Though the room was very small in size a few guests also could be accommodated with me. The kitchen was a small hut below on the ground that had been used as a sheep hut. Only sitting in the ground I could cook my scanty food. Drinking water had to be brought from a source a



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YEARS



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little far. Cooking gas was not available those days. Only kerosene stove was used for cooking. Once food was cooked it had to be brought into the room to be served. No toilet facilities were available. For natural call I had to go to the jungle with a bottle of water. There was no electricity connection.

In the beginning Convent was at Chopra. For every day I had to walk six Km. up and down to say mass at Chopra. Walking up and down for another eight Km. to market was also regular. To go to Buvakhal for mass everyday it was six Km. to walk. Altogether I had to walk everyday twelve to eighteen Km. Once the Sisters were shifted to the priest's house we changed our residence to Chopra. In short nothing was felt impossible or difficult.

### **2. My Stay at Chopra:**

At Chopra the stay was not as difficult as at the previous place. I had to walk every day for mass both to Buvakhal and Dandapani walking altogether sixteen Km. Fetching water there too was from the natural source. Self-cooking using kerosene stove has become normal. Bro. Romuald was with me during our stay at Chopra and he was very helpful for me. There too was also no electricity connection. Only candle was the source of light.

### **3. Stay at Gadoli:**

Since the diocese bought a plot of land from Mr. Ivor Chowfin our stay was shifted from Chopra to Gadoli. Much of our difficulties were reduced having better stay at Gadoli. Our means of travel was bus, shared taxi or truck. Our stay at Gadoli added to our daily walking and climbing the hill every day for mass at CMC Convent at Buvakhal as well as to the Convent at Dandapani especially during the winter season. Many a time we fell walking over the slippery ice collected on the way. We had to meet wild animals like tiger, panther and bear. Sometimes I had to return to avoid falling prey to such animals. Br. Romald, Fr. John Manavalan and I were together staying at Gadoli. The death of Bro. Romuald and Fr. Manavalan with eight of our beloved brother priests and brothers in the accident at Satpuli in 1991 caused in me unfathomable great shock

creating great vacuum in living at Pauri. Challenging all the painful experiences we pulled on with our hard work at Pauri.

### **St. Thomas School at Pauri:**

The growth of St. Thomas School had its own ups and downs. The school was started with the name Vimala Convent School with just two students whom we managed to get after waiting for many days. With the help of the CMC Sisters, the strength of the school slowly but steadily grew and the school was shifted into the basement of the Bata shop opposite to Garhwal Sweet House. Later Fr. Tom Jose was transferred from Pauri and Fr. John Vadakel was appointed in-charge of Pauri mission station and Manager of the school. Later as the number the students and sections went up, new buildings were successively arranged on rent for five years, and the school was partially or fully shifted into them. Finally, step by step, all the classes were shifted into the shed built and the priest's residence in the present school campus. All through the initial years it was really very hard to search and find new buildings every year and to shift furniture to the new building.

The new school building was completed with great efforts at such difficult terrain in four years and blessed by late Fr. Varghese Kottoor in the absence of Bishop Gratian; classes then were shifted into the new school. Nursery classes continued functioning in the shed attached to the Priest's residence. Once the second building was completed all the classes were accommodated in the school building. The school steadily grew in strength and quality. Till to date all children passed out both in class X and XII with enviable distinctions. In short God has been so gracious and generous down through the 50 years in the envious Growth of St. Thomas School for which the dedication of CMC Sisters has to be remembered with thankful hearts. All the priests as Managers rendered their untiring efforts to bring the school to its qualitative fame. Bp. Gratian Mundadan CMI has to be remembered as the heroic captain who sailed the ship of St. Thomas even in turbulent rough waters down the years.

**Bishop John Vadakel CMI**

# 80

*Birthday*

Praying  
for your  
blissful  
life ahead.

Celebrating and Wishing 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of our Dear and loving

**BISHOP JOHN VADAKEL CMI**

(President of ESDB from 2009-2019)



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## Our Celebrated Pillars

### *Our Guiding Stars*



**Bishop Gratian  
Mundadan CMI**  
Bishop Emeritus of Bijnor

President of ESDB  
1973 - 2009

An eminent personality, a conscientious man whose initial initiatives and enormous efforts ironed out the hurdles in the germinal stage.

A celebrated and distinguished person whose deep knowledge and expertise in architecture gifted the imposing buildings of St Thomas Convent School.

**Bishop John  
Vadakel CMI**  
Bishop Emeritus of Bijnor



President of ESDB  
2009 - 2019



**Bishop Vincent  
Nellayiparambil**  
Bishop of Bijnor

President of ESDB since 2019

A man with firm ideology and magnanimity in his beliefs.  
Gentility is his culture and far sighted vision his creed.  
A man who lives to the motto  
**Miles to go before I sleep.**

**Blissful Sacerdotal  
Silver Jubilee**

**25**

May your life,  
a testament to  
devotion and  
service,  
Illuminate  
our path

Heartfelt felicitations, Warm greetings and best wishes to Dear

**BISHOP VINCENT NELLAYIPARAMBIL**

(President of ESDB since 2019)

On the occasion of  
**SILVER JUBILEE** Celebration of your Priestly Ordination.



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## *In Safe Hands*

### The Managers Through The Journey

#### 1 **The First Staunch Manager**



The pioneer who stood like a steadfast rock to face the preliminary challenges.

**Rev. Fr. Tom Jose CMI**  
Manager from 1973 - 1975

#### 2 **The Perfect Architect**



Who played the instrumental role of initiating, supporting and designing the imposing structure of the school building.

**Rev. Fr. John Vadakel CMI**  
Manager from 1975 - 1983

#### 3 **The Visionary**



Who toiled incessantly to welcome the students to the new Home-the new building.

**Rev. Fr. Matthew Vazhapilly CMI**  
Manager from 1983 - 1986

#### 4 **The Promising**



Loaded with empathy, he trained the young hearts the invaluable values of life.

**Rev. Fr. George Edathiparambil CMI**  
Manager from 1986 - 1993

## 5 The Enterprising



Who exhibited intense enthusiasm in digging the genius in students.

**Rev. Fr. Thomas Vazhapilly CMI**

Manager from 1993 - 1997

## 6 The Stead Fast



Technology Enthusiast whose strenuous efforts initiated a Tech Wave in school.

**Rev. Fr. James Thekkekaithackal**

Manager from 1997 - 2005

## 7 The Modest



Whose unabating passion and ceaseless efforts upgraded the school to ISC level.

**Rev. Fr. Johnny Thazhathumpuram**

Manager from 2005 - 2010

## 8 The Affable



A constructive taskmaster whose determined efforts introduced a step to the expansion of infrastructure.

**Rev. Fr C. V. Sebastian**

Manager from 2010 - 2012

## 9 The cordial



An Ardent social worker whose committed diligence fascinated the chief minister to inaugurate the new building of the school.

**Rev. Fr. Cyriac Kizhakayil CMI**

Manager from 2012 - 2016

## 10 The Scholarly



A Literary craftsman who strived hard to implant ethics and virtues in students.

**Rev. George Thekkumcheril**

Manager from 2016 - 2020



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## 11 *The Genteel Aura*



A Composed person who worked with equanimity to run the show during the Covid time.

**Rev. Fr. Pious Mughaparambil**

Manager from 2020 - 2021

## 12 *Spirited Enthusiast*



Tech Enthusiast who introduced the school to the various social media platforms.

**Rev. Fr. Mathew John**

Manager from 2021 - 2022

In the illustrious span of fifty years, the collective leadership and visionary stewardship of all the Managers had added a spark to the school's evolution and ascension to remarkable heights. They invested their zeal in infrastructure, development and modernisation initiatives ensuring that the school remains at the forefront of educational excellence. As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to these leaders.

## 13 *The committed Stalwart*



Embodiment of patience - A Methodical planner who works with extreme precision especially planning the events of Golden Jubilee.

**Rev. Fr. Jijo Palathinkal**

Manager since 2022





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## The able administrators

*The Principals through the course*

## To begin the trek

### 1 First promising Principal



Who tackled all odds and confronted all initial challenges with her indefatigable spirit.

**Rev. Sr. Januarius CMC**  
Principal from 1973 - 1974

### 2 The Humane



Though her stay was short yet impactful maneuvering adverse situations deftly.

**Rev. Sr. Finia CMC**  
Principal from 1974 - 1974

### 3 The Gracious



Pioneer of CMC mission- One of the first to settle in an unknown land. Her zeal and enthusiasm paved the way to new challenges and faced it courageously to take our institution to greater heights.

**Rev. Sr. Alfred CMC**  
Principal from 1974 - 1977

### 4 The Dutiful



An epitome of Reliability and Punctuality who carried the functioning of the school with her agility.

**Rev. Sr. Ranitta CMC**  
Principal from 1977 - 1978



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## 5 *The Prudent*



**Rev. Sr. Mable CMC**  
Principal from 1978 - 1979

Gentle, humble and modest, she led the troupe forward following the Divine path.

## 6 *The Humble*



**Rev. Sr. Shanti CMC**  
Principal from 1979 - 1983

With her promising potentials, she could face the toughest challenges courageously.

## 7 *The Martinet*



**Rev. Sr. Franco CMC**  
Principal from 1983 - 1995

A perfect disciplinarian fondly remembered for she left an indelible mark on the heart of Pauri town.

## 8 *Commitment Personified*



**Rev. Sr. Joyce CMC**  
Principal from 1995 - 1999

An ideal teacher, an excellent mentor, a peerless guide and a vital spark of the school.

## 9 *The Benevolent*



**Rev. Sr. Rosebel CMC**  
Principal from 1999 - 2000

Possessing a religious essence, her presence charged the air with spiritual vibes.

## 10 *The Perfection Personified*



**Rev. Sr. Shibeena CMC**  
Principal from 2000 - 2007

Prayerful at heart, genteel aura, absolute motivator with irreproachable spirit.

### 11 *The Immaculate*



**Rev. Sr. Tessin CMC**  
Principal from 2007 - 2008

Went an extra mile to pave the path for initiating the process of upgrading the school to ISC level.

### 12 *The Impeccable*



**Rev. Sr Rosmi CMC**  
Principal from 2008 - 2014

Not only organised, professional and approachable, but she was a leader of excellence always striving hard to push the students and teachers to excellence.

### 13 *The Diligent*



**Rev. Sr. Rita CMC**  
Principal from 2014 - 2017

Agility in actions, a great visionary and her effective strategies made her a good guide.

### 14 *The Pragmatic*



**Rev. Sr. Sudha CMC**  
Principal from 2017 - 2019

A Charismatic personality with undaunted spirit whose presence took the school to new heights.

### 15 *The Meticulous*



**Rev. Sr. Prasada CMC**  
Principal since 2019

**16<sup>th</sup> March, 2019...** Being an incredible problem solver, consistent in maintaining discipline, promotes collaboration and effectively streamlines all events.

Over five decades, the school Principals have been the guiding force behind our institution's remarkable journey of growth and success. Under their able guidance, a culture of academic excellence has flourished. By providing conducive environment that values quality teaching, they have empowered students to realise their full potential. They have honoured the past while embracing the future. Our sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to these torchbearers.



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## *The Replenishing Reverie of Fifty Glorious Years*



# 50

years of

Commitment  
Adherence  
Devotedness  
Perseverance



Presenting before you the riveting journey of 50 glorious years of excellence of the temple of learning, the Saint Thomas Convent School, Pauri. Address of numerous adventurous forest, place rewarded by awesome views, nestled in the lap of nature, an ideal place to escape from the hustle and bustle of chirpy environment-yes, it is the charming town Pauri where divinity and serenity prevails. Situated 3 km away from the heart of the town stands the majestic seat of knowledge - The St Thomas convent school and hidden in its heart is the tale of 50 celebrated years.

Entering into the Golden Jubilee is indeed a celebration that calls to rejoice over the wonderful wonders worked by the Almighty. St Thomas convent school has circled around the sun fifty times and the Divine canopy could always be experienced in every walk of it's journey.

God has been there  
Every step of the way  
We praise God for  
His strength in all things.

A seedling fifty years ago, today has flourished into a full bloom substantial tree. For five decades the school has worked day and night selflessly to chisel and carve the future of Pauri town.



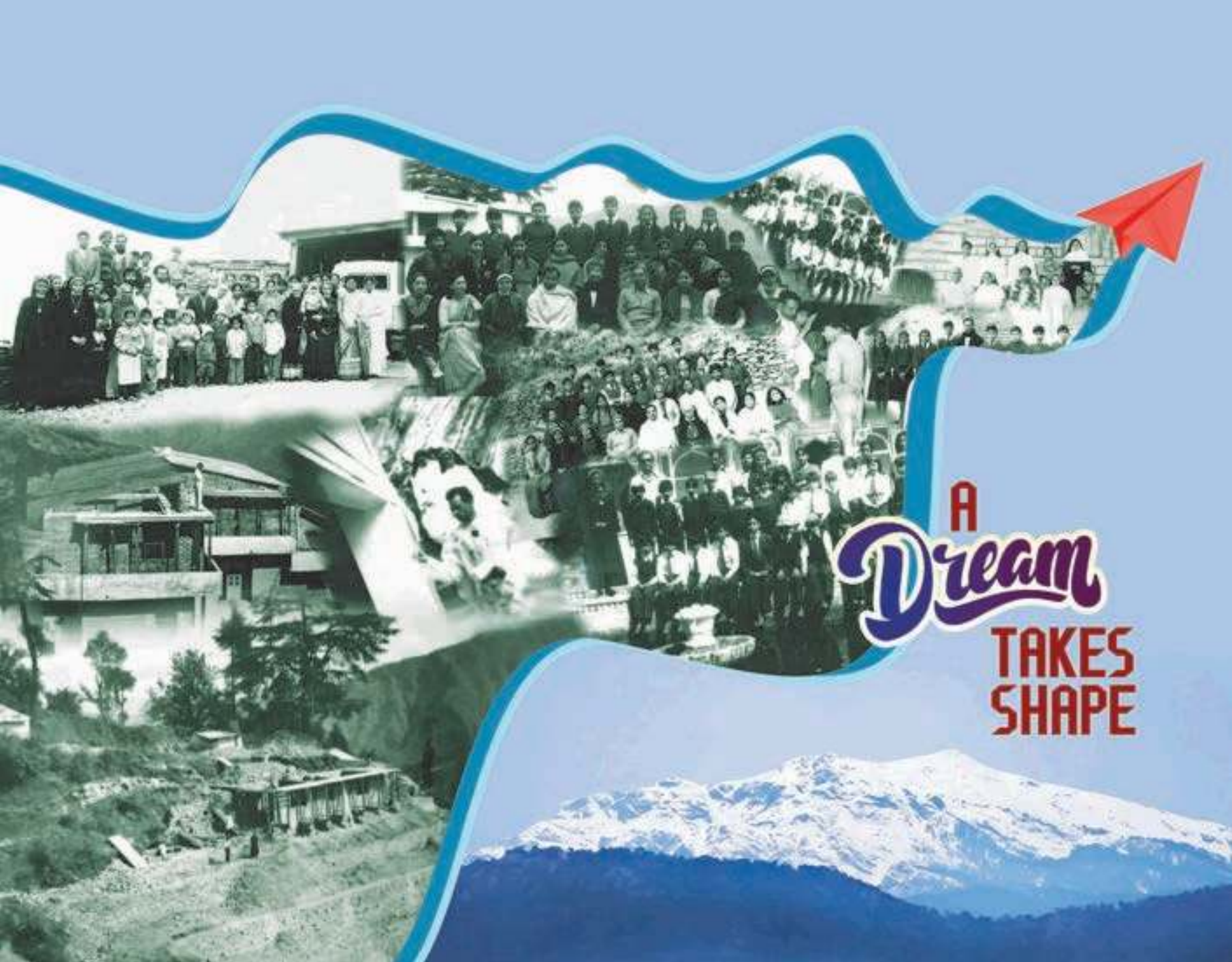


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## It is NOW Time to make the *Magic Happen*



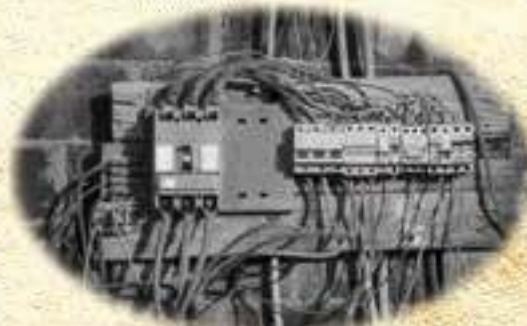
15<sup>th</sup> April, 1973- With Divine blessings, a land measuring 5 acres was registered at Dandapani to construct the school.



9 July 1975--The school was shifted to Upper Bazaar, Agency area in a rented space at ₹ 450 per month due to the rising strength and lack of space. But soon shifted to priest house in Dandapani thus Commencing the voyage with one bus of Garhwal mandal.



April 1978-1<sup>st</sup> Annual day celebrated  
(A cue that school was spreading its wings)



April 1978 - School building illuminated with the long-awaited electricity connection



May 1978 - The school's air buzzed with the first telephone ring



November 1979  
School assembly reverberated with new drum set

**With aching heart** July 1980 KG section shifted in Pauri due to lack of space

### The Blessed Era Initiated

April 1981--The fateful day when the foundation stone of the school building was laid by Mr G B Pandey, the then DM and Bishop Gratian Mundadan was the honoured guest

### The New Home

February 1984 - The school was shifted to the new building. The ecstatic echoes of students filled the air.

May 1984—A day of merriment for the KG section was shifted back from Pauri town to the main campus.



February 1986--1st batch of three students appeared for the board examination. As the school had not been awarded affiliation from CISCE so they were taken to St Joseph school, Kotdwara. A thriving success, for students passed with flying Colours .



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# GOLDEN YEARS

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## Comforting Consolation

July 1986–Rolled the  
tyres of  
the school's first bus

## Access to the world



COUNCIL FOR THE INDIAN SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

Pragati House, 3rd Floor, 47-48, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019

Tel: +91-11-25564831, 25564833, 25411716, 25413880

Email: cisce@cisce.org | www.cisce.org

14<sup>th</sup> October 1986 - The first big flight when school received  
affiliation from the council of Indian certificate examinations.

## Momentous Moment



September 1998

School celebrated its Silver Jubilee. A big day,  
celebrated with great pomp and show. Much glory  
was added to the day by the presence of Rev Bishop  
Gratian Mundadan who was the esteemed Chief  
Guest of the day.



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## A Gradual Rise

The school marched ahead, gradually picking up pace, rising, higher and higher with each passing day. It did its best to provide a space for all students to thrive, encouraging students by providing platform for creative approaches to think outside the box. Each session was swarmed up with ample of activities-each major event was celebrated with immense keenness and enthusiasm. The days were happening and school life was phenomenal.

## Towards the path of accomplishments

June 2008 – School received approval letter from the council for introduction of ISC

## A Step Ahead

April 2010–The strenuous efforts of Reverend Sr Rosmi and Rev. Fr Johnny painted the canvas of Saint Thomas school with myriad shades as the school was upgraded to ISC level. The prestigious announcement was proclaimed by Rev Fr Vincent Nelliaparambil, The present president of ESDB-The Bishop.

## Enhancing Aura

2010–Stretching its wings

The foundation stone of new building was laid by school's pioneer Bishop John Vadakkal CMI.

## A step towards Technological Advancement

August 2012-English lab was inaugurated by Rev Fr Joe Philip CMI.

Another  
Feather  
in the  
Cap



May 2012– Mahima Rawat topped the whole Diocese with 94.3%



A red letter day in the School's history for the then Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Mr Harish Rawat blessed the Thomasian Family by his Elite presence on the Annual day of the School. The inauguration of the new wing by the benign hands of The Chief Minister was a supreme blessing



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GOLDEN

YEARS

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November 2018 - Major areas of the School came under CCTV surveillance



School was shut down due to Covid but not closed as regular Online Classes were conducted. Later offline classes were initiated under strict SOP rules laid by the government.

- <https://paurischool.in>
- [HTTP://M. FACE BOOK.COM/ST-THOMAS-SCHOOL-PAURI - 103116 391821625/?MODAL ADMIN TOOO TOURANOTIF T PAGE INVJTE&NOTIF N> 1613310198663429&REF M NOTIF](https://www.facebook.com/st-thomas-school-pauri-103116391821625/?modal=admin_todo_tour&notif_t=page_inv_jte&notif_n=1613310198663429&ref=notif)
- <https://twitter.com/StPauri?s=08>
- [https://instagram.com/st\\_thomas\\_pauri\\_official?utm\\_medium=copy\\_link](https://instagram.com/st_thomas_pauri_official?utm_medium=copy_link)
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb3bByBSF1jLA34Mcr8ASAA>

June 2021– Access to various social media platforms like Facebook twitter, Instagram, school website etc



# Congratulations

**WORLD'S YOUNGEST CYCLIST TO REACH UMLING-LA**  
(World's highest motorable pass)

**Siddharth Rawat**

20-21 Batch - St. Thomas School, Pauri

RECORD DATE - 6 JULY, 2022 (UMLING-LA ELEVATION - 19024 FT)

India Book of Records

Asia Book of Records



Also the youngest  
cyclist to reach  
Kedarnath.  
RECORD DATE - 26  
OCT, 2021  
KEDARNATH  
ELEVATION - 3583M



## EXECUTIVE MEMBERS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



**Nimisha Rana**  
Batch 1987  
President



**Maj Gorki Chandola**  
Batch 1993  
Vice President



**Anuj Kimothi**  
Batch 2014  
Treasurer



**Sandeep Rawat**  
Batch 1996  
Secretary



**Abhinav Rawat**  
Batch 1999  
Executive Member



**Kuldeep Kunwar**  
Batch 1989  
Executive Member



**Manjusha Patel**  
Batch 1989  
Executive Member



**Punita Gusain**  
Batch 1989  
Executive Member



**Neha Kala**  
Batch 1991  
Executive Member



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**Sr. Preema CMC**

The most beautiful things  
in life are not things  
they are people, places,  
memories and pictures  
they are feelings and moments  
and smiles and laughter

On the hilltop strikingly silhouetted against the evergreen Deodar and Apple orchards is St. Thomas school. It stands as tall as a Pinnacle of excellence as it celebrates 50 years of its existence echoing the saga of a fulfilling mission in the field of education.

Milestones are nostalgic moments to remind us of all our phenomenal accomplishments, the formidable and smooth part traversed to be what it is today the premium school with outstanding performance and exceptional co-scholastic success. It is said the best memories of our life can never be captured in pictures they are always captured by the heart. Working as teacher in the early years of its existence was an experience in itself. Sr. Franco and the small band of devoted and totally committed teachers and a little above hundred students formed the school fraternity at that time. The school was a home away from home. School and home were synonymous.

The school aimed at imparting education not just for livelihood but for life itself, Teaching theories definitions formulas and languages were juxtaposed with lessons of compassion, empathy, honesty, truthfulness, care of school property all invaluable to school life learning.

A temporary shed adjoining the sisters residence was the school. The ground floor of the sisters residence was the principal's office and classrooms during school hours to be converted for the use of sisters after school time.

The scene of the monkey chase is etched as a visual memory in my mind. Monkeys were a menace when the apple trees were fruit laden. The sight of monkeys gave wings to the children playing on the ground. Hordes of monkeys were chased by a small horde of children within minutes, a task close to their heart and the gleeful climb down as Kargil victory. All this did not last long for soon new building came up and with it many changes. Remarkable and memorable moments at school abound in childhood wealth. Memories are timeless treasures of the heart.

The joy and excitement on the transition from the make shift shed to the tall majestically beautiful silver grey building knew no bounds. However with it came a charter of new rules hitherto unknown for discipline and cleanliness of the building- walk in a single line, no running or jumping on the stairs, hands to be off the railing and many more but all were meticulously followed that even after 5 years the school had an absolutely new look. School life is a combination of the concrete and the abstract what a student consciously learns and what he or she picks up unconsciously and what he unconsciously picks up shapes his destiny.

The school grew each year. I recall the ICSE board exam of the first batch in 1986. The examination centre was at Kotdwar 104 km from Pauri. It is with much nostalgia that I record this event. There were two boys and one girl in this batch we reached Kotdwar 2 days prior to the examination and we were given two classrooms in St. Joseph's school for our stay. The boys occupied one room while the girl and I stayed in the other room. As a hen looks after her chick. I followed them everywhere as they were far from home and nothing should affect their studies or their examination. we returned back to pauri after 10 days of Gurukul experience and this connectedness has grown through the years. I

enjoyed teaching as much as they enjoyed coming to school and this was the experience of every teacher at St. Thomas.

Teaching tugs at the heart, opens the heart and even breaks the heart and the more one loves teaching the more heart breaking it can be. The following year the school was granted the permission as an examination centre and this time we became the host to the 10th standard students of St. Theresa's school Srinagar for two consecutive years. One classroom became the kitchen and 4 classrooms for their stay as years passed, the school grew and three batch of students had passed out when I left school. The connectedness, the bond of understanding with the parents of the students all grew in aplenty as they saw the fruit of the trust they put in us in their children. The very people who were apprehensive about convent education became advocates of the same. Our children through their life were our brand ambassadors.

The school has grown tremendously through the years and made a name for itself in the most endearing way Pauri and St. Thomas school does cast it's magical spell on every one who has been a part of it. Even years later the mention of Pauri and St. Thomas school opens the floodgates of one's memory and makes you lost under its charm. Five decades have passed Still every event replays in my mind.



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## *An enduring connection*

My connection with STS dates back to almost 40 years.

In the early 1980s, Sister Franco the principal of STS wanted me to come and join the school. However, I had seen my mother, a teacher, bring home lots of corrections every day, so it's the last thing I wanted to do!

I decided to go to the school to turn down the kind offer, little realizing what I was up against. Sister Franco took me out of the office and shoved me into a class to teach! There started an extremely rewarding journey of fun and laughter, coupled with very hard work.

We were just a handful of teachers. There was no Google, wordbooks or any such thing as 'tuitions'.

The board class students would walk to school right through their winter vacations for Bio and Chemistry classes with sister Franco, English with Sr. Preema and then all the way to my home in Gadoli for History and Geography..

There was plenty of space for games and sports. We had a lot of co-curricular activities. The children put up plays such as 'Snow white and the seven dwarfs' and Shakespeare's 'Taming of the Shrew'.

One year, sr. Preema and I were driven all the way to Meerut by Father Manager to collect materials for exhibition. Mrs. Satya Joshi would get the girls ready with Indian dances and the KG kids under Mrs. Inez would put up Christmas programs.

I recall taking the girls of class X for a trip to Dehradun for a Geography excursion and a trip with Father George to



**Mrs. Indira Chowfin**  
Former Teacher, STCS

Tehri Dam. It was wonderful how closely the children interacted with the teachers.

In the end I would like to pay a tribute to Sr. Franco. She would always stand up for the right thing and never give in to any pressure. All the children were equal in her eyes.

She tried to inculcate the values of integrity and honesty among her staff and students as well.

As the school grows, I would urge all the students, both past and present, to hang on the values of STS, loving and serving others, standing up against evil, being loyal and without malice and envy. Do not give in to pressure and then you will shine out like stars in the world. God Bless you all.



## *St. Thomas, an unforgettable journey*

After getting married I came from plains to the beautiful hilly town of Pauri in November 1981 and was lucky to be selected as a teacher in St. Thomas Convent School Pauri in June 1982. When I joined the school, the main school building was under construction. The school was up to seventh standard and it used to run in a small building.

During my stay in this prestigious institution I learnt a lot from my principals, staff and even realized that students are also your great teachers and inspiration. From my seniors I learnt how to manage the various roles of a teacher, the various challenges of teaching and how to connect with the students.

Numerous ideas, perspectives and arrays of talents were inculcated in me during my service at St. Thomas. The qualities of self esteem, team work,

**Mrs. Satya Joshi**  
Former Teacher, STCS



healthy and competitive spirit, helping, sharing and caring, honesty and commitment to truthfulness, sincerity, sense of responsibility, quality to judge the right and the wrong became a part of my life, thus developing my overall personality. For this I will always remain thankful to my Rev. Sister Principals, staff members and the students, with whom I had the privilege to work.

I fondly remember my association with Sr. Franco, under whose guidance I spent the longest time. She was very strict but hardworking, affectionate, caring, loving, supporting and a pillar of strength for all of us.

The school ensures that the students develop strong moral values and character in addition to excellence in academics, co curricular and extracurricular activities.

May the school continue to excel scale newer heights in the years ahead.



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## MY GOLDEN DAYS AT ST THOMAS, PAURI

**Mrs. Shubhashree Singh**  
Former Teacher, STCS



It was 19th February 1995 when I landed in Pauri, from faraway Ranchi, which was then in Bihar. From the window of my house I used to see students of my neighborhood going to this school - set against the scenic Himalayas - every morning in their white and maroon school uniforms. In 1998 the school celebrated its 'Silver Jubilee' and next day my neighborhood children described the event so beautifully that I felt a strong urge to visit the school immediately.

My dream eventually came true when I joined the school as a teacher on 11th August, 1999, I still recall the day vividly because the feeling was as exciting as going back to my own school days.

On the very first day I met with Father James, Sr. Rosebell and Sr. Shibeena who welcomed me warmly. I was extremely nervous when I was asked to teach a chapter from Biology in grade VIII but Sr. Shibeena held my hand and convinced me to have faith in myself. That was indeed, very comforting. From then on my journey at St. Thomas School Pauri was a very enjoyable one even with the challenges that the role brought with it.

Today, when I look back on my stint at the school, I realize that those were some of the best days of my life. Even now my ex students greet me on "Teachers' Day" every year that I warmly reciprocate. I will not be wrong in saying that it was they who helped me discover the teacher in me. The bond that I shared with my colleagues has endured the test of time and turned into beautiful relationships over the years that I will continue to cherish all my life. I always feel indebted to the Almighty for making me part of this great institution and bringing such people in my life who helped me to evolve into a better version of myself.

I wish all the Thomasians - Administrators, Teachers and Students - a very bright, happy and successful future.

**Mrs. Shakunthala**  
Former Teacher, STCS



## स्वर्णिम पल

विद्यालय प्रशासन का आग्रह सहजता से अतीत में ले गया। कई चेहरे स्मृति में तैरने लगे। नाम, परिचय अनगिनत हैं। उम्र के इस पड़ाव पर यह स्वाभाविक है पर सेंट थॉमस स्कूल पौड़ी की इमारत का आकर्षण आज भी उतना ही है। विद्यालय का वातावरण आपसी सद्भाव, ज्ञानार्जन, कठोर अनुशासन व आत्मीयता का पर्याय तब भी था। आज भी अवश्य होगा। कई पूर्व छात्र छात्राये विद्यालय में अध्यापन करते हुए इस परम्परा को आगे बढ़ा रहे हैं। फादर, प्रधानाचार्या, सिस्टर, अध्यापक अध्यापिकाये विद्यार्थियों की अंतर्निहित शक्तियों का विकास, सर्वांगीण विकास, चरित्र निर्माण व भविष्य के लिए उत्तम नागरिक तैयार करना के ध्येय के प्रति समर्पित थे। इसी का परिणाम है कि विद्यालय के पूर्व छात्र अपने अपने कार्यक्षेत्रों में जिम्मेदारी से अपने कर्तव्य का निर्वहन कर रहे हैं। छात्रों और शिक्षकों के मध्य श्रद्धा व विश्वास का अटूट रिश्ता पुनर्मिलन समारोह में स्पष्ट परिलक्षित होता है। सेंट थॉमस स्कूल में अध्यापन करना मेरे लिये गर्व की बात है। विद्यालय सतत उन्नति के सोपान तय करता रहे यही कामना है।



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GOLDEN YEARS

**Mrs. Shanti Dobhal**  
Former Teacher, STCS



## अविस्मरणीय पल

अविस्मरणीय पल

पिबन्ति नभः स्वयमेवनाम्भः

स्वयं न खादन्तिफलानि वृक्षाः

धाराधरो वर्षति नात्महेतोः

परोपकाराय सतां विभूतयः

वृक्ष अपने फल स्वयं नहीं खाते, नदियां अपना जल स्वयं नहीं पीती, बादल स्वयं के लिए न ही बरसते सन्त पुरुष दूसरों की भलाई के लिए ही जन्म लेते हैं।

समय-समय पर इस धरती पर अनेक महापुरुषों ने जन्म लिया जिन्होंने अपने जीवन का एक एक क्षण परोपकार की बेदी पर अर्पित किया। ऐसे ही महान सन्त सेंट थॉमस हुए हैं जिन्होंने मानवता के हितार्थ अपना जीवन समर्पित किया। सेंट थॉमस उन भाग्यशाली महापुरुषों में एक थे जिन्हें भगवान ईशु ने अपने शिष्य के रूप में चुना था। और उन्होंने भगवान ईशु के महान संदेशों व ज्ञान के दिव्य प्रकाश को मानव जाति की भलाई के लिए आगे बढ़ाया।

सेंट थॉमस जी के अनुयायियों ने उनकी पवित्र स्मृति में विभिन्न चर्चों व विद्यालयों की स्थापना की जो आज भी उनके जीवन की जीती जागती मिशाल है। इन्हीं महान सन्त की स्मृति में सेंट थॉमस विद्यालय की स्थापना की गयी। प्रतिवर्ष इन महामना की स्मृति में तीन जुलाई को सेंट थॉमस दिवस मनाया जाता है।

सेंट थॉमस विद्यालय ने इस वर्ष विद्यालय स्थापना के पचास वर्ष पूर्ण किये। विद्यालय प्रशासन ने बहुत हर्षोल्लास सहित विद्यालय की स्वर्णजयन्ती मनाई। स्वर्ण जयन्ती के सुअवसर पर विद्यालय के भूतपूर्व अध्यापक गण एवं छात्र आमंत्रित किये गये।

आमंत्रित किये गये शिक्षकों एवं छात्रों में कतिपय अध्यापक एवं छात्र ही आये। भूतपूर्व अध्यापिकाओं में उषा विलियम, इन्दू चौफोन, सत्या जोशी, प्रसन्ना घिल्डियाल, पूर्णिमा धस्माना, शकुन्तला भदोला, कृष्णा कुकरेती और अध्यापक प्रदीप नैथानी।

२९ अक्टूबर २०२३ का वह दिन जब फा० जिजो एवं सि० प्रसादा वरिष्ठ अध्यापक अनूप जोशी, संजय जुयाल, पुनीता गुसाईं, गीता रावत, गीता मुदगिल, जयन्ती रावत, वन्दना मुदगिल एवं छात्र-छात्राओं द्वारा हमारा स्वागत किया गया तो इस आतिथ्य से मन गदगद हो गया। मन मस्तिष्क में वे दिवस हिलोरे मारने लगे जब मैंने इस विद्यालय में एक शिक्षिका के रूप में कार्य आरम्भ किया था।

आज विद्यालय के उत्कर्ष को देखकर ऐसा महसूस हुआ कि वास्तव में जीवन के स्वर्णिम पल थे। जब मैं विद्यालय में विभिन्न छात्र-छात्राओं से मिली तो वे पल वास्तव में अविस्मरणीय हैं। ये छात्र जीवन के हर क्षेत्र में कामयाबी के उच्च शिखर पर विराजमान हैं। कोई भारतीय सेना में जनरल तो कोई पुलिस सेवा

में उच्च पद पर, कोई इंजीनियर तो कोई डाक्टर बनकर मानव सेवा में तत्पर तो कोई अध्यापक बनकर शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में तो कोई विदेशों में जाकर परचम लहरा रहे हैं।

जीवन के इस संध्याकाल में अपने प्रिय छात्रों को सम्मुख पाकर जो प्रसन्नता हुई उसे शब्दों में बयां नहीं कर सकती। विशेषकर दिव्या मुदगिल और मुकेश सडाना जो हमारे विद्यालय के प्रथम बैच के विद्यार्थी थे। इस बैच में केवल तीन विद्यार्थी थे। दिव्या, मुकेश और सुधीर। तीनों ही प्रथम श्रेणी में उत्तीर्ण हुए थे। जब इस प्रथम बैच का परीक्षा परिणाम आया तो सि० फ्रैंको जो कि उस समय विद्यालय की प्रधानाचार्या थी परीक्षा परिणाम को देखकर इतनी भावविभोर हुई थी कि स्वयं मिठाई लेकर सब अध्यापिकाओं के पास जाकर मिष्ठान वितरित करने लगी। तथा मेरे पास आकर कहने लगी कि तुम दो पीस खाओ तुम तो विषय पढ़ाती हो।

विद्यालय के पुराने विद्यार्थी निमिषा रावत, मनोज खड्कवाल सुषमा सेमवाल, उषा राणा, दक्षा रावत, प्रांजली, रिया, रूचि आदि छात्र छात्राओं से मिलकर बड़ी प्रसन्नता हुई।

मैंने जब १९८३ में अध्यापन कार्य आरम्भ किया था तब विद्यालय की छात्र संख्या अधिक नहीं थी। लगभग दो सौ विद्यार्थी रहे होंगे। विद्यालय आठवीं कक्षा तक संचालित था। विद्यालय की प्रधानाचार्या सि० फ्रैंको तथा प्रबन्धक फादर मैथ्यू थे। अध्यापक अध्यापिकाओं की संख्या भी कम ही थी। उषा विलियम, पूर्ण चन्द्रिका, पंत मैम, सि० प्रेमा, सि० माइकल, पी०टी० अध्यापक श्री चंद थे। शनैः शनैः जब छात्र संख्या बढ़ने लगी तो अध्यापकों की संख्या भी बढ़ गयी। इस अन्तराल में इन्दू चौफोन, सत्या जोशी, अनूप जोशी, सुनीता जोशी, आदि अध्यापक अध्यापिकाएँ आये।

मैंने तीस वर्ष अनवरत इस विद्यालय में अध्यापन कार्य किया। आज से दस वर्ष पूर्व मैं सेवानिवृत्त हुई। मेरी सेवानिवृत्ति से चार वर्ष पूर्व विद्यालय १२वीं कक्षा तक संचालित हो गया था। मुझे इस बात की प्रसन्नता है कि मैंने ४ वर्ष तक ११वीं और १२वीं कक्षा को भी पढ़ाया और १२वीं कक्षा का परीक्षाफल भी बहुत अच्छा रहा। तीस वर्षों की अनवरत सेवाकाल में विद्यालय में कई फादर मैनेजर सिस्टर प्रधानाचार्या एवं अध्यापक-अध्यापिकाओं के साथ कार्य करने का अनुभव बहुत अच्छा रहा। जब विद्यालय के भव्य प्रांगण में फादर जॉन वाडेकर, फादर जॉनी मिले तो विद्यालय के वो दिन याद आ गये। जब फादर जॉन हमें टिहरी बांध दिखाने ले गये तो हम सब अध्यापिकाओं ने बस में अंताक्षरी खेली। सत्या जोशी मैम के गानों से तो वे इतने प्रभावित हुए कि कहने लगे ओ सत्या क्या तुम कम्यूटर हो।

अपने सभी सहकर्मियों, छात्र छात्राओं से मिलकर जो प्रसन्नता हुई उसे शब्दों में व्यक्त नहीं कर सकती। मेरी ईश्वर से यही प्रार्थना है कि संत थॉमस रूपी वृक्ष के पुष्प जहाँ भी रहें अपनी सुगन्ध से चतुर्दिक सुगन्धित करते रहे। मेरा आकाश भर आशीर्वाद इनके साथ बना रहे।



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GOLDEN

YEARS

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कुछ यादें होती हैं जो हम भूल नहीं पाते... या शायद भूलना नहीं चाहते। इतनी यादें हैं बचपन की और स्कूल की, पता नहीं एक पन्ने में कैसे समेट पाऊंगा।

जीवन के शुरुआती १६ वर्ष, स्कूल के ही इर्द-गिर्द बीते। अब भी ऐसा ही होता है, मगर फर्क है। पहले home work होता था, लेकिन उस के साथ पूरा न करने पर मार का डर भी होता था; अब तो शिक्षक मारना तो दूर, डांटने से भी कतराते हैं, पता नहीं कोई notice भेज दे या management ही explanation मांग ले। स्कूल के बाद भी, शाम को या छुट्टी के दिन भी स्कूल के दोस्त और मोहल्ले के दोस्त ही सब कुछ होते थे; ना mobile phone थे, ना OTT था, ना social media था। अगर कभी बाजार में घूमते हुए पता लग जाए की कोई टीचर या sister बाजार में देखे गए हैं, तो रास्ता ही बदल लेते थे - धारा रोड से बस अड्डे जाने की बजाय, कंडोलिया मंदिर की सीढ़ियाँ चढ़ के सीधे SP Office और फिर जो भी 'सुरक्षित' रास्ता समझ में आता था, वही पकड़ लेते थे। अब तो शायद पासा पलट गया है, टीचर ही रास्ता बदल लेते हैं।

स्कूल को याद कर के कभी लगता है कल ही की बात है। बहुत बातें ऐसे दिल और दिमाग में बसी हैं, कि एक एक चीज आँखों के सामने नजर आती है। चीड़ के पेड़ के नीचे मॉनिंग असेंबली, UPY 1299, एजेंसी का पार्क (अब तो वहाँ कुछ ऑफिस है शायद), चौधरी जी की दुकान से landline फोन कर के स्कूल ऑफिस में पूछना की बस नहीं आई है, क्या छुट्टी होगी? (कई बार तो जवाब मिला, कोई बात नहीं पैदल आ जाओ), assembly के बाद Peter and Molly वाला टैप चलाया जाता था (हमारी English सुधारने के लिए), और हम वहीं पे खड़े हो कर १०-१५ मिनट तक सुनते थे। फिर सोचो तो लगता है एक ज़माना बीत गया, और बहुत कुछ बदल गया- इतना कि सब पराया सा लगता है। Teachers, स्कूल बिल्डिंग, यूनिफॉर्म का रंग, और वो जो bonding थी इन सभी के साथ। पढ़ाई के साथ साथ उस समय teachers बहुत कुछ जीवन के बारे में, रिश्तों के बारे में, values और principles के बारे में भी बताते थे। उस समय ज्यादा समझ में नहीं आता था। और अब जब समझ में आता है, और मन करता है कि उन से दिल खोल के बात करें, तो उन में से कुछ तो हमारे बीच हैं ही नहीं, और बाकी सब से भी संपर्क नहीं रहा। फिर हमने इस नए दौर में अपने आप को इतना व्यस्त कर लिया है, कि उनसे संपर्क करना हमारी priority में ही नहीं आता। सच में ४० साल बहुत लंबा अरसा होता है।

एक बात तो तय है- जो शिक्षा जो दीक्षा हमें इस स्कूल ने दी है, हम जहाँ भी हैं, उसी की बदौलत हैं। अगर पूरी तरह से नहीं तो काफी हद तक। अपने बच्चों के स्कूल से चाहे अनचाहे comparison हो ही जाता है। और मिलता है कि हमारे शिक्षकों का पूरा ध्यान हमारी भलाई, हमारी growth, all round development, और हमें अच्छे इंसान बनाने पर था। अब शायद बच्चे अच्छी percentage पा कर स्कूल का नाम बनाने का, स्कूल की growth का, और स्कूल की कमाई का ज़रिया भर हैं। Moral values जीवन का हिस्सा नहीं, एक हफ्ते में एक period भर है, वो भी class ५ तक। इस में किसी स्कूल का दोष भी नहीं है। हमारी शिक्षा नीति, माता-पिता की आकांक्षाएँ कि हमारा बच्चा अच्छे marks ला कर, बड़े college में जाए और अंततः अच्छी नौकरी पाए, ऐसे कानून जिस से शिक्षकों के हाथ बंधे हों, और शिक्षकों के भी ध्यान भलाई से अधिक कमाई पर हो, तो दोष किसी एक का कैसे हो सकता है?

बदलाव प्रकृति का नियम है। समय चक्र चलतारहता है। कभी कुछ भी स्थिर नहीं है। इस लिए बीते समय की खट्टी मिठी यादें ले कर, आने वाले समय का स्वागत करते हुवे, आप से विदा लेता हूँ। कभी अवसर मिला, तो विस्तार से चर्चा करेंगे।

Mr. Mukesh Sadana  
Former Student, STCS



## यादें और यथार्थ

### Conflict between Emotions and Reality: Some Random Thoughts

# School ASSEMBLY



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## STAFF ROOM



## Physics Lab



## Chemistry Lab



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## Biology Lab



## Computer Lab



# AV ROOM



## Students Counselling



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Arushi Tariyal Thakkar

# Alumni MESSAGE

St. Thomas School, Pauri, a name as holy as it sounds, to ears, but nothing less than temple, mosque, church or gurdwara for us.

Our foundation where we learnt the basics of not just subjects and languages but life.

I was a kid and knew nothing when I took admission in St. Thomas Pauri.

Scared, afraid and knew nothing of life.

But whenever I was sad some teacher used to be there to help and guide me.

The profound knowledge which was imparted to us is invaluable.

I was quite under confident before, but then Kuldeep Sir, discovered the singing talent in me and that paved way for my future.

After that I got my confidence, my friends and happiness.

As we grew I got some very good friends who helped me, taught me, supported me, and were there in laughs and sorrows too.

Moudgil Mam, who was so much emotionally attached to our knowledge and performance and was always on toes for us until we wrote the word in our board exams.

Our sweet Sanjay Sir who proved that Teachers are our best friends. We used to annoy Sir, he used to get angry and then back to his real form. He helped us in every subject possible.

Every teacher in St. Thomas School left a seed of knowledge and curiosity in all of us which is still helping us in life.

Thank you for letting us spread our wings and giving us confidence that we are lesser to none.

Though we left St. Thomas Pauri years back but still a piece of heart is where school is.

**Arushi Tariyal Thakkar**



Sushma Semwal

# Alumni MESSAGE



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## St. Thomas Convent - My Pride

'A school is a building that has four walls.... with tomorrow inside'

- Lon Waters

As I sit in the crisp winter air writing this article there is so much that is going on in my mind. It seems so easy to get lost in memories. Sweet sweet memories of school, so many years down the lane (I joined in 1976) and some of them still so precise.

The cold breeze blows and I grab the hot tea glass closer, I am sitting in the verandah of my school (no doubt now that I am a teacher) listening to the chirping of my students as they play around in the soil. This alone is enough to remind me of my Pauri days and SUPW period. They used to be twice a month and Oh! how we looked forward to it. Learning to dig the soil, planting flower saplings and making the gardens. Getting our hands dirty was just a way to learn nurturing with love and dignity of labor.

I let out a giggle, as the vivid memory of Bishop Gratian Mundadan coming to school for yearly inspection crosses my mind. Cleaning the classrooms and arranging the cupboards definitely was a teaching in organisation skills. And not to forget the task of staying up late at night to cover all the notebooks before the checking. And the teachers busy making sure the homework was all corrected.

Another feared day I remember was parent-teacher meeting day, specially on 23<sup>rd</sup> December every year. The only day we cared about teachers complaining to our parents. We had to set the best impressions!

I let go of my chain of thoughts, one of my students is still in the mud plucking the flowers. One scolding from me and the kid is straightened. The thought

of how Late Sister Franco would definitely fine us for doing something like that flashed my mind. Even the staircase-railings had become a no-touch zone. Strictness at its finest! Yet we looked forward to 2nd October celebrations and watching a documentary on Mahatma Gandhi in the Library Room and not to forget Mrs Molly Peters conversations on the loudspeaker just after assembly to improve our spoken English skills. St. Thomas really paid attention to grooming its students well.

The thought process is broken. One of my students is throwing mud everywhere and shouting. The hot tea glass has now gone cold in my hands. I gather myself and reminiscence Bishop Gratian's precious reminder to 'Smile'. Truly some learnings remain lifelong I think, as I put on a bright smile and return to my notorious bunch.

Under the strict discipline of my principals- Sister Ranita, Sister Mable, Sister Shanti and Late Sister Franco and the impressive personalities and selfless work of our Fathers and teachers we have come to be who we are today. St. Thomas will always be filled with a treasure trove of memories. It was indeed a paradise, in the quaint hills of Danda Pani, Pauri that nurtured in us the love for learning and living.

'Thankyou for all the memories that I hold so dear in my heart, and as time goes by, new ones will form, but the old ones should never depart'- Danielle Neidich.

With loving memories of students and staff of St. Thomas Convent,

**Sushma Semwal**

ICSE Batch1976



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B. M. Sharon

# Alumni MESSAGE

## MY DEAR NURSERY HALL

Dear Nursery Hall,

How I miss your cheerful and relaxing ambience, whenever I think of the School. You mark the very beginning of my scholastic journey at the St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri; you greeted and welcomed me into the Thomasian Family. School's infrastructure changed over the course of time, new classrooms took your title of Nursery, but your name remained the same. No longer were you a classroom but a hall for serving many purposes. Being at the core of the School, you have witnessed so many events and functions like farewells, seminars, welcome ceremonies so on and so forth but your prime venture to be a hall for conducting the board examinations was what, that made it possible, that you alone marked my last day of being a student at the School.

Not forgetting our farewell party, when we all walked down the memory lane and recollected our scholastic journey, which was indeed an indelible, blissful experience. The meticulous leadership provided by honourable Fathers and Sisters, the love, care and

teachings by respected teachers which marked our holistic development as a student and as a social being and the reliable support by non-teaching staff was truly commendable. You beheld us all when our tears tumbled at the recognition of the fact that our schooling now is complete and we need to step out of the school and face the world.

Not only me but we all will always cherish the memories of the school, and no wonder that those were the best days of our lives. As of yet, we all are found to be at distant places and in various universities and institutions and will later be in the job/business zone but will never forget the time that we spent at school.

For me, you were the best place in the school, as you marked the first and the last day of my scholastic journey. I always enjoyed being there in the hall.

All I ever be wishing for the school is incessant prosperity.

Thank you.

**B. M. Sharon**



Divyansh Rauthan

# Alumni MESSAGE



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## The moments to cherish : School memories

**The journey of a student:** School- School is not just a word. It is an emotion that resides in every student's heart . It is a second home where we are taught step by step to achieve success. First day of school and it becomes like a prison to us. We hate to stay away from our loved ones. Crying and wheezing is all we do but as the days pass by , it feels like heaven.

We meet our first set of teachers- teachers who lay the foundation of our futures. Class by class we are taught different aspects of life. We learn to care ,to love and to help and there are the qualities that cannot be taught but developed. As the years pass by, our love for the school increases. We make a lot of friends and transform to groups.

Now comes that phase of life where if teacher corrects us, we take it as an insult. They become our enemies while the lenient teachers become our favourites. In this holy institution, we grow in all aspects of life. We find our talents, our strengths and our weaknesses. Slowly but surely maturity comes to us. We gradually understand that how concerned our teachers are for us and are always ready to help us.

But let me tell you friends, reality hits in class 11th . Class is no longer a class. All the students become like a family. The so called groups are no more and everyone wants to live the last 2 years of school life in the best way possible. We all feel a different bond with the teachers

and feeling is beautiful. The day comes closer and closer when the batch will have a full stop and it will be the end of our beautiful journey together.

My name is Divyansh Rauthan, in the last year of my school life, and I am pretty sure, when this magazine comes out, I won't be a student anymore. Live these moments friends, before it's too late because it is once in a life time experience. And just like that we move our separate ways, voices turn unfamiliar and everyone moves on. Strangers become strangers again. But what stays with us? Countless moments coated with deep emotions. Just a bag full of memories- They are priceless indeed!!

Stars are many, but moon is only one. Schools are many but my beloved ST.Thomas is a special one, Walking down the lane, singing the school rhyme, best decision of ours come, when it's school time. Wings of determination, flights of convictional love, with showers of blessings from Almighty above, Reaching heights of wisdom, frith and light, slowly and slowly we are grooming in the sunshine so bright. One day we will blossom into a marvellous big tree, to face the world and our school will set us free! But all that will make us smile and stop in our journey for a while- memories of joy, laughter triumphs and cheers the chromatic brilliance of **50 golden years**.

Divyansh Rauthan



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Kritika Kathait

# Alumni MESSAGE

## An Apprehensive first step

Some days I reminiscence about the first time when I stood outside my class in the kindergarten holding my parents' hands, afraid that if I let go I will get lost in the crowd of identical strangers. I cried as I felt my parents slipping away slowly by my side and pushing me into a whole new world of unending adventures that have made me what I am today.

St. Thomas convent school is not just a school, it is the sacred soil where the dormant seed imbibe knowledge, moral values, ethics and each one has been transformed into a mature lush tree plant. Here teachers and management are like gardeners who have nurtured us with their love, warmth, affection and knowledge. The school has always aimed at evolving a sense of discipline and a humanitarian perspective in its students. The school has always prompted the students to explore the creative, spiritual, intellectual and patriotic aspects of

their personalities. It provides an environment that nurtures and amplifies the agreeable qualities in each student.

I am so grateful to my Alma mater. My huge thanks and gratitude to all my teachers for their tireless efforts as they have taught me to be confident, compassionate, self-aware, balanced and optimistic and help me to do away with my apprehensions and has shown me the way to reach my goals.

**Kritika Kathait**



Lavanya

# Alumni MESSAGE



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## The school that made me better not bitter

"You are perceived the way you look and you are treated the way you are perceived" as I entered my new school these were the words of my father that rung through my ears. After having spent 10 years in my hometown, with the same people in the same school I was not ready to move away. but I did join St. Thomas school as the first commerce batch so turns out I did have to move. as a newbie, in a new school culture I was hyper aware of everything. I did I had this debilitating fear that all eyes were on me, everything I was doing was being picked apart. I spent the first week of 11th grade fixating my eyes on random spots, to avoid conversations, to the point where it gave me headaches. One day as I sat backstage on the stairs I caught myself considering running away. "how hard would it be if I just took a taxi back home after the school ends?" I was sure it wasn't a plan I was going to execute just an intrusive thought, just then I felt a hand on my shoulder from a fellow classmate who asked me if I wanted to join them for class pictures they were taking and even though I refused to join that

small gesture made me feel welcomed. this whole time I was too busy thinking about myself, projecting my insecurities onto others while they were trying to make me feel like a part of the family. It was a slow journey but it turned out to be simply good. I say good and that may sound underwhelming but that's what the Saint Thomas family felt like to me a warm hug with the undertone of cool air that carried with it the scent of freshpine. Simply good I say! this school taught me how to be more understanding. My peers, my teachers held out space for me to fit in, to be comfortable. their kindness was the reason I became better not bitter.

Lavanya



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Maanya Gusain

## Alumni MESSAGE

### Aaina of my school life

We all have the privilege to collect and revisit memories that perhaps enable us to feel warmth in times of cold loneliness, comfort in times of chaos and reassurance in times of doubt. Memories are the part and parcel of everyone's life. The good memories are the good experiences one gets and the treasures to cherish in one's life. The good memories include school life memories. The memories of not only the fun, friendship and all the sport and extracurricular but also the way it helped me find my interests. I owe it all to my school. It has made me who I am today. Sometimes we can't let go off memories because they are constant reminders of a beautiful story that we never expected to end. In the journey of life, there is a long distance between childhood and adulthood; its fifteen years long and thousands of memories tall - School Life. School life is the golden time period of learning and I can proudly say that

I gained good learning experience, the self confidence, motivation and the will to do the best from my Alma Mater, St. Thomas Convent School. My first day school life memories are still vivid. I can still feel how warmly I was welcomed at the school. That truly defines the importance of school life for a child. As a child, I learned, cooperated, got myself motivated and groomed under the best guidance of my dearest teachers. It is very true that a person always remembers his first and the last day at school. Fifteen years ago, I walked in with a heavy bag and in this golden jubilee year of the school I am walking out with a heavy heart taking a bag full of memories from here and it's a wrap of my school life rather the best days of life. My school has been an important and significant part of my life for which I am eternally grateful.

**Maanya Gusain**



Nimisha Rana

# Alumni MESSAGE



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## Dadaji at St. Thomas

My school days were the best days of my life and my school life - the brightest part of my memory. The love I received from my classmates and my juniors will never be forgotten. The guidance I received from Sr. Prima, Sr. Franco and other teachers shaped me into what I am today. Although "HOOLIGANS" is what Sr. Franco addressed me and my classmates, ICSE batch of 1987.

I was lucky to be a part of the Alumni Celebrations of St. Thomas, held on 29<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2022. Not only did I get a chance to visit my school, but meeting some of the teachers who had taught us 35-40 years ago, talking to the juniors revived the lost childhood. The love I received was much to my expectations. But what surprised me was when founder Reverend Bishop Grecian Mundadan in his address spoke about a retired Brigadier, being a part of laying the foundation of the school. The Brigadier was Brigadier Lacchaman Singh Negi, my dadaji.

Immediately I recalled myself sitting in my 9th class embarrassed, almost in tears. Tessy ma'am was taking

her Maths lesson when the Brigadier barged into the classroom complaining about some issue which I never could recollect. All I remember is the thud in the heart of a 13 year old girl, what would happen next.

I remember the horror my grandfather had over my classmates. Once Dharmendra Rawat happened to cross my dadaji's path and immediately the Brigadier roared, "Whose son are you?" Poor Dharmendra out of nervousness answered, "I am fine." To add to his dismay, dadaji said, "I am not asking about your wellbeing. I am asking whose son are you?"

So it was always my dadaji whenever my teachers or my friends had to have a good laugh. And it was fun. The love and respect he had earned in the hearts of the people of Pauri, helped me become the person I am today.

St. Thomas and Pauri, I will keep loving you.

Nimisha Rana



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Bharat Bhushan

## Alumni MESSAGE

### Saint Thomas Convent Schools, glorious path-from Eight pioneers to a Golden Jubilee

Nestled in the heart of Pauri, Saint Thomas Convent School has etched its mark on the sands of time. As the school celebrates its golden jubilee, the alumni from the earliest batches, gather to reminisce about a time when the school was just taking its first steps, much like the young minds, it nurtured.

Back in the year 1988, the school saw its third batch of students with their graduation caps. A mere group of eight, including names like Gaurav, Atul, Surendra, Himanshu, Usha, Daksha, Renu and myself, Bharat Bhushan, embarked on a journey that would shape their lives in profound ways. We witnessed the humble beginnings of the institution when it was stationed at Agency Chowk.

The school's growth mirrored the growth of its students. With dedicated staff like Sr. Mabel, Sr. Shanthi, Sr. Lucy, Sr. Franco, and Sr. Prema, the foundation of values and knowledge was laid with care and devotion. The memories of Dobhal Mam, Usha Mam and Indu Mam along with many others, continue to evoke a sense of gratitude for their unwavering commitment to nurturing young minds.

Recollections of those days include the school's love bus, adorned with the number plate UPY 1299. This bus wasn't just a mode of transportation; it was a vessel of camaraderie and shared stories, carrying the students on three trips daily to and from the school. The bond that developed among those young hearts during those bus rides still lingers in their hearts, today.

The pages of time have turned, and St Thomas convent school has evolved into an educational institution of great repute. The growth witnessed in terms of infrastructure and facilities is a testament to the unwavering dedication of its educators and the enduring spirits of its students. From agency Chowk to its present stature, the school has evolved, yet the core values it instills have remained constant.

As the school celebrates 50 glorious years, it stands as a living embodiment of its commitment to nurturing minds, fostering character, and inspiring dreams. The alumni, now parents themselves, proudly send their own children through the school gates, creating a beautiful cycle of legacy and learning.

My kids, Punya and Rudra, carry forward the torch ignited by their fathers generation. They are a living link between the past, and the present, a bridge connecting the memories of yesteryears with the aspirations of tomorrow.

Saint Thomas convent, school's journey has been nothing short of remarkable. From its humble beginning to its golden jubilee, it has stood as a beacon of knowledge, friendship and growth. The memories of eight friends, and their pioneering journey continue to resonate through the corridors, reminding everyone that every beginning, no matter how small, has the potential to create a legacy that spans generations.

**Bharat Bhushan**



Pranjal Rawat

# Alumni MESSAGE



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## When I Stop And Look Back

Some of us are staying very close to Pauri and some are far away. We miss and love it. We are happy having achieved some success or are almost there. At any point of time, when the memory of my beloved school flashes on my mind screen, it is not in a sad nostalgia but a bright memory which feels good with an evening latte.

We could call ourselves unaware lads but the teachers used to call us innocent. It's difficult to look at life with such innocence now. The moments most relished were either waiting for recess or the last bell. The last bell was not an end to the day but the race to the best window seats in the bus. We wished for a free period so that we could bask in the sun during winters or play random games during summers. Summers in Pauri felt too hot until we moved out. Every now and then someone would feel dizzy in the morning sun. That was hardly sunny if you ask us now.

I wonder about our desire to wear those school uniforms in the most fashionable way possible. Those pants hanging on to the last bone of the hip just waiting to fall. No matter how we looked, what we did, we never felt bad. Today we can never be well dressed enough.

Everyone wanted to have those long hair locks. We would always try to duck the PT teacher but in vain. And today either we have lost majority of them or undercuts are the way to go. Everything we do

today is just the opposite of what we wished to do in School. Or to frame it better, whatever we did then could not be replicated ever in life.

We stare at the mundane traffic from our car windows while returning from office hoping to get home in time. We never really cared about getting home in time in childhood. The restlessness accompanying us in the seventh period is gone. Seated alone or with a friend is not the same as being seated with 4 other friends in a 3 people row. Comfort and space had different meanings back then. We were used to being in groups, in a class full of vibrant characters and personalities. Character and personality sound heavy for that time.

We grew to be a bunch full of extroverts and introverts. Some have their close ones nearby; some just wait on people to understand them. Back in the day, we all were able to relate and converse well with at least one of the teachers in schools. We knew them well. They understood us more. Life was simple and easy. We were protected and loved by parents and teachers alike. There were those occasional reprimands and harsh lessons. But do they seem harsh now?

I believe most of us would be happy with how our lives have turned out. We are able to fulfil our wishes and desires. The memories from our childhood visits us at times. Only to make us stop, think, smile and go on with our lives, happy and grateful.

Pranjal Rawat



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Priyamvada Kukreti

# Alumni MESSAGE

## My School - For me

I feel, School is just not a place of education and learning, it is more than that. It is a place of companionship, teamwork, friendships and ethics. A place where one's personality is chiseled, groomed and polished.

I am Priyamvada Kukreti Sharma, currently working as a Recruitment Manager at Lancesoft (US Healthcare Staffing Firm).

I have spent the most amazing 15 years of my life climbing the steps of my adorable temple of learning everyday, and trust me, not even a single moment did the thought ever flash in my mind that this place is not meant for me.. Now, when our lives are hectic and full of responsibilities, I look back through the memory lane and realize how easy it was, so much easier than the present hectic schedule of going to office now.

I have grown in STS, in Nursery being just a mere Toddler to completing my Class 12th as an adolescent.

It has been a roller coaster journey, from WINNING TROPHIES to CRYING OVER A LOST GAME, from SHARING HUGS AND HIFIVES to CRYING OVER FAILED FRIENDSHIP.

For me, it has been special because it provided me a platform to dig my talents. I danced, I sang, I wrote, I spoke. My teachers always motivated my talents and pushed me to participate in every single event, which I did with all my heart and soul.

I still brag about the best English teacher one could ever have, because I hardly make grammatical errors, instead I correct others.

I remember requesting our hindi teacher to take us outside in the sun during winters, & convincing her was an achievement. Such small moments of joys made our days happening.

I learnt how to obtain a quality of life and how to fight your own battles.

I made some really awesome friends, who are now my family and we visit often, and in addition to that, these days, making each others marriage super LIT!

Jotting down my good old days is making me emotional right now. It has been 9 years since I passed my 12th, but I have a vivid picture of all the laughter sessions, the events, the carols, the christmas time, the exams and WHAT NOT. So, make the most of it, life is tough ahead, this innocence will not return, learn and teach, vocalize and introspect your beliefs, and I am sure Everyone will turn into a great human. #morepower #ilovests #beingthomasian #fun\_frolics #imissmyschool.

**Priyamvada Kukreti**



Samridhi Sehgal

# Alumni MESSAGE



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## My Journey of Fifty Years!!

What did I see in past fifty years?

I saw a journey from a rented room to memorable classes,

I saw a journey from three little children to hundreds of curious little minds;

I saw a journey from one nurturer to many,

I saw the coming and going of my beloveds; This is what I saw since last fifty years and many more to see.

What did I see in past fifty years?

I saw a journey of emotions in each heart,

I saw growth and grooming of each sapling

This is what I saw since last fifty years and many more to see.

What did I see in past fifty years?

I saw journey of wheels of one bus to wheels of thirteen buses,

I saw a journey from bell to electric bell;

I saw a journey from one small stage to two audiovisual rooms,

I saw a journey from one to many labs;

This is what I saw since last fifty years and many more to see.

What did I see in the past fifty years

I saw a journey from clean tables to stories inscribed on them,

I saw a journey from solitude to whispering

This is what I saw in past fifty years and many more to see.

Samridhi Sehgal



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Sana Javaid

# Alumni

## MESSAGE

### Days of our Lives

Almost two decades later since I left St. Thomas School in the year 2005, looking back brings countless beautiful memories still fresh in my heart and mind. Nestled in the lap of nature in its truest sense, this school was our second home. It not only shaped our foundational years academically, but also nurtured us through all-round development. All these years later, having met a fair share of people from across the globe, I can proudly say that the holistic education and experience St. Thomas offered is rare. It goes without saying what set the school apart were the dedicated teachers who brought their best to the table.

Ranging from my love for English literature to overcoming the fear of Mathematics, to exploring my programming skills and cherishing the realms of Geography, it is difficult to say which subject I enjoyed the most. The credit for evoking such a varied range of interests in a student goes to every single teacher who enriched the learning experience through their knowledge, enthusiasm, and warmth.

Many may not resonate with my feelings for this academic appreciation, but no one can deny the other fun facets the school days brought into our lives. Such as the small routines like recess time, morning assembly to an enchanting choir, which one starts to appreciate more after leaving school. And then the year-round events and activities that we all looked forward to. For some of us, the sports week was a highlight, and for others, the cultural events, but I truly awaited and cherished the Annual and Christmas day celebrations. There was something special about the vibe and fervour of preparations for both these events. Skipping classes for rehearsals, preparing dresses and props for the performances, the winter ambiance and so on. In my memory, it is etched as a wholesome celebration. Another event that I particularly enjoyed was the post-independence day celebration, where we sang all patriotic songs on our bus ride

back home. So much so that we would all take the bus to the last stop and get off on the way back to buy extra time. It was a very unique feeling, and a sense of pride that filled our little hearts. Having mentioned the bus rides, it can easily be one of the distinct experiences of our school time, whether it was playing Antakshari or getting thrilled when the bus had to occasionally reroute from Kandolia.

Another highlight of my schooltime would be when we were relocated to a shed and had to sit on the floor for about a week because we refused to name one of our classmates for mischief. As much as our teachers must have hated that time because of the dark and dingy 'classroom', mosquitos, and whatnot, I think we made some of the best memories in that one week.

Overall, I am immensely grateful to the wonderful teachers and my schoolmates who made the experience at St. Thomas school incredibly memorable. As I sit miles away writing this today and look out of my window while the snow falls, I am reminded of the last day of our pre-board exams when it started to snow outside and we could not wait to finish writing our exam and run outside. Little did we know, it was a countdown to our remaining days in that safe nest before each of us took our own flights into a world full of uncertainties and opportunities.

So, I would take the chance to thank every teacher who was the wind beneath my wings and helped me achieve my dreams. And cheers to those friends who kept the promise of a lifetime friendship, especially considering my family left the town, and I have not had a chance to go back to Pauri. Finally, to the current students at St. Thomas, enjoy and make the best of this beautiful time while it lasts!

Sana Javaid



Shashwat Malasi

# Alumni MESSAGE

## REMEMBRANCES

"Once you're a grown-up, you'll then understand the importance of this time and will regret that you had wasted your younger days acting like adults."

These words of Moudgil Mam still reverberate into my ears up to now. Though I am trying to recall from all my memories of the school times and figuring it out which one to be included in this small grouping of words, this sentence still reminds me of the reality that I am experiencing at present.

When I go back into the plethora of those 'good-old-days', it becomes extremely challenging to select few of those 'many' instances which have made our span in the STS, the most cherishing ones. My journey in the STS began from entering class nursery with our loving Manju Mam as the class teacher. Sister. Ananda was the other section's class teacher. During the earlier days, all we would do was just playing around in the classroom and on those cemented slides during the recess! Our whole batch felt extremely disappointed when those slides were brought down!

It was mainly from class 1st onwards that we realized there was something worth worrying on our shoulders as William Mam used to teach us. The way she punished us in totally incomparable and we all, be it or seniors or our elder brothers or sisters, feared her. But now when we revisit those 'fearful' memories, it seems that it had been always for our benefit. A sense of discipline and respect originated from such incidents only. I vouch for it.

These are the school days only that one, if pays a productive contemplation over the increasing levels of responsibilities, would find that these are only meant for our upliftment only. The initial years up to the middle classes was fun when we compare them with the higher classes. It was only in class 5th that suddenly, we felt a level-up in our attitude and personality since we were on our way to start writing with pen! It was really a challenge to keep the shirts stain-free during the first week of commencement of classes. There could not be a single student who has never experienced those 'pen-fights' and their aftermaths in the form of ink leak and smudging on the uniform. Then, the scenario of being chided at home used to be almost near to expulsion from home. Today, those are niched as sweet, innocent memories of our childhood. Who can forget those beatings from Satya Mam which gave us chilling every time she used to call out the names for punishment?

Class 6th was piled-up with all the subjects which the only 'seniors' in the school would study viz. Physics, Chemistry and Biology all together! In the beginning, it was a feeling too intangible to be explained in words. Our utopia got shattered into pieces within a month itself. We could not bear the duress of so much information to remember and comprehend. On a personal level, I too felt it difficult to manage so much of an upheaval all at once. These are the changes that shape the way would in future, go well along with the ways of the world.



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Shashwat Malasi

## Alumni MESSAGE

Introduction to Shakespeare is next in the list. It completely twisted the way we used to study up to class 8th. That too was one of the hardest obstacles. New pattern, cumulated syllabus, house-wise competitions, working for the decoration in friends' homes up to late evenings and getting back homes all tires only to be scolded again. Not every time the word 'memories' is in positive light. There were times when the whole class used to get beaten up left and right for there was so and so student who did something, and the complete class had to suffer. Sister Rosmi once made our entire class to stand out in the assembly ground with our hands up for nearly 2-3 periods. It was in class 8th.

When it comes to it, school is going to be the most important milestones which has and currently is shaping my life and I am hopeful that whatever I may become in the coming future, my school days' would be contributing the maximum to my personality. I am thankful for it. Adding to it, it is not always one's good deeds or discipline that matters for growth, but mistakes and lost opportunities also play a significant role in the overall development of the persona and school is a place where one can learn in both the ways in a frolic way. Be it the backstage gung-ho during any function, an excursion during the Cultural and Sports Meet, conducting the morning class assembly and the list goes on endlessly, there is a hint, a hidden lesson, or a mix of emotions in each and every activity; the key lies in identifying and comprehending them at the opportune moment.

I still remember the moments where we behaved in such a manner where we felt guilty post the happening. Whatever be the instances, be it

the fun during the P.T classes, chaos during the recess, anxiety during the exams, breaking beakers in the chemistry lab, irritating Reena Mam in the Physics lab, all these were such incidents which mostly in the +1 and +2 and we were very conscious enough of what we were doing but still ended up in visiting the principal's office. It makes me chuckle sometimes when in the last working week of our +2 before the Annual Day, boys from our class went behind the school building and plucked oranges from the trees there resulting in Pascal bhaiya chasing after the boys and there was a ruckus all around.

Today, when I retrospect to assess the factors that shape the character and wellness of mind, I find that school has the most important role to play in it. Once, a person steps out of the schools' boundaries, they are then not preparing for a refined human being, rather to compete with the pace of the times. Whatever a person shows to be only reflects what they would have been in their younger days. Whatever gets fed into brain during the moulding years, gets apparently reflected in the personality later on. So, it's imperative for any boy or girl to take best of the advantage of the environment and knowledge during the school because such moments don't come back in the same form.

Even we all would be gathering for the Alumni meet, but neither would we be the same students, nor the teachers would be the same.

For me the sway of these remembrances would be last longing forever.

**Shashwat Malasi**



Sarthak Aswal

# Alumni MESSAGE



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## 'A LOOK BACK'

To this ebb and flow of our turbulent sea  
Across which we sail, far towards eternity  
Sailing on this vast sea, finding true joy and pleasure is a mystery.  
Though much far we have not arrived, still I do miss,  
The auric episode of this least travelled journey.

The very elixir of our childhood, The school life, which beholds our effortless laughs and unfaded memories. It is very true that our life changes by 360 degrees on the day we entered this phase and after fifteen years, it again takes a u turn but this time, it being more dramatic and intense. Recalling those sweet memories can never be an odd task for us.

Having been experienced the most dramatic school life, now I recall times when I wanted school to get finished soon to the last two years of pandemic, I realized how wrong I was. When we all got so fond of this phase sadly it was the time to say adieu.

Nevertheless, I have experienced many lows and ups but honestly it was an amazing journey. 2007 I entered into this elite institution, yes, of course, weeping and disheartened but how soon those tears turned into laughter and memories, I did not realize. These fifteen years sound like days, time kept changing and so did I. I still remember my first stage experience in third grade when with nervousness gushing down my nerves, I represented my class for assembly news bulletin. And today I see

myself confident and calm on the stage. Being in my own shell, I had really hard times in making friends but as it is said, 'better late than never', I developed genuine bonds of friendships in tenth standard. Some moved to other schools and some remained here but even today we share same bond with same enthusiasm and craziness.

We were very much protected by our Management and teachers. Inside this cocoon, I have always felt the warmth of love and care. Thank you, dear teachers for everything. Labs, library and that P.T period to those endless laughs I shared. All seems yesterday, we were waiting for our buses at the stop, fighting for that window seat, singing all the way to home. That likable brown uniform and my disliking for that pale white shirt and pants. I miss all this but as it is said life goes on, though I have passed out of this place but it beholds a very special place in my heart.

Endless memories, worthy experiences, those true relations and everything beyond my expectations, I have experienced everything I had manifested for. Today, all 65 of us have moved in 65 directions but still we are connected due to this special place - "school-My beloved School".

I genuinely want to tell my juniors to enjoy these years of endless joys and personality building for after this, life goes in different tangents not something according to our imaginary paths. So manifest the best out of the remaining time of this golden period.

Sarthak Aswal



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Sonali Negi

# Alumni MESSAGE

## My School - My Saviour

I was numb when I first entered the main gate of St. Thomas school but I didn't know what a wonderful life was waiting for me there. I looked at the beautifully decorated walls something was written that I could not understand and some beautiful drawings. But the walls were saying welcome. THE TIME FLEW. I was wearing a saree and celebrating my farewell in the same room where I first entered. This time the windows and the walls were saying goodbye. The amazing journey of 15 years passed.

My school has a good reputation  
A place where we get an education  
Longest winter vacation  
Place where you have no tension  
About eight periods a day  
Wish I could also come on Sunday  
Lots of games to play  
We work hard  
To get a better report card  
Still many are left apart

In this journey of 15 years, there were ups and downs. I laughed with my friends, cried with them, fought with them, and loved them. Not only education and personality but I also got best friends and a special one, my school who is still with me and will be with me for life ahead.

It seems only yesterday we met  
And I don't know when will we meet  
Let's toast for our lives together

Dreams about stealing, about having feathers.  
I know you never get bored of listening to my drama  
When there was no one you listened to me  
Laughing my heart out,  
You turned into my scout  
Crying only on your shoulder  
My secret diaries my Saviour.

I was excited about my college but here I miss the cold crowded corridors, the chattering of the students, teachers, and their discipline.

I wish that I could go back to those days when

I used to lie to not go to school and carry those heavy books to the classes. There was no option of taking leave without any reason.

As my school life was the best it might be not the same for others. The students are having a lot of mental problems and tension which is often neglected by them and others.

Don't let the opposing voices represent you  
Don't let your best self be relinquished  
You joined the wrong people it wasn't your fault  
But not everyone is awful

The globe includes pure and innocent people  
You only met and attend to the negative stories  
Search for better and positive stories  
The world is better than you think.

# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

## Inauguration of 50<sup>th</sup> Year *The finest hour in the archive*



## Adieu to Fr. Mathew John and a pleasant reception to Fr. Jijo Palathinkal



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GOLDEN YEARS



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GOLDEN YEARS

98

## SHAPING LEADERS - A Platform for Brilliance

Head Boy

Head Girl



Pranjal Negi



Dilasha Rawat



**Aditya Rana**  
Vice Head Boy



**Abhiti Rawat**  
Vice Head Girl



**Astha Kaparwan**  
Literary Incharge



**Jay Pori**  
Cultural Incharge



**Anushka Chopriyal**  
Discipline Incharge



**Abhishek Rawat**  
Sports Head



**Vanshika Rawat**  
House Captain  
Mother Teresa House



**Shreyansh Chauhan**  
House Captain  
Abdul Kalam House



**Tanishk Pori**  
House Captain  
Mahatma Gandhi House



**Paridhi Negi**  
House Captain  
Alphonsa House



**Ayush Rawat**  
Vice Captain  
Mother Theresa House



**Vaishnavi Dimri**  
Vice Captain  
Abdul Kalam House



**Aksha Rawat**  
Vice Captain  
Mahatma Gandhi House



**Shubham**  
Vice Captain  
Alphonsa House

Competing with Hearts, Achieving Heights

ISC TOPPERS 2022-23



AVIJIT SINGH RAWAT  
PCM



SHIVAM RAWAT  
PCM



DIVYANSH RAUTHAN  
PCM



SHIIVAM BALUNI  
Commerce



PRIYA RAWAT  
Commerce

ICSE TOPPERS 2022-23



DEEPAI BARTH WAL



DILASHA RAWAT



DIVYANSHA KUKRETI



VANSHIKA RAWAT



SHREYASH RAWAT



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# GOLDEN YEARS

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## Fuelling Dreams, Hitting Targets

### ACADEMIC PRIZE WINNERS 2022-23



Neerisha Shah

Nursery - 98.93%



Vihan Pratap Singh

Nursery - 98.2%



Aarav Raj

LKG - 98.4%



Varunnam Bhatt

LKG - 98.25%



Aarav Bishi

LKG - 98.25%



Shreshha Kukreti

LKG - 98.3%



Advik Mandrawal

LKG - 99.4%



Arika Bhandari

Class I - 98.8%



Samridhi Negi

Class I - 98.8%



Vedansh Singh

Class I - 98.7%



Aarogya Dimri

Class II - 96.7%



Arni Rawat

Class II - 97.3%



Anadhya Negi

Class II - 97.3%



Kinaya Bishi

Class II - 97.3%



Adhrit Bhatt

Class III - 98.3%



Aishna Negi

Class III - 98.3%



Harshad Negi

Class IV - 98.2%



Ayushman Naudyal

Class IV - 98.1%



Lokesh Bishi

Class V - 99.3%



Aarav Rawat

Class V - 98%



Swati Rawat

Class VI - 97.7%



Divyansh Divakar Shah

Class VI - 98%



Shourya Aswal

Class VII - 99%



Djasvi Gusain

Class VII - 98.2%



Abhish Rawat

Class VIII - 98.1%



Kavya Chauhan

Class IX - 96.1%



Swastika Naudyal

Class IX - 95.1%



Sarvik Malasi

Class XI - 91.7%



Ambika Bhandari

Class XI - 87.7%

# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23



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Motivation to Students



Parents Seminar



*Dedicated Mentors, Shaping Minds*



Orientation Programme for Teachers





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GOLDEN

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102

# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

Unfurling our Hearts and Souls in Unison



INDEPENDENCE DAY 2022



March past with patriotic fervour on the significant day was celebrated with nationalistic Zeal glorified by the benign presence of Mr. Thomas Palathinkal and Mrs. Mary Thomas (parents of our manager Fr. Jijo Palathinkal). Their presence added significance and gravitas to the occasion.

Commemorating  
*Gandhi*  
JAYANTI

A Reverent celebration with distinguished guests



# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

## Teachers Day Celebration



## Children's DAY



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GOLDEN

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GOLDEN YEARS

104

# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

## Fire prevention Training Ensuring safety and preparedness



A crucial initiative aimed at enhancing awareness and readiness to prevent and respond to fire emergencies effectively. Led by certified fire safety professional, the training provided valuable insights and interactive demonstrations to ensure safety within our school campus.

A pivotal event, aimed at addressing the pressing issue-the drug awareness among students. A highly appreciated programme conducted by Mr. Govind Kumar, SHO Pauri and Mr. Vaibhav Saini, CO, Kotdwar, who delved into the physiological and psychological effects of various drugs.

## Anti drug Awareness Programme for Parents and Students



# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23



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105



Champions  
in Action



## Father Peter Memorial

## CRICKET TOURNAMENT



Amidst the cheers of the spectators, the students of Saint Thomas convent school showcased their skill, determination and teamwork, embodying the spirit of sportsmanship that Fr. Peter held dear to his heart. The cricket tournament held in Gholtir was a memorable one.





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GOLDEN YEARS

106

## GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

## Victorious Endeavours



The Inter-School Badminton Tournament hosted by St. Mary's, Bijoor was a memorable event inspiring students to strive for excellence and embrace challenges. In each match the students of STCS exhibited their exhilarating performance finally taking the school's name on the top of the board for the STCS Badminton Champions won the Championship trophy.

Badminton  
Tournament  
2022

The sports day conducted on 10<sup>th</sup> of November in the Golden Jubilee Year was a vibrant and spirited event that brought together students and teachers. The sports day festivities kicked off with a colourful opening ceremony with the flag hoisting, Marching bands and closed by the award ceremony and handing over the school sports flag to the PTI - Mr. Narendra.

## Sports Events

Uniting in  
sportsmanship-highlights  
of sports day.



# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23



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YEARS



## Uniting through SPORTS Inter-School Sports Meet at Najibabad

It was a thrilling showcase of athleticism, teamwork, and sportsmanship, bringing together students from diverse backgrounds to celebrate the spirit of sports. Conducted on the Inter-School Sports meet left a lasting impact on participants.



## SHARING MOMENTS

The days were resplendent with merriment and joy as the school initiated gala moments of coming together—SHARING MOMENTS. The days of sharing class wise with Fr. Jijo Palathinkal, Sr. Prasada CMC and class teachers were all about mixing the moments with dash of refreshment and sprinkle of affinity. The air bubbled with festive tunes and making memories.





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## GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

### Craft Exhibition Celebrating Skills

The school set sail on a voyage of Imagination navigating a sea of possibilities with their artistic tools. The arena transformed into a vibrant galaxy brimming with artistic expression. A much-appreciated event by parents.



### Science Exhibition

The theme of exploring the wonders of Chandrayaan, sparked curiosity, creativity, and wonder among students as they embarked the thrilling journey through space exploration. A diverse array of projects, models and presentation stole the show. The students efforts were judged by Dr. Piyush sinha and Dr. Aman Kumar Sharma



# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

## EXPOSURE PROGRAMME



### Short visit to Ashadeep

*A centre for disable*



Students from St. Thomas Convent School visited Ashadeep along with principal Sr. Prasada CMC, Sr. Anjali CMC and few staff members. Ashadeep was founded by Bishop Gratian Mundadan CMI, in 2004, in a remote village, Dodrajpur in Bijnor district of U.P. in North West India. It is a unique centre for differently abled children, caters to the needs of the Visually Impaired, Hearing Impaired, Physically Challenged and Mentally Challenged. The centre aims to bring all the children to the main stream of the society. The centre provides all kinds of possible facilities and using techniques to bring up the children.

## Akashvani Program Presentation

### Celebrating Independence Day



Where  
Dreams  
Take  
Centre Stage



A stirring tribute to the spirit of freedom, unity and national pride was presented through a captivating programme prepared by students and was broadcasted. The airwaves reverberated with the power packed message by Mrs. Preeti Negi, teacher STCS.



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# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23



*Expressions of Togetherness*

**Yellow  
DAY**



**Plant  
Day**



**Umbrella  
Day**

# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

## Fancy Dress & Space Power House - KG

The stage of STCS gleamed with buzz and spark as the KG kids showcased beauty and variety through their fancy dresses exhibiting Unity In Diversity. The fancy dress competition for the KG section brought the theme of Chandrayaan to life through colourful costumes.



## Anti-drug drawing competition

Raising awareness through Art, an Anti-Drug Drawing Competition was conducted in the school. This valuable initiative provided students a platform to express themselves creatively and it also served as a visual reminder of the benefits of healthy living.



## Golden Jubilee notice board

A kaleidoscope of creativity that was a showcase of School Spirit where imagination took flight. Each board became a window into our school's past taking a trip through time reminding us of the milestones, achievements and the evolution of our learning environment.



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GOLDEN

YEARS

## GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23

## International Energy Day

A dynamic endeavour aimed at raising awareness and inspiring action towards a more resilient energy for future. Our students prepared innovative models and presentations which were highly applauded.



The farewell celebration for Mrs. Manisha marked solemn moments of gratitude, reflection, and appreciation for her invaluable contribution to our school community. The event was a blend of fond memories, heartfelt tributes and expression of appreciation.



Honouring Mrs. Manisha Kathaith

TRIBUTE TO THE  
Golden Jubilee batch

It was a momentous occasion in the history of a school, honouring the legacy in the esteemed presence of the RT Rev Bishop Vincent

# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23



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## Exploring Lansdowne A memorable Teachers' picnic.

A delightful excursion that offered a well-deserved break and an opportunity for rejuvenation, amidst the serene beauty of nature. It was organised by the school administration as a token of appreciation for the hard work put in the Golden Jubilee Year. The Tranquil ambience and the breathtaking landscapes of Tip&Top and other sites created a perfect backdrop for relaxation.



## Non Teaching Staff Tour

Organised by the school administration as a gesture of appreciation for their untiring zest during the Golden Jubilee year. The outing provided a refreshing escape from the routine responsibilities. The boating excursion on the Tehri lake and relishing lunch filled a surge of new energy.



## Bonding amidst nature Non-teaching staff at Tehri Dam





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GOLDEN YEARS

114

## GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23



**Highlights of  
our Excursions  
in the Golden  
Jubilee Year**

**Exploring India's  
heritage and  
natural beauty**

Our school organised a series of enriching excursions to India's most iconic destinations offering students, unforgettable experiences in the majestic forts of Jaipur and Agra's Taj Mahal to the serene Golden Temple in Amritsar, the vibrant cityscape of Chandigarh, and the exhilarating adventure of Fun Valley. Each excursion, provided unique opportunities for learning and fun.



## Down the memory lane

Teaching is often referred to as a job, career but it is far more than that. We consider the choice as a way of life, or even a way of being. Being a teacher is actually a lifelong commitment to learning and about a true passion for new knowledge and skills that can gradually elevate and enhance the entire teaching- learning scenario. A burning challenge about your content area, curricular changes, and everyday changing technological innovations. A journey to be more effective as a great influencer and a great human being indeed.

A great adventure! A great feeling of pride to be a teacher. For me, deciding to be a teacher has been a culmination of a lot of different things. When trying to decide what my next steps would be during my studies, I did a lot of self reflection and realized teaching children was where my heart wanted to be. And what else can an individual ask for, if destiny decides for you to be a teacher in your very own familiar place- Yes your own school!

Being an ex-student of the Thomasian family brings forth a beautiful journey down the memory lane of countless memories, super energetic teachers, innocent friendship bonds, a simple composed life, no electronic gadgets, our favourite hide and seek game and of course the scoldings from our beloved Sister Franco and her



Reena Rauthan  
Teacher, STCS

magical and divine touch in our lives. The place itself had some magic. The envelop of green canopy and huge range of Himalayas from our classroom window pane was extraordinary. Tears roll down remembering that 3 kms school journey from the town in *Badi* Bus and *Choti* bus. We never knew that we were not living the moments, actually creating memories.

Today I stand tall with pride that I am a teacher of St. Thomas for the last 17 years. Each year witnessing new students, their joys and sorrows and seeing them grow, learn and mature is completely satisfying and hearing years later about the achievements of our students is the biggest reward. And as mother, seeing my children also grooming under the same blissful shade is highly a divine feeling.

Thomasian family marks a noticeable and distinct position for all the passouts till date. I am sure that each one of us owe a huge responsibility to carry forward that legacy. Today the huge infrastructure, remarkable academic, sports and cultural enhancements, the name itself-speaks the success story of the school. And a pride moment for all of us - A successful completion of 50 glorious years. And the journey to higher levels still continue....



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116



**Narendra**  
Teacher, STCS

Penning down my experiences in the prestigious Golden Jubilee Souvenir of St Thomas Convent School is indeed a matter of great pride for me.

I feel myself extremely fortunate to be a part of One such school which is the best and biggest school in my city.

That day is very important for me, the day I joined my school as a teacher and that day was 16 October 2019.

Stepping into the portals of a new school on the first day always makes one feel a little different, a little nervous, a little fear remains in the mind.

But what I received was different from my apprehensions. As I reached the school, I saw such a pleasant atmosphere. First of all, I would like to thank my management who did not let me feel that it is my first day here and I am new here.

Slowly, I also kept moving ahead of my nervousness and fear and then in a few days I started feeling like a family. And I give credit for all this to my management and all my fellow teachers who supported me every moment and guided me.

I realized that how we can empower our future by being disciplined and supporting each other. My school has taught me to



be disciplined and aware of our responsibilities towards our work. And how we, by supporting others, can achieve our goals by learning good things from them.

In fact, this school of mine is not only a school, which only gives bookish knowledge to the students, but it also works to improve the students' physical and intellectual knowledge and plays an important role in making their future bright. This school is a learning platform for all because not only the students but the teachers also get to learn a lot here.

And this institute of mine is not limited to this only, but it also serves the suffering people who do not have any shelter.

Today we all are going to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this institute and the credit for this achievement goes to our management and all teaching and non teaching staff who work hard day and night to improve the future of this institution.

# New beginning happens in a season

Life can be so wonderfully measured by seasons and stages. Fall begins the shedding of colourful leaves, winter begins with a cold bed of Snow, Spring begins with - sprouting of new life and summer begins with warm sunny days. To everything there is a season. A time for every purpose under the heaven.

And God has opened the window of opportunity into my life too unto that season.

Because for every thing there is a time. A time to die and the time to reap the harvest.

Yes, God had opened the door for me by giving me a chance to enter into this institution.

When I first stepped into the threshold, I became nostalgic for I recalled my own childhood where I had experienced the faithfulness of the Lord on my parents. God had blessed their hands and established them. And now it's my season, it's my time to step into that level of serving, where the Motto is "To serve with love".

I was feeling overjoyed and nervous in equal measure, But the hands of our dear Gurus were making me comfortable and confident. Yes, Connecting with St. Thomas family is in itself an honour. I really feel obliged the way in which the whole management accepted me.

Working with young children the whole day takes huge measure of patience, as a kindergarten teacher. I have to wear many hats of new skills, communicating rules and offering encouragement with many activities and moods to keep things running smoothly to act and react in variety of roles, it's really tough in between maintaining the order in the classroom and making them recharge by the saying- "rewards and cookies will be



Angelica John  
Teacher, STCS

given for keeping or following the rules" It's really a joy spending and sharing my time with my tiny tots.

The journey of becoming a teacher is a long one and to finally reach it, is a huge achievement.

Today I can also say that God has blessed me and my work place. I have seen the grace of God, his faithfulness upon each and every area.

Through my 16 years of my serving in this favourable institution, I have seen the goodness, the benefits, his righteousness and virtues of God.

To be a part to glorify this blessed 50 years of serving where I have seen the abundance promises of the Almighty God and his wisdom to accomplish the plans, is my pride and pleasure. This is my prayer that may God bless shield us from all adversities and may His divine protection be upon each one of us and forever the motto ever shine

To serve with love.

I wrap up my words by the saying-

"Let the favour of the Lord God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands. Yes, establish the work of our hands.



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118

## FROM THE PAGE OF MY *Life's Diary*



**Geeta Moudgil**  
Teacher, STCS

Sitting here in my cosy chair, when I flip the pages of my life's wonderful journey, I see myself a three year old little girl standing outside the upcoming school St. Joseph Convent School, Ferozpur Punjab (The school where I studied). Yes, I, Geeta Moudgil now a proud Thomasian, am originally a proud Josephite. I genuinely feel the wave, the essence of convent school runs in my veins. Let it be Saint Joseph School, Ferozepur or Saint Thomas School, Pauri because sisters are the same, the feel is the same.

After leading an amazing Naval life (my husband was in Indian Navy) of 15 years rolling and tossing in the surges of Kerala and Goa, I finally landed in the heavenly paradise, Pauri. Fortunately, I was appointed here in STCS. Thus began the most memorable phase of my life under the warm shelter of Saint Thomas, our Patron Saint and under the able guidance of my dear sister principal sister Shibeena and Reverend Father James who really chiseled me into a teacher, encouraged and polished my personality (I owe a lot to them). As I had no experience of teaching, joining this institution was entering into a new life. Right from the day one when I stepped in this divine place opened up the water gates of teaching and learning that was really mind blowing and overwhelming for me.

Reminiscing the past and taking a nostalgic trip down the memory lane is always a pleasant experience and this becomes multiplied manifold when that trip is 23 years that you spent in an institution which did so much for you. In my long career of 23 years, I have been fortunate enough to be influenced and motivated by my Managers, principals, colleagues and obedient students. For me entering into the Portal's of this temple of learning is no less than entering into a holy place where my head bow down in reverence. Teaching is my passion and my students my soul.

Climbing up and down the stairs, moving through the corridors of STCS is a fiesta for me. This school has given me enough, more than I had ever dreamt for. I feel extremely fortunate to have been an observer watching STS gradually climbing the rungs of success through its illustrious and glorious journey. I honestly feel that each nook and corner of this school has hidden in its womb innumerable tales of all the Thomasians-of the past and the present. It was a celebration to watch the school changing its appearance and configuration each day.

During my course of teaching, I have taught plenty of students who have gone on to benefit and assist society in big ways. This truly makes me feel contented with my career choice.

St. Thomas Convent school has entered into its Golden Jubilee year. The wheel to celebrate this remarkable milestone has started rolling months back. I am proud to be an integral part of it and a witness of Reverend Father Jijo's meticulous and methodical planning, Dear Sister Prasada's continuous efforts and concern and the earnest toil of the staff members.

So where the team works, Dreams will definitely work.

May our school keep serving the society with the motto "To Serve With Love"



*"You have to grow from the inside out.  
None can teach you, none can make you  
spiritual. There is no other teacher but our  
own soul."*

Swami Vivekananda

Whenever we think about spirituality we don't come to the common conclusions. Variety of thoughts and ideas enter in our mind. We visualize different pictures of saints and religious gurus. But spirituality is above these all. It doesn't mean----- sitting in front of idols for long hours, it doesn't mean to visit worshipping places frequently. It means to believe in the Supreme Power that handles our every matter. Spirituality has a connection with the idea of an existence that is beyond human beings. It means different things to different people, but it leads the people towards one common goal and that is **"PEACE OF MIND"**.

Spirituality must be developed in the mind of a child from a very early age and gradually it leads to the child towards positive relationship, optimism and above all towards **HUMANITY**. St. Thomas Convent school has been working on it since the first day of its existence.

Often spirituality is misunderstood. It is thought that its connection is with the religion. Some people think that spirituality and religion are the same things. But it is not true because we can be spiritual without being religious. It is an individual practice. It is just like an umbrella that protects us from the harshness of the sun and from rain.

As we all know that education starts from home. So this is the duty of all the parents to teach their children to become God-

# Spirituality

## The Greatest Need of the Time



Geeta Rawat  
Teacher, STCS

fearing because the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. The person who remains God-fearing can never be attracted towards evil deeds and everything appears orderly in his/her life. And when parents hand over such unique pieces ( Children) to the school, the school transforms them into MASTERPIECES by polishing the values which they bring from home. School gives every kind of moral nourishment to the child and tries to inculcate all the values in him/her. Throughout the journey of St. Thomas Convent School, I experienced serenity in the atmosphere of this holy place for every particle of the soil of this temple is spirited in itself.

So the parents and teachers must start a joint venture for the bright future of children by teaching them the lessons of spirituality because it helps the person to distinguish between right and wrong. It ignites the spirit with strength and joy. It disciplines and balances the life.

**Dear readers be spiritual and realise the truth for yourself.**



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**Laxmi Balodi**  
Teacher, STCS

## TO BE A PART OF **St Thomas** **School**

I feel overwhelmed and consider myself privileged that I am sharing my experience in the history book of the prestigious St. Thomas Convent School. July 1, 2022, The day is still fresh in my memory when I joined this institution. Everything for me was new, the building, the atmosphere and the people. The huge infrastructure really enthralled me. On one hand I felt the sense of pride to be chosen as a staff member of the best school of Pauri but on the other hand a fear lurked in a corner of my heart - will I be able to carve a space for myself because St Thomas school is a big name. But to my relief, in this short period of time, I could overcome all the apprehensions because of the immense support of the whole Thomasian family.

My experience has taught me the importance of discipline and time management. And it was all the efforts of such a cooperative and supportive teaching staff. It is, indeed, a proud moment for me to be at a school that just not focuses on bookish knowledge but empowers the wholesome personality of children and therefore shaping their future.

I am sure my learning and teaching process will continue with the support of other teachers and a very accommodating Management.

May God bless the Thomasian family .

## *Marching towards* **excellence**



**Nivedita Rawat**  
Teacher, STCS

To be a part of the St. Thomas family has been an inspiring and enriching experience. The institution ensures that the teachers play a significant and constructive role in the child's comprehensive development. The fundamental role is to impart value-based education that nurtures every child from an overall perspective but the extracurricular activities as well & create an environment which enhances social interaction, boosts self-confidence, provides learning opportunities and improves coordination. During the past couple of years, the education system throughout the world experienced digital schooling. The pandemic led to an abrupt shift from traditional education to online classes. The teachers along with the students experienced a new platform through which online education was delivered. Different types of assessments and resources for innovative teaching like videos, audios, pictures, presentations, charts etc were used by the teachers to facilitate the learners. Thus, providing us with the opportunity to improvise with the teaching methods and further analyze the overall performance of the students. Furthermore, the teacher's seminars and workshops add a cherry to the cake, by updating us with the latest research in the education field and tracking our assessments and teaching methods. So to conclude, it has been an amazing experience for the teachers and children to grow mutually under the shade of such a prestigious institution.



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# पढ़ने का महत्व

पढ़ना एक बहुत अच्छी आदत है जिसे जीवन में विकसित करने की आवश्यकता है। अच्छी पुस्तकें आपको सूचित कर सकती हैं, आपको प्रबुद्ध कर सकती हैं और आपको सही दिशा में ले जा सकती हैं। एक अच्छी किताब से अच्छा कोई साथी नहीं होता। पढ़ना महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह आपके समग्र स्वास्थ्य के लिए अच्छा है। एक बार जब आप पढ़ना शुरू करते हैं, तो आप एक पूरी नई दुनिया का अनुभव करते हैं। जब आप पढ़ने की आदत से प्यार करने लगते हैं तो अंततः आप इसके आदी हो जाते हैं। पढ़ना भाषा कौशल और शब्दावली विकसित करता है। किताबें पढ़ना भी आराम करने और तनाव कम करने का एक तरीका है। स्वस्थ कामकाज के लिए मस्तिष्क की मांसपेशियों को फैलाने के लिए हर दिन कम से कम कुछ मिनट के लिए एक अच्छी किताब पढ़ना महत्वपूर्ण है।

किताबें वास्तव में आपकी सबसे अच्छी दोस्त हैं क्योंकि जब आप बोर, परेशान, उदास, अकेले या नाराज होते हैं तो आप उन पर भरोसा कर सकते हैं। जब भी आप उन्हें चाहते हैं तो वे आपका साथ देंगे और आपका मूड बढ़ाएंगे। वे आपके साथ किसी भी समय आवश्यक जानकारी और ज्ञान साझा करते हैं। अच्छी किताबें हमेशा आपको जीवन में सही राह दिखाती हैं। पढ़ने के निम्नलिखित लाभ हैं -

पढ़ने से आपको सकारात्मक सोच विकसित करने में मदद मिलती है। पढ़ना महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह आपके दिमाग को विकसित करता है और आपको अत्यधिक ज्ञान और जीवन का सबक देता है। यह आपको अपने आसपास की दुनिया को बेहतर ढंग से समझने में मदद करता है। यह आपके दिमाग को सक्रिय रखता है और आपकी रचनात्मक क्षमता को बढ़ाता है।

पढ़ने से आपकी शब्दावली में सुधार होता है और आपके संचार कौशल का विकास होता है। यह आपकी भाषा को रचनात्मक रूप से उपयोग करने का



Manju Chandola  
Teacher, STCS



तरीका सीखने में मदद करता है। यह न केवल आपके संचार में सुधार करता है बल्कि यह आपको एक बेहतर लेखक भी बनाता है। जीवन के हर पहलू में अच्छा संचार महत्वपूर्ण है।

पुस्तकें आपको संस्कृतियों, परंपराओं, कलाओं, इतिहास, भूगोल, स्वास्थ्य, मनोविज्ञान और कई अन्य विषयों और जीवन के पहलुओं की एक झलक पाने में सक्षम बनाती हैं। आपको किताबों से अद्भुत ज्ञान और जानकारी मिलती है।

पढ़ना आपको कल्पना की दुनिया में ले जाता है और आपकी रचनात्मकता को बढ़ाता है। पढ़ने से आपको जीवन को विभिन्न दृष्टिकोणों से तलाशने में मदद मिलती है। जब आप किताबें पढ़ते हैं तो आप अपने दिमाग में नए और रचनात्मक विचारों, छवियों और विचारों का निर्माण कर रहे होते हैं। यह आपका रचनात्मक रूप से सोचने, कल्पना करने और अपनी कल्पना का उपयोग करने के लिए मजबूर करता है।

पढ़ने की आदत उन सर्वोत्तम गुणों में से एक है जो एक व्यक्ति के पास हो सकते हैं। किताबें किसी कारण से आपकी सबसे अच्छी दोस्त मानी जाती हैं। इसलिए पढ़ने की अच्छी आदत विकसित करना बहुत जरूरी है। पढ़ने के मीठे फलों का आनंद लेने के लिए हम सभी को रोजाना कम से कम ३० मिनट पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी शांत जगह पर बैठकर पढ़ने में बड़ा आनंद आता है। एक अच्छी किताब पढ़ना सबसे सुखद अनुभव होता है।



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# GOLDEN YEARS

122



**Miss Shivani Tamta**  
Teacher, STCS

## On Looking Back



Schooling phase is undoubtedly the best Phase of life. All the memories are surely the treasure to cherish for the rest of life. In my ears those words of wisdom and prayers are still ringing. Our school assembly used to be a moment to celebrate, with Kuldeep Sir playing harmonium that harmonized the ambience. That Grape-vine, near Father Manager's house was our daily site of lunch to relish some grapes though sour yet sweet after the lunch. I still remember how we used to wait for PT periods and Saturdays to go on the ground. Half of the day, we used to spend in those stairs and ground under the shade of trees. The colourful house T-shirts were the thing of pride. A Thomasian can never forget the cribs and Christmas cake. Who can forget the aroma of Christmas cake that lingered in the corridors! The golden words that every teacher spoke in arrangement periods or in classroom are now telling their worth. How valuable those words are, which we once used to think that our free period is ruined now. I got lucky to cherish those memories once again as a teacher. When I entered the school after many years I felt like taking admission once again. Everything was new. Now, I reciprocate the same. Now, I don't wait for Saturdays but for Sundays. Student life is the best phase. Enjoy it with full zeal, make memories, do mistakes but learn from them. It is also the time to carve yourself and inculcate good in you.

Everybody has gained experience in their respective fields over a period of time. Teaching is not just about sharing your knowledge and skills but rather developing a bond with your students that you are genuinely interested in their development and wellbeing.

True education should not only clear all the academic concepts and doubts but also should let students know about the practical implications in real world scenarios. It is the way in which students learn how to lead a life in a proper and organized manner. They learn life skills, problem solving, face challenges and stand with courage before difficulties they face in their lives.

Because of the experiences students go through in life they develop certain deep seated beliefs and ways of thinking. In order to fulfill their needs they develop certain personality traits. Experience helps them to learn about the everyday realities of working life and the most important equipment is with them and the soft skills needed to succeed at any organization.

A degree might increase our peer base whereas experience gives us access to a huge network of people who have been there and done all that they have learnt from their experiences.

As a teacher we are giving students the skills they need to go out into the world and success.



**Suman Chamoli**  
Teacher, STCS

“**WE CAN  
TEACH FROM  
EXPERIENCE  
BUT WE  
CANNOT  
TEACH  
EXPERIENCE**”



**Vandana Rawat**  
Teacher, STCS



**Meenakshi Rautela**  
Teacher, STCS

## A Gradual Step Towards Perfection

"Experience without theory is blind, Experience is mere intellectual play." That day comes fresh into my memory is 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 when I first stepped in this renowned school St. Thomas Convent School. Everything was new, the building the atmosphere and the people. It was cooperation and guidance of enlightened staff, Principal and management, that helped my this journey more easy. School management and staff-members helped me a lot facing challenges and overcoming obstacles. Here I learnt to respect teaching profession and more about child behaviour. Whenever I sit to pen down my thoughts I feel overwhelmed and consider myself privileged that I got the opportunity to meet people like Thomasian family. Their constant blessing have motivated, inspired and guided me through the difficult times I would like to thank all those who have given me their love and support and made my journey a memorable one.

## During the Challenging Covid Times

I am Meenakshi Rautela, I have been working as Assistant Teacher in St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri, Uttarakhand since 2018. My first year as a teacher spent more as learning and understanding child psychology from my seniors how to put a thought in young minds so that they can enjoy their learnings. After a year, I felt like I am enjoying the challenges of my job with a set rule of life but the destiny is planning totally different for all of us as the whole world was hit by COVID 19 pandemic. The world was under lockdown and all of us must have faced some kind of adversaries as routine got changed. Being a teacher, I was concerned about my student's future. When I recall back, I found my school management was very compassionate to all of us and was adaptive to new technology so that flow of learning should not stop by any means. Society, collectively rose to the occasion and showed acceptance to the flow of new ideas. I am proud to be associated with an Institution who stood at darkest of our time.



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124



## Teaching A PASSIONATE JOURNEY

To be a part of something bigger than us and for the greater cause is something we all long for. By God's grace I am fortunate enough to be bestowed upon by such a role on this planet. As a child I used to think that teaching is just about imparting knowledge about a specific concept or just checking the copies but now I understand the various roles, responsibilities and love it brings along. This profession is not just a way to earn my bread but a devotion for me. It has filled me with immense gratitude, patience perseverance, love and versatility. It is a sacred and endless source of happiness in my life. I still remember the day when I joined this school as a substitute teacher



Vandna Moudgil  
Teacher, STCS

just for a week. But, maybe, I was fortunate enough as the other teacher did not comeback because she got job somewhere else. And I got the opportunity to be a part of this prestigious institution. Initially I used to count my efforts as a teacher solely in numbers until the day a parent spoke to me outside my house. She told me that her daughter says that she wants to be an English teacher like me. she enacts me while playing at home and she has started loving the subject too. I was moved to my core that day as I realised the immense unconditional love showered upon me by these lovely souls. It also boosted a sense of responsibility within me as a teacher. I realized how pivotal a teacher's image can be on the young minds. I acquired many qualities and learnt many new things from my students, colleagues and Management. I feel very proud to be a teacher. When I joined this profession, I loved it but now I am passionate about it. I hope when I will get older and look back to my life I would feel good that I have improved as a human with the help of my dear students. It will give me immense pleasure to find that I influenced and shaped some lives, it's really great achievement to make.

## Class Photos

*Creating Lasting Connections Forever*



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XII



X B



XI



IX A



X A



IX B



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GOLDEN YEARS

126

## Moments Framed, Timeless Connection



VIII A



VIII B



VIII C

## Class Photos



VII A



VII B



VII C

## Class Photos

## Hearts Bonded, Memories Etched



VI A



VI B



VI C



V A



V B



V C



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GOLDEN YEARS

128

## *Journeying Together*

## Class Photos



IV A



III A



IV B



III B



IV C



III C

## Class Photos

## Reflections of Shared Laughter



II A



I A



II B



I B



II C



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*Preserving Smiles, Forever Memories*

Class Photos



UKG A



LKG B



UKG B



Nursery A



LKG A



Nursery B

# GOLDEN MOMENTS 2022-23



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## GRAND FESTIVE BLISS

### Christmas cum Grandparents Day Celebration



To honor heritage, to celebrate traditions and to cherish the spirit of togetherness the day was celebrated with much enthusiasm. The remarkable day was glorified by the esteemed presence the Chief guest of the day Mr. S.B. Joshi sir, Additional Director Secondary Education and the distinguished presence of the Guest of honour of the occasion Ms. Shweta Choubey, IPS, SSP Pauni. Specially dedicated to grandparents an emotion packed musical drama "Apne to Apne Hote hain" was dramatized. Following this, the joyous occasion of Christmas was celebrated. The joint celebration served as a reminder of the timeless values of love, family and community that Unite us all.



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132

Kanak Rawat  
Class XII



One will miss,  
The time when one entered nursery,  
holding hands of unknown classmates.

One will miss,  
the days of bringing flowers for manager,  
principal teachers,  
non teaching staff

One will miss,  
the hanging body,  
due to heavy bags.

One will miss ,  
The birthday claps and the gifts.

One will miss,  
the examination preparation,  
that was-one night fight!

One will miss,  
The snatching and sharing of lunches.

One will miss,  
Simply fighting for seats.

One will miss,  
The number of cultural programs and functions.

The school days are the most memorable  
golden days!

So, one must enjoy these days,  
as they will never come again!

If one does not do this,  
Then there will be -  
'Nothing to Miss' !!!

WHAT  
ONE WILL  
MISS?

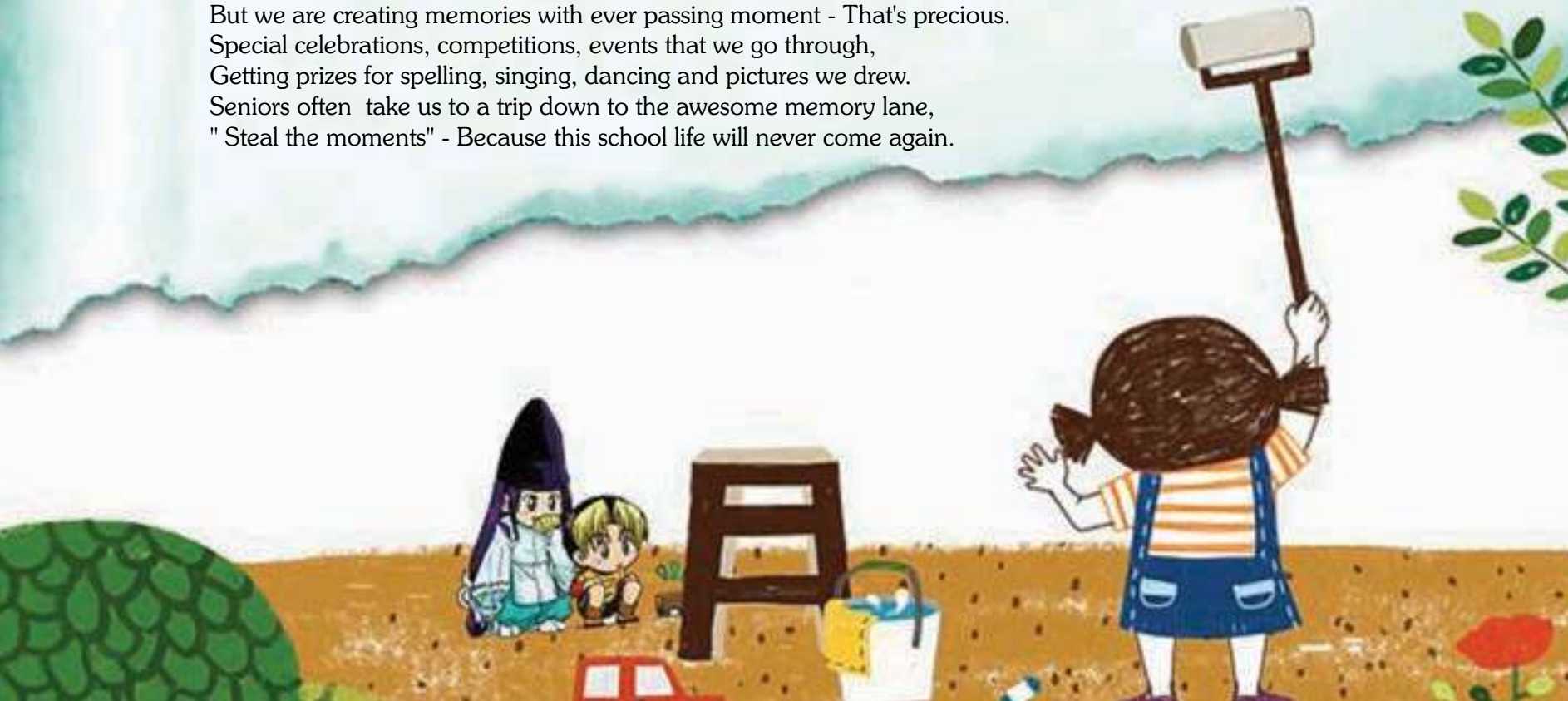


You are my beloved school, You are the super best,  
To me you stand out great and tall, among the rest.  
Life was a mystery, when entered the school for the first time!  
But it was a new chapter, a new page, indeed a new rhyme.  
Complains often, about the school work and chapters being hard,  
But simply prefer playing and running in our big schoolyard.  
Morning assembly with showers of blessings, we sincerely pray,  
Ask innocently to Almighty above- Make that a most beautiful day!  
Experiencing new bonds, with lot of friends, we simply enjoy a lot,  
School will be the best beautiful place, before I never thought.  
Classrooms change every year, benches and blackboard-sounds tedious!  
But we are creating memories with ever passing moment - That's precious.  
Special celebrations, competitions, events that we go through,  
Getting prizes for spelling, singing, dancing and pictures we drew.  
Seniors often take us to a trip down to the awesome memory lane,  
"Steal the moments" - Because this school life will never come again.



Manasvi Rauthan  
Class V

## MY TREASURE HOUSE SCHOOL - A TRUE BLISS



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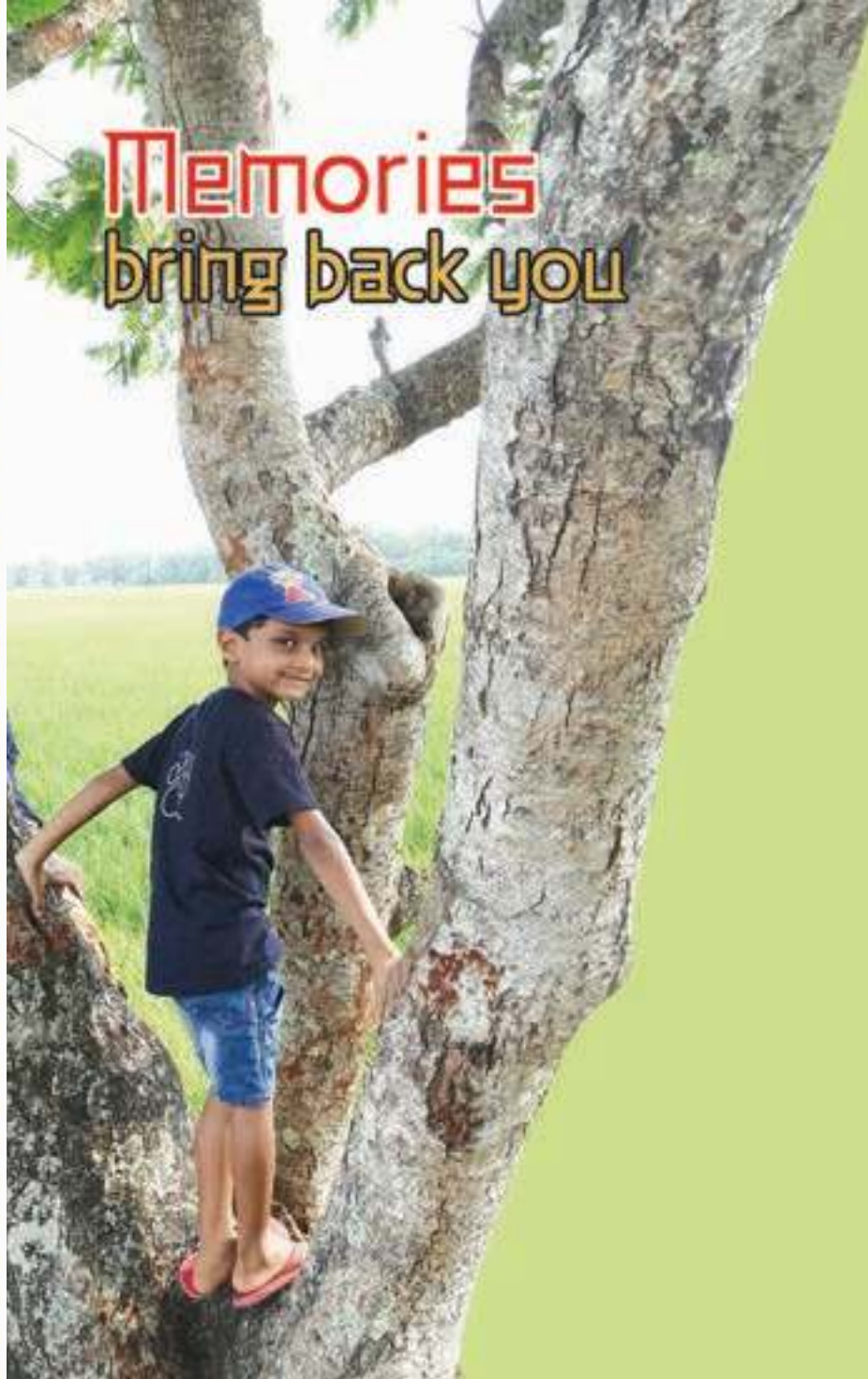


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# Memories bring back you



Beginning was tough,  
The journey was rough.  
Many problems were laid,  
But solutions were made.

Reading books and playing hide and seek,  
Sometimes memories sneak out of my eyes  
And roll down my cheeks.

Making paper Planes,  
Dancing in the rain,  
Life went on,  
But it was never the same again.

There was some stress  
that we could not express,  
Nevertheless,  
There was some success in our progress.

A picture is worth a thousand words but a memory is priceless.

The last journey of school started,  
All were waiting at the station and were excited about the  
destination.

The days went  
And reached to their extent.  
Clean blackboard  
Which could not be restored,  
Teary eyes  
Time to say goodbyes.

Last lecture  
Was like an adventure,  
So much more was said in the unsaid,

Days were golden not because they had a shine.  
But spent with those precious "idiots" of mine.

We were just stars  
When we came  
But, Dear school  
You made us constellation.  
It was never an end  
Just a beginning to a new phase of life.



Shreya Rajwanshi  
Class XII



Abhijai John  
Class V

# I AM A CHILD OF God



I praise you God,  
for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works, my soul knows it very well.

You saw me before I was born...  
Everyday of my life was recorded in your book.  
Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed...  
How precious are your thoughts about me, O God.  
They cannot be numbered. !!

I will praise you God,  
for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

He made me to believe,  
He made me to bring praise.

I am a light that shines,  
As a testimony of His love.

I will praise you,  
for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Because I am a child of God.



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136



Nostalgic and heartwarming gathering, organised with meticulous planning, the event provided a platform for aluminis to relive cherished memories. Laughter, hugs, and shared memories filled the air that was further enriched by the gracious presence of Bishop, Emeritus Gratian Mundadan CMI, Bishop Emeritus John Vadakel CMI, former managers and former teachers.





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GOLDEN YEARS



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138

# विद्यालय- पत्रिका

Shailesh Kumar  
Parent



शिक्षा का उद्देश्य बच्चे का विकास है। शिक्षा बच्चे का सर्वांगीण विकास करना चाहती है। इसके लिए विभिन्न तरीके हैं। विद्यालय-पत्रिका उनमें से एक है। इसका प्रकाशन विद्यालय के विद्यार्थियों के द्वारा होता है। इससे विद्यार्थियों के विकास में सहायता मिलती है। विद्यार्थी पत्रिका में कुछ लिखने के लिए प्रोत्साहित होते हैं।

विद्यालय-पत्रिका का प्रकाशन पुस्तकों की तरह होता है। इसे सम्पादकमंडल की आवश्यकता होती है। इस मंडल की रचना शिक्षकों और विद्यार्थियों के योग से होती है। विद्यालय-पत्रिका के प्रभारी शिक्षक उच्चतम वर्ग के एक विद्यार्थी का चुनाव करते हैं। विद्यालय-पत्रिका विद्यार्थियों का जीवन है। इससे अनेक लाभ हैं। यह विद्यार्थियों को कुछ लिखने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करती है। इस उद्देश्य के लिए विद्यार्थी पुस्तकों और समाचार-पत्रों का अध्ययन करते हैं। वे कविताएँ लिखते हैं। वे निबन्ध लिखते हैं। उनकी रुचियों का विकास होता है। वे अपनी रचनाओं को प्रकाशित देखकर गर्व का अनुभव करते हैं। वे पत्रिका में अपने नाम छपे हुए देखकर फूले नहीं समाते विद्यालय-पत्रिका विद्यार्थियों का एक रजिस्टर है। वे अपने भविष्य की रचनाओं के लिए सामग्री एकत्र करना प्रारम्भ कर देते हैं। इससे उनका ज्ञान बढ़ता है। उनका दृष्टिकोण और ज्ञान विकसित होता है। विद्यालय-पत्रिका विद्यालय की उपयोगी देन है इससे विद्यालय की प्रसिद्धि बढ़ती है। विद्यालय की आदर्श पत्रिका को प्रकाशित कर गौरव का अनुभव करता है। पत्रिका विद्यालय का इतिहास अथवा उसका दर्पण है।



# A NOTE OF Thanks

Jasdev Sing Bhandari  
Parent



Around 10:30 at night I was preparing to sleep when suddenly my mobile phone flashed with a message from ST. THOMAS Pauri inviting parents to write something for school magazine. For a few seconds I tried to forgo this message as there was nothing special with me which could entertain or inform readers. But I was in a state of unrest until I decided 'write something or not'; and I decided to write. As I had no poem or story, at least I could write was nothing more than a note of thankfulness on behalf of all parents whose children have studied from and are studying in the institution.

Foremost, I owe my thanks to founding fathers of this academic institution who ventured to set a school which could go parallel with the schools of big cities as far as quality education is concerned. We come to hear that the alumni of this school are serving far and wide on prestigious posts and positions across the nation. We also owe our thanks to management and administrative staff that is handling and maintaining the record of such a large number of students and teachers with great ease and comfort. I share my experience how comfortable I felt whenever I visited school for any document or record.

Basic nursery staff deserves special thanks as it has great responsibility and patience of keeping the nursery students. We would like to thank driving staff also who grapples with traffic rush of Pauri from morning to evening and ferry our children with safety and security. Sanitation staff also deserves special thanks who is assuring health and hygiene of our little ones.

How can we forget teaching staff which is shaping the minds and future of our minors.



A momentous milestone, marking five decades of dedication, was organised with grandeur and heartfelt sentiments. The festivities commenced with the Jubilant opening ceremony decked by the benign presence of the President of historic occasion Most Rev. Dr. Vincent Nelliaparambil, Bishop of Bijnor and Garhwal, the elite presence of the chief guest Dr. Dhan Singh Rawatji, Minister of Higher Education, Uttarakhand Government, Guest of Honour Sh Raj Kumar Pori ji, Member of Legislative Assembly Pauri, the gracious presence of Most Rev. Dr Gratian Mundadan CMI, Bishop Emeritus Bijnor, the benign presence of Most Rev. Dr. John Vadakkal CMI, Bishop Emeritus Bijnor, the pleasing presence of Rev. Sr. Smitha CMC, Provincial Superior, Pushparam Province, Dehradun, along with former managers and former principals, who were cordially felicitated. The highlight of the event was the musical dance drama, A Little Shadow. The Golden Jubilee celebration served, as a fitting tribute to the past, present and future of the school.



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GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

*Celebrating a Momentous Milestone*



Golden Jubilee Souvenir 1973 -2023

St. Thomas Convent School, Pauri



GOLDEN  
JUBILEE  
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142



Cultural Committee - Golden Jubilee Celebration



Core Committee - Golden Jubilee Celebration

**Recognising the vital contributions of the core committee and Cultural Committee**

In the dynamic landscape of event planning and execution, the invaluable contributions of the core committee and the Culural Committee stand as pillars of strength and innovation. These committees under the key leadership of the school management played a pivotal role in ensuring the success of the whole Golden Jubilee year.

**GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION**



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From The humble beginning we made in 1973, having crossed many milestones, today St Thomas Convent school has become a dream destination for many. The school has escalated to great horizons of success and today it is seen as one of the tallest institutions of the town. It has become a synonym with academic excellence, a benchmark to measure co-curricular excellence and also a centre which creates responsible citizens. Heartfelt gratitude to the towers of strength who supported us like a steadfast rock.

Emeritus Bishop Gratian Mundadan CMI, Emeritus Bishop John Vadakkel CMI, Reverend Bishop Vincent Nelliaparambil All Managers, Principals, Teachers, Parents and supporting Staff who helped the school to grow.

We are confident that it is the Showers of Divine Blessings upon us that we could overcome all challenges across our way. We do believe there is still a very long journey ahead and we need to keep strong every day to look forward to a much more glorious and greater future for the school and our country.



## The Legacy Continues...



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144

# ST. THOMAS CONVENT SCHOOL-PAURI



*The Golden Jubilee Ventures*



ST. THOMAS SCHOOL, PAURI

Introducing in the Academic  
Year 2024-25



# Building a Legacy together



Teaching Staff



Non Teaching Staff



## ST. THOMAS CONVENT SCHOOL

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