

JUST NEWS

Newsletter from The Justice News Desk



The manger is not only a reminder that God is with us, but a challenge to live in a way that brings God more fully and radically into our world. The Christmas story is a subversive story. It erases the lines we draw between ourselves and others. It turns our values and our ways of thinking upside-down.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
Happy &
NEW YEAR

- Joe Kay, "Resistance in a Manger,"

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
Happy &
NEW YEAR

JUSTICE FOCUS

5 GENDER
EQUALITY



SDG 5 Gender Equality Activity- Class 2

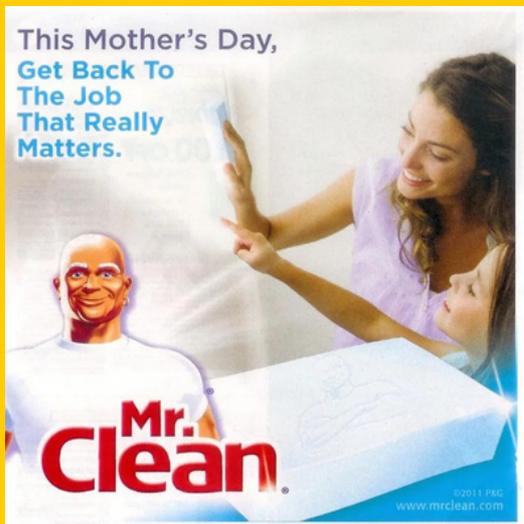
In Class 2E, students made creative Finger Puppets of their family members during their EVS class. They spoke about each family member and highlighted the significance of each individual within the family. It was emphasized that each member is important and equal, regardless of gender.

DO ADVERTISEMENTS PLAY A ROLE IN STEREOTYPING WOMEN?

A Reflection by Sayed Aatif Jamal (Class 10)

Advertisements have long been a powerful tool in shaping societal norms and influencing consumer behavior. In the context of gender, advertisements often play a significant role in perpetuating stereotypes, and women have frequently borne the brunt of this issue. The portrayal of women in advertisements can have far-reaching consequences, influencing perceptions, expectations, and behaviors. Whether it's the strong, luxurious shampoo that only features women with beautiful, long hair in their commercials or the newest camping gear that only shows a male on the packaging, gender roles and gender-specific activities are actively used by advertisements to promote their products.

Gender role stereotyping has been criticized for implying that women are meant only to perform household chores. Advertisements often depict themes where women are concerned about cleaner floors and shiny utensils. These themes limit the duties of a woman, typecasting them as being concerned only about household duties and the happiness of her children.



However, one could argue that these advertisements reflected the norms and ideals that plagued our patriarchal society. At the same time, we must remember that advertisements do more than just sell products; they shape our understanding of the world and the people who live in it. They play a substantial role in defining what is considered 'normal' and 'desirable'. One example of the impact of advertisements in shaping narratives rather than simply feeding into them is during World War II in America, when advertisements were used globally to impose political opinions and propaganda on the general public. Illustrator Norman Rockwell created the iconic "Rosie" image for the May 29, 1943, cover of the Saturday Evening Post, depicting a strong woman in overalls with a riveting tool, showcasing women's contributions to wartime manufacturing.

At the end of the day, sexism and its interpretation depend largely on the values of individuals. To some extent, this explains how advertisements were able to get away with so much in the past; however, it does not justify it. Women make up half of the world's population, but their media representation is only about 10%, effectively marginalizing their voices. Furthermore, the advertising industry is realizing that playing into overly masculine stereotypes is damaging to men's mental health and image in society. We are seeing an influx of advertisements, with men taking over the kitchen and effectively trying to normalize their role in household work. Although the changes are encouraging, it will still take time and collective efforts to reverse the damage. This is why it's very important to spread awareness regarding this issue; so we can play our role in effectively recognizing and eventually tackling these issues.

Celebrating Women Writers



Adrienne Rich
(Vivaan Pusuleri)

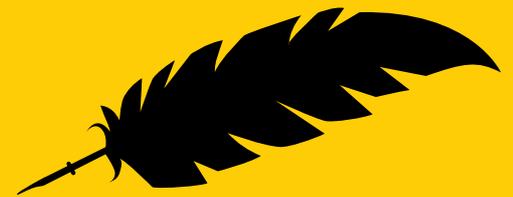
Adrienne Cecile Rich was "one of the most widely read and influential American poets and feminist of the second half of the 20th century", and was credited with bringing "the oppression of women and lesbians to the forefront of poetic discourse". She preferred using the term "women's liberation" rather than feminism. One such poem is "Power", which was written about Marie Curie, one of the most important female icons of the 20th century. In this poem, she discussed the element of power and women's liberation.



Agatha Christie
(Kushagra Mittal)



Known widely as the "Queen of crime", creator of Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, she was one of the best writers of detective stories at par with Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective series- Sherlock Holmes. Her first novel was published right after World War 1 in 1920 which was an important milestone in the feminist movement. It was in this year that American women were given the right to vote but in several parts of the world limited suffrage was still practiced. She contributed to the feminist movement through her stories depicting women detectives and protagonists like Miss Marple and several others. Since most men were out fighting the war women took up the responsibility of keeping the economy going and they proved to be capable which provided a major boost to the feminist movement. Moreover, being a philanthropist, feminist and to keep the economy going she volunteered in several hospitals at the time of the great wars (WW1 and WW2).



JANE AUSTEN
(ARYAN JAIN)



If you're a literary genius, you've got it easy—right? Wrong. Even Jane Austen, indisputably one of the greatest novelists in the English language, spent years struggling to be published and became so dispirited that there were moments when she almost walked away. After Shakespeare, many would pronounce Austen the most popular and widely acclaimed literary figure in history. Her six novels are some of the most widely read literature. Once people caught up with the advancement of Austen's literature, they understood the pure brilliance. Her books are read by people all over the world and have been made into countless TV, film, theater and radio adaptations. This is all the more impressive because she only wrote six full-length novels. In order of publication, these were: Sense & Sensibility, Pride & Prejudice, Mansfield Park, Emma, Northanger Abbey and Persuasion.

Celebrating Women Writers



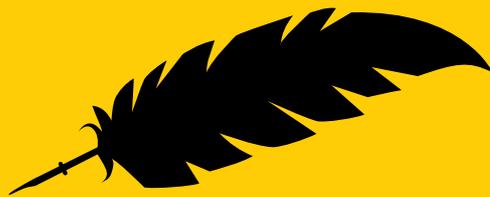
Maya Angelou
(Kevin T. Benoy)

Maya Angelou (April 4, 1928 - May 28, 2014) was an American memoirist, poet, civil rights activist whose work recognized that aspects of identity, such as race and gender, are interconnected and cannot be examined in isolation. This intersectional lens has been crucial to feminist discussions, enriching the movement by acknowledging and addressing the experiences of women from diverse backgrounds in her book, "I know why caged birds sing", she addresses issues of racism, trauma and the struggles of being a coloured woman in America.



Julia Barrow
(Nikhil N. Soren)

Julia Stuart Barrow is an English historian and academic, who specializes in medieval and ecclesiastical history. On 23 October 1997, Barrow was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London . In July 2016, she was elected a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA), the UK's national academy for the humanities and the social sciences. She is also a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (FRHS). In 2018, she appeared on University of Leeds Women of Achievement Roll of Honour.



**SOME SAY THAT THE PEN IS
MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD.**

**WOMEN WRITERS OVER
CENTURIES HAVE PROVED THIS
IN LETTER AND SPIRIT.**

"I would venture to guess that Anon, who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman."



Dyslexia Awareness Week –“Uniquely You”



A wide range of events were planned by St. Columba's School , Middle Section to raise awareness, foster an inclusive environment, and help the different stakeholders understand one another better. There were a ton of events planned from October 25 to October 31. This included the showcasing of videos and creating awareness about dyslexia in all classes on October 25th, followed by a question-answer session, an art competition on October 26th on the theme “Uniquely You,” a dyslexia awareness walk by the students of Classes 4 and 5 around the school campus on October 27th, a quiz based on dyslexia on October 30, followed by a special assembly on October 31 on the theme. The winners’ art work was displayed in the school foyer.

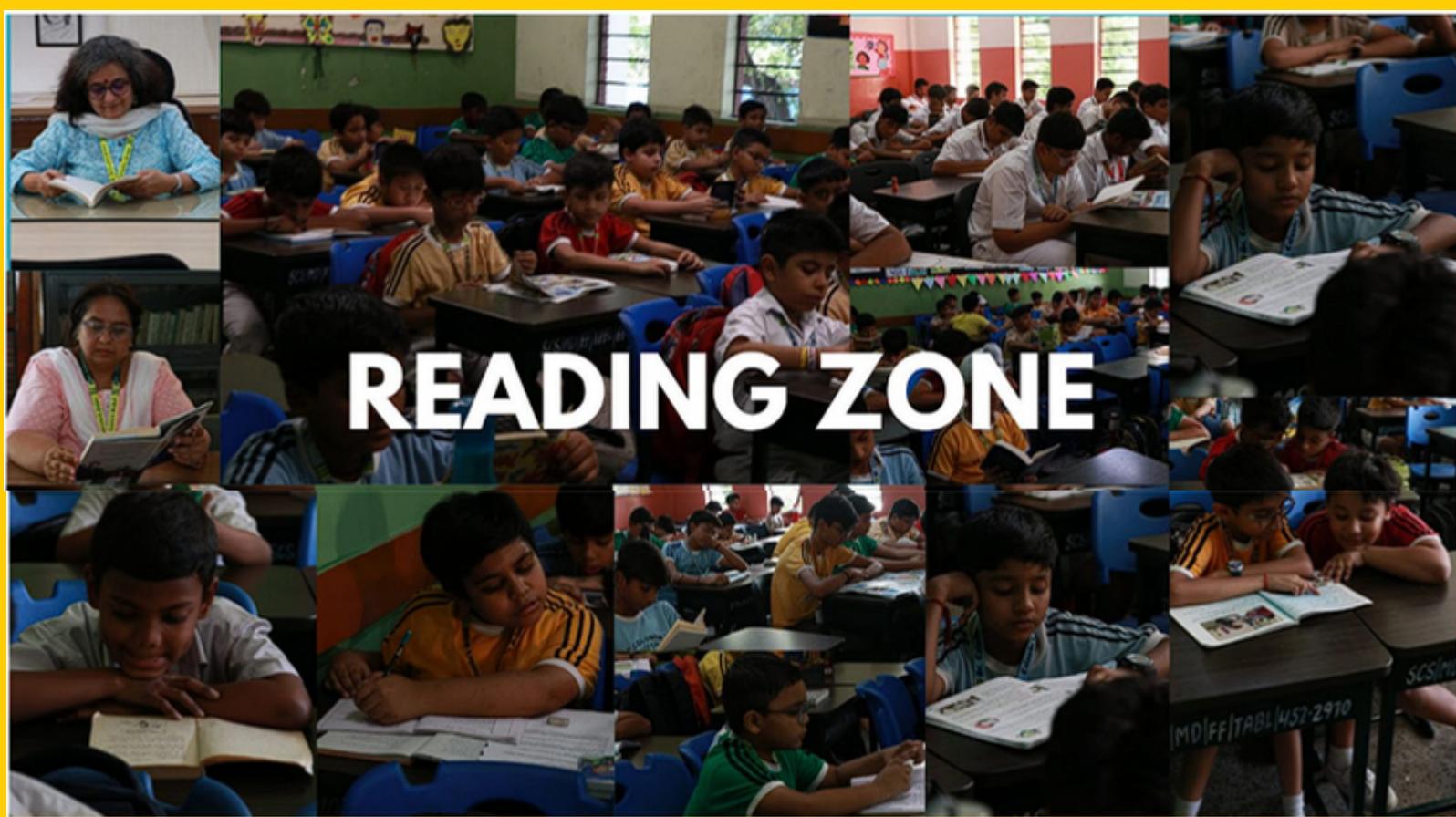
The students relished the activities as they learned to accept and acknowledge the variances that occur in the classes. The Middle Section's week-long celebration of its uniqueness was jam-packed with events and marked a significant advancement in inclusivity.



Reading Week 2023

Reading is essential for those who seek to rise above the ordinary.

Jim John



**A reader lives a
thousand lives
before he dies...
The man who
never reads lives
only one.**

—GEORGE R. R. MARTIN

**No one ever
reads a book.
He reads himself
through books.**

—ROMAIN ROLLAND



Reading Week 2023



The Reading Week took place from October 3rd to 6th, featuring various activities. The first day involved a newspaper-making activity, which was well-received and received multiple submissions from students from grades 4 to 10. The best submissions were selected, and certificates were presented to the students. The second day saw a book talk conducted by volunteers, where students were presented with a book appropriate for their level, and the volunteers discussed its summary and overview. This interactive session motivated students to spend more time reading.

The third day was a silent reading zone, where students were required to remain silent for 20 minutes and read something of their choice, such as a newspaper, textbook, or comic book. The objective of this activity was to help students develop their reading skills, which could enable them to explore a world of creativity and imagination, and to encourage reading as an enjoyable activity. Each class participated in the activity, and we attempted to identify the best class among all the grades. It was a challenging task, as all the students were actively engaged in the activity and played an equal role in making the event a success. Overall, the reading week was a highly positive and interactive experience. Both teachers and students involved can take pride in the fact that the students were inspired and motivated to immerse themselves in the magic of books. It was a successful event that highlighted the importance of reading and its ability to ignite creativity and imagination in young minds.



World Mental Health Day

13th October 2023

"There is hope, even when your brain tells you there isn't." - John Green



World Mental Health Day, observed annually on October 10th, highlights the significance of mental well-being for all ages, including children. On October 13, 2023, an event was organized for all the classes in the Junior School to mark the World Mental Health Awareness Month 2023. The event provided a platform for children to explore and express their emotions through art. The theme was "ALL FEELINGS ARE WELCOME HERE," encouraging children to explore their emotions and express them freely. Students were encouraged to express various emotions, such as happiness, sadness, anger, surprise, and love. After completing their posters, they engaged in discussions about their emotions and shared situations. The event was a success, with both students and teachers appreciating the creative outlet for children to express their emotions through art.



MENTAL HEALTH



Storytelling Session for Class 1

25th September 2023

"It's not magic that transports us to another world; it's storytelling."

- Val McDermid



On September 25, 2023, a storytelling session for Class 1 in junior school was organized by renowned storyteller and theater artist Ms. Simi Srivastava. The session, filled with rhythmic alliterations, musical instruments, and puppets, aimed to hone communication skills and expand imagination. The workshop also included interactive rhyme sessions, incorporating students' echoes of her words. The enriching experience provided valuable learning experiences for both children and teachers.



FEATURED POEM

FRUIT OF LIFE BY ARYAN GUPTA

*The shrubs breathe in nature's forests,
the shrubs grow in artificial plantations.
Their stems nurture little green buds,
innocent like infants, the little green creations.*

*They open their coats,
they nourish and they grow.
Guarded by sepals,
Protected they grow.*

*Reaching an age,
they become bigger and wide.
Blooming flowers covered with petals,
these fragrance producers are their pride.*

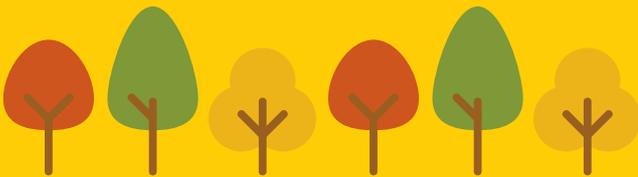
*The nature allows the petals,
to attract the flies.
But if the planter says no,
the flowers must abide.*

*Then a time comes,
when the final phase arrives.
Strong ones become succulent fruits,
weaklings struggle to survive.*

*The weak ones in plantations,
are disgrace and thrown aside.
But the weaklings in forests,
are nurtured in soil hides.*

*Fruits grown in plantations,
were grown to provide.
But those grown in nature differ from one another,
some are eaten, some provide life.*

*Every fruit is born the same,
but born on different lands,
nourished by different people,
grown for different purposes.*

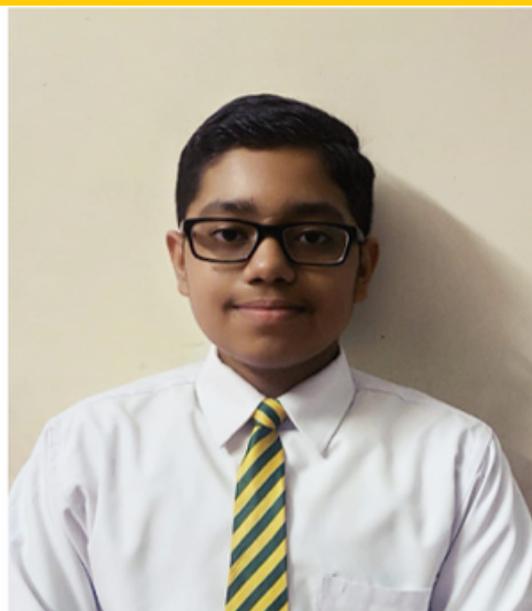


The Poem depicts the story of a human life. The new buds are infants. These infants grow slowly and steadily. They are nourished, protected, and invested in. Then they reach a stage, where they become a resource. But each flower soon finds out what type of an environment have they been living in. It could be either an exploitative environment where they find that the other fruits around them have a similar skillset and potential or a liberal environment where they are given the freedom to be different and even if they fall, they know that there is someone to have them back.

Class 10 Awards



Raman Subramanayam Award
Taksh Singhal 10-E



Columban Of The Year
Ronald Jacob Mathew 10-B



Phoenix Award
Abhijay Sharma 10-D



Br. Christopher Award
Shaun Steni 10-E



Br. Lawrence Memorial Award
Alistair Augustine 10-D

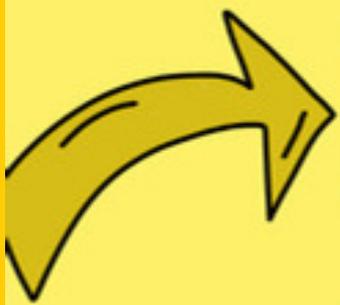


Prince Kumar 10-B

HAVE SOME JUSTICE NEWS TO SHARE?

You all are invited to send in your own brilliant ideas on sustainable living, justice work reports, news articles, poems, artwork and paintings.

Send your awesome creativity or reports to the official Columban Newsdesk Email Id



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