



2024 – 2025



# St. Columba's School

## (2024-2025)



# Principal's Message

Dear Students, Teachers and Parents,

As the new Academic Year 2024-25 begins, let us be thankful for the opportunities that have enabled us to fulfil our roles in the last academic year. As we enter the new year of learning and growing, let us commit to being aware of the blessings we receive each day and through each experience.

The school diary is an integral document for information and communication. Within it, we are presented with the ethos that needs to be cultivated in our institution and what is expected of each person so that all have a safe, enjoyable and fulfilling experience in school. It encourages each person connected with the school, to play their part in achieving the overall goals of education.

We are partners in this endeavour and the key to having a fruitful experience in St. Columba's would be to make ourselves aware of what is in this diary, to reflect on the instructional and inspirational content, and follow it in letter and spirit.

For this to happen, it is important that any information that is required by the school is shared clearly, honestly and on time. Since the safety and well-being of all concerned is a priority, this would help to build a sense of trust among all stakeholders.

Most of the information in this physical diary will also be present on the e-Care app and school website. However, this book has space that is provided for the purpose of recording day to day activities, requirements and communications. We hope that it is used well and is treated with reverence. It has great scope to be, for each of us, a valuable record of our learnings during the year and will thus help us realize our true selves.

The theme we will follow this year is – *'We come together in..... Strength through Solidarity, Courage through Commitment, Success through Service .....for the glory of our Land.'* This theme emphasizes the need for each of us to look beyond what the world sees as important. It urges us to put humanity, care for others, and care for our common home at the forefront of all our thought and actions. It is only in coming together that we can nurture our present and look forward to a bright future where all are welcome and diversity is celebrated.

St. Columba's has its own ideals which are outlined well in the school anthem as well as the expectations and rules within this diary. Further, each one of us comes with our own family traditions and values. I believe that both exist for the greater good and, therefore, wish that all of us relate and behave in a manner that allows for each one to be happy and safe here.

I pray for God's blessings on our journey through the year – may all of us be in solidarity with one another and commit to working towards the greater good. Let us remember that our greatest joy comes in serving others. With this belief, let us strive to be human beings that are agents of change to make our world a better place.

Br. Robert Fernandes



## National Anthem

जन-गण-मन अधिनायक जय हे  
भारत भाग्य विधाता  
पंजाब सिंध गुजरात मराठा  
द्रविड़ उत्कल बंग  
विंध्य हिमाचल जमुना गंगा  
उच्छल जलधि तरंग  
तब शुभ नामे जागे  
तब शुभ आशिश माँगे  
गा हे तब जय गाथा  
जन-गण-मंगलदायक जय हे  
भारत भाग्य विधाता  
जय हे, जय हे, जय हे  
जय जय जय जय हे.

## Preamble

**WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA**, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a **SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC** and to secure to all its citizens:

**JUSTICE**, social, economic and political; **LIBERTY** of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; **EQUALITY** of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all **FRATERNITY** assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation;

**IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY** this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do **HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION**

## National Song

वंदे मातरम् ।  
सुजलाम् सुफलाम् , मलयज् शीतलाम्  
सस्यश्यामलम् मातरम् ।  
शुभ्रज्योत्स्नापुलकितयामिणिम्  
फुल्लकुसुमितदरुमदलशोभिनीम्  
सुहासिनीम्, सुमधुर भाषिणीम्  
सुखदाम् वरदाम् मातरम् ।।  
वंदे मातरम् ।

## Saare Jahan Se Achha

### सारे जहाँ से अच्छा

सारे जहाँ से अच्छा, हिन्दोस्ताँ हमारा  
हम बुलबुले है इसकी, ए गुलसिताँ हमारा ।

परबत वो सबसे उँचा, हमसाया आसमाँ का  
वो संतरी हमारा, वो पासबा हमारा ।१।

गोदी में खेलती है, जिसकी हजारों नदियाँ  
गुलशन है जिसके दम से, रश्के जिना हमारा ।२।

मजहब नहीं सिखाता, आपस में बैर रखना  
हिन्दी है हम, वतन है, हिन्दोरता हमारा ।३।

## **THE SPIRIT AT ST. COLUMBA'S**

Human Beings are not born equal. However, each human being is born unique. Each one has the right and potential to shine. The whole of Life, but especially the family and education in early life are fundamental environments in which each human being both discovers and gets the initial feel of one's innate potential.

The modern age, modern psychology and current sociological thought have all concurred that it is in inclusivity and not exclusivity which is the best nurturing environment during the initial key years of a human being's life.

We have multiple intelligences and that all of us, to reach our potential, must have the experience of growing in ALL our multiple intelligences, while discovering the ones which are our strengths and having reasonable expectations of those which are not our strengths. However, the development of one to the negation of others leads to the development of warped personalities, possibly eccentric and anti-social persons and thus basically sad human beings – which is not the purpose of any school and definitely not a school like St. Columba's.

Thus, St. Columba's chooses to be a school with an inclusive environment.

It is our challenge, in this environment, to help each individual discover and grow to their potential.

We understand that all the children are not expected to and it is not desirable that all only shine in one area of excellence. Some will have better sporting capabilities than others, others will have better theatrical abilities (like Shahrukh Khan – our past pupil); others will have greater entrepreneurial skills like (the founder of Naukri.com – again, our past pupil).

This fundamental truth was understood by Edmund Rice, the founder of the Christian Brothers as far back in 1802! Edmund was a very successful businessman when most of his fellow Irish men were wallowing in poverty. He did not come to success because he was born to privilege – far from it – he was as disenfranchised as the rest of his countrymen, brutalized by vengeful English Lords. Having reached success the tough way, He chose to take kids from the most miserable backgrounds and give them both the means to live respectful lives (e.g., one of his success stories was transforming a stow away young Italian lad – Bianconni – and set him up in business – Bianconni, even in Edmund's life time, gained wealth far in excess of any wealth Edmund had, yet his hallmark, like Edmund, was care for the less fortunate) and to be compassionate people.

Therefore, Edmund Rice schools, and thus, St. Columba's as an Edmund Rice Educational Institution, has always endeavored to welcome students from all backgrounds and with various abilities or so called 'disabilities' what we now term 'differently abled persons,' to the school. The hallmark of St. Columba's, and this will be attested to by all Columbans, is that the background or the economic wellbeing or deprivation of a fellow Columban does not matter, in fact, it has never been a factor in relationships. Columbans who are challenged physically draw forth from their peers the most generous support and concern.

Creating a High Potential school has not meant for us, St. Columba's, being in a rarefied environment. We struggle to stay shoulder to shoulder with our students as they discover who they are – the discovery is, at the end, an experience of ecstasy but the journey is generally one through which their strengths of character are developed. Being an inclusive school will mean that we mirror our society: we have full classrooms; we have to struggle to find the finance to create empowering infrastructure, open new courses and to maintain the same.

Through it all our students come forth as self-aware, self-assured, socially conscious and mindful of their innate divinity, humane human beings who have what it takes to shine in life – and that surely is THE HIGHEST POTENTIAL. It is in this sense that we are a high potential school – and we dare anyone to nay our claim. This is not often seen while in school (though there are many wonderful stories from parents and young people of how they have bloomed) or even at the time of the student's graduation, or at the time of their CBSE Class X or XII results, but when they leave school and suddenly realize the privileged place which was their alma mater – St. Columba's!

# Edmund, the Extraordinary

## A brief historical sketch

### Of Edmund Rice our saintly founder



Edmund Rice was born in Callan, Co. Kilkenny, Ireland in 1762. Ireland was occupied by the English and poverty and religious discrimination abounded. Edmund belonged to a tenant farming family. After completing his commercial education, he worked with his uncle in establishing a very lucrative ship chandler's business, one of the few occupations open to people like him. In 1785, he married Mary Elliot, the daughter of a prosperous Waterford businessman. In 1789, tragedy struck when his wife died. Edmund was now left alone to care for a daughter with special needs.

In 1800 Edmund sold his elegant house and moved into a stable to open his first school in Waterford. His first two companions were Thomas Grosvenor and Patrick Finn who joined him in 1802. The first monastery that Edmund built was called Mount Sion and this is where he died and is now buried.

Initially Edmund's Brothers were known as the Presentation Brothers. The Congregation of Christian Brothers was formally founded in 1820 with Edmund Rice as the first Superior General. In 1825, the first school outside Ireland was started in Preston, England. In 1838 Edmund Rice resigned as Superior General. In 1841 he fell ill and died on 29th August 1844. The Calcutta Brothers came into existence in 1845 – a Religious Brotherhood under the authority of the Archbishop of Calcutta. The first 2 Calcutta Brothers were Irish men, trained by the Christian Brothers in Ireland. In 1895, the Calcutta Brothers amalgamated with the Christian Brothers.

Today there are about 680 Christian Brothers in 23 countries all over the world. Edmund was beatified on 6th October, 1996. The Christian Brother community has initiated a process to raise him to the altars although he has already been canonized in the hearts of those who have experienced his charismatic presence through his band of dedicated men. The Christian Brothers ministry is the Christian Education of youth. This ministry is carried out in many formal schools, flexi schools, non-formal programmes and community projects.

The Congregation invites Catholic men who feel drawn to a life of 'Religious' commitment, the community life and ministry of the Christian Brothers to contact any Christian Brother and share this interest. If the great Congregation founded by Edmund Rice is to live on, we need generous and idealistic young men to join it.

Yet, the charism (special gift of the Holy Spirit) given to Edmund and his Brothers is not only for men called to a life of Religious commitment. The Holy Spirit blesses all, who through God's providence come into contact with Edmund's Brothers with the charism – teachers, students, etc. The Brothers invite all so gifted, to join in nurturing the charism and strengthening the ministry.



# EIGHT ESSENTIALS OF A CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' INSTITUTION



1. The Institution as Good-News for all.
2. Awareness of God in our lives.
3. Building a school family.
4. Compassion for the weak.
5. Concern for the whole person.
6. Striving for excellence
7. Teaching of commitment to serve the nation's youth
8. Education for Peace and Justice

## EDMUND RICE EDUCATION INDIA

In our schools, we envision a vibrant and nurturing educational institution where the Edmund Rice story and Gospel values serve as the cornerstone of our mission. Our vision is built upon five pillars that define our commitment to holistic education and community enrichment.

### **Pillar 1: Spiritual Enrichment**

- *Rooted in faith:* We are dedicated to sharing Edmund Rice's story and fostering an environment deeply rooted in Gospel values. Our school is a sacred space where students encounter the divine and celebrate multi-faith experiences with acceptance of spiritual distinctiveness. We embody the values of the Edmund Rice story, partnering with others who share our vision.

### **Pillar 2: Empowerment through Education**

- *Excelling in Learning:* Our education and empowerment pillar centers on academic excellence, co-curricular activities, skill development, and a child-centered, dynamic, and value-based curriculum. We encourage active participation, empower critical and creative skills, and promote comprehensive value education.

### **Pillar 3: Environmental Stewardship**

- *Caring for Our Common Home:* We recognize the sacredness of the Earth and actively engage our community in protecting and nurturing our environment. Our school community is aware of God's presence in their lives, promoting a safe and sustainable campus for all.

### **Pillar 4: Unity and Inclusivity**

- *Building Bridges:* Our commitment to unity and inclusivity is evident through partnerships, networking, and collaboration with various stakeholders. We celebrate diversity in cultures and religions, providing an open and inclusive environment for all.

### **Pillar 5: Values and Community**

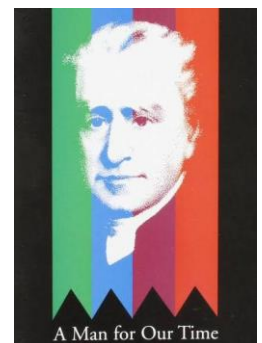
- *Living Our Values:* We instill core values such as respect, compassion, trust, hospitality, and acceptance within our school community. Our education goes beyond syllabus, fostering a culture of social justice, global awareness, and care for the earth. We empower our community to work together, ensuring that every voice is heard and valued.

These five pillars represent our unwavering dedication to providing a holistic education that prepares students to be compassionate, responsible, and socially conscious individuals who make a positive impact on the world. Our school is a place where faith, knowledge, and community come together to create a brighter future for all.

*Have courage, the good seed will grow up in the children's hearts later on.*

*One thing you can be sure of: that whilst you work for God, whether you succeed or not, He will amply reward you.*

~ Edmund Rice



## SCHOOL ANTHEM AND COLUMBAN SONG

### SCHOOL ANTHEM

Chorus We sing praises of you St. Columba  
Scholars of Columba's we  
Dare to be wise always  
Sincere and constant we  
This is our motto that guide us  
Through life eternally  
This truth we learn in our days of youth  
Gives us strength in fraternity.

1. With glory glows the spirit of S.C.S.  
Marking all our efforts with true success  
And our Alma Mater seals us as a chosen band  
We all work together for the glory of our land.
2. Pride in carrying our banners of green and gold  
Banners that will lead us towards, all our goals  
Service to others and our nation's good  
We all come together in godly brotherhood.

### COLUMBAN SONG

Chorus: Columbas is a wonderful school,  
'tis our own [repeat]  
So sing all Columbans, sing  
with heart and soul.  
Columbas is a wonderful  
school, 'tis our very own. [repeat]

1. Little we know what Columbas does,  
Little as we are. [repeat]  
But when step into life so big,  
we know what Columbas did.
2. Columba is a part of us,  
Important it shall be. [repeat]  
When we grow into men so big,  
Columbans we still shall be.
3. Columbas taught us all we know,  
It taught us what to do. [repeat]  
It taught us what is good and bad,  
It gave us the right values.

### SCHOOL MOTO

SAPERE AUDE,  
SINCERE ET CONSTANTER  
Dare to know (learn, seek wisdom),  
sincerely and consistently



# Edmund Rice Hymns

There was born a man, long ago,  
He heard his Father calling him.  
But how can I help, Lord,  
How may I lend a hand?  
Just look around you and you'll know.

He saw the young ones, with no place to go,  
No money for an education, so they miss out.  
But Edmund gave what he had and started a school,  
A place to learn in the faith of God.

**Edmund Ignatius Rice, today we celebrate your life,  
You were the guiding light to them who followed you.**

And still today, throughout the world  
They live and teach in your way.  
And it's to these ones we owe a lot  
The fam'ly of Edmund Ignatius Rice



*Edmund Rice ~  
educating the hearts  
and the minds of  
the young.*

## PRAYER TO EDMUND

The soft light of the morning,  
Your heart raised to your God.  
Rough roads and green valleys,  
All graced ways you trod.

**Blessed Edmund, we implore you,  
May we follow in your ways:  
In faith and ever joyful,  
Love and serve God all our days.**

The bright light of the noontime,  
Brought healing to the poor.  
Broken lives and those in trouble  
Were welcomed at your door.

The soft light of the evening,  
Your heart raised up in prayer.  
Swirling mists in shadowed valleys  
Your loved God ever near.



## WHERE TO NOW EDMUND?

*We are called, we are gifted*

*We learning to respond to the needs of the times*

*We are living here today.*

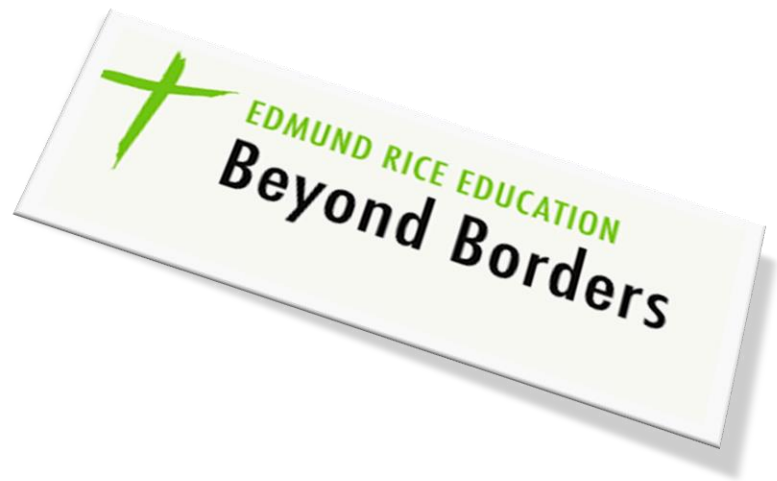
*We are called, we are lifted*

*We are hanging on your word.*

*Where to now Edmund?*

*Where would you go now?*

Go to each other,  
Yes that's what Jesus said,  
Serve one another,  
That's exactly what you did.  
Out on the edges,  
The shadows,  
A star was burning bright,  
To guide the young ones,  
You taught them to claim their human right,  
You said "Its ours to choose, choose life"  
In God the healing ain't what you're fearing  
God is revealing through the pride of the poor standing tall.



New seeds are blowing on a dry and dusty day  
God does the growing if we trust enough to wait  
Our world is shifting and changing and we don't have  
any chance  
To find direction, which you showed us.  
One way to make a start  
Your prayer was 'Live Jesus in our hearts'  
Help us be prayerful, to be strong yet gentle  
May all we build be in respect for the Earth, Our good Earth.



## **EDMUND RICE PRAYER**

O God, we thank you for the life of Blessed Edmund.

He opened his heart to Christ present in those oppressed by poverty and injustice.

Grant us the courage and compassion of Edmund as we seek to live lives of love and service. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

## **EDMUND RICE**

Dear God, our Father, Edmund heard you Son's  
Word; "Go help the poor, sell all your own: seek me  
alone."

He longed to teach to ev'ry land as Jesus planned,  
The story of your love for all,  
He followed then

His torch today help us to bear everywhere  
That youth would win the world to right,  
But need your light.

That Edmund's life may still inspire  
Young souls with fire.  
Grant, Lord, that he for virtues prized  
Be canonized.



## EDMUND RICE ANTHEM

Gifted by the Spirit and nourished by the Word,  
You listened humbly to learn what God desired.  
God, the source of life and love,  
Favoured all your days.  
We name you, Blessed Edmund Rice.  
We sing our song of praise.

**Faith gave you hope, a strength which never died.  
Hope gave you patient trust, the love of God revealed.  
Love guided ev'ry deed. Blessed Edmund Rice,  
You lived a life of joyful sacrifice.**  
Called to follow Jesus Christ,  
You heard his voice so clear:  
Come, never falter, and challenge ev'ry fear.  
Many others followed you, caught your vision's fire.  
You lead us, Blessed Edmund Rice.  
Your deeds of love inspire.

Sent to serve God's people, enriching lives of youth,  
You strove with vision for justice, mercy, truth.  
Teaching us compassion, living with the poor.  
We love you, Blessed Edmund Rice.  
We praise you evermore.



## OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, holy be Your name; Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom power and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

## SONGS / HYMNS

### 1. SONG FOR THE NATIONS (MAY WE BE A SHINING LIGHT)

*Chris Christensen*

May we be a shining light to the nations  
A shining light to the peoples of the Earth  
Till the whole world sees the glory of your name  
May your pure light shine through us

May we bring a word of hope to the nations  
A word of life to the peoples of the Earth  
Till the whole world knows there is a salvation through Your name  
May your mercy flow through us

May we be a healing balm to the nations  
A healing balm to the peoples of the Earth  
Till the whole world know the power of your name  
May your healing flow through us

May we sing a song of joy to the nations  
A song of praise to the peoples of the Earth  
Till the whole world rings with the praises of Your name  
May your song be sung through us

### 2. YOU RAISE ME UP-*Josh Groban*

When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary  
When troubles come and my heart burdened be  
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence  
Until you come and sit awhile with me

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas  
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders  
You raise me up... To more than I can be (2)

There is no life - no life without its hunger  
Each restless heart beats so imperfectly  
But when you come and I am filled with wonder  
Sometimes, I think I glimpse eternity

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas  
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders  
You raise me up... To more than I can be (2)



### **3. MAKE ME A CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE- *St. Francis of Assisi***

**Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you**

**Oh, master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul**

**Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope  
Where there is darkness, only light  
And where there's sadness ever joy**

**Make me a channel of your peace  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned  
In giving to all men that we receive  
And in dying that we're born to turn around**



### **4. LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH**

**Let there be peace on Earth  
And let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace of Earth  
The peace that was meant to be.  
With God as our Father  
Brothers and Sisters are we  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me.  
Let this be the moment, now!**

**With every step I take,  
Let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment each  
And live each moment  
In peace eternally  
Let there be peace on Earth  
And let it begin with me**

## 5. GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

**Give thanks with a grateful heart**

**Give thanks to the Holy One**

**Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart**

**Give thanks to the Holy One**

**Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong"**

**Let the poor say, "I am rich**

**Because of what the Lord has done for us"**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong"**

**Let the poor say, "I am rich**

**Because of what the Lord has done for us"**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart (with a grateful heart)**

**Give thanks to the Holy One (to the Holy One)**

**Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart (with a grateful heart)**

**Give thanks to the Holy One (to the Holy One)**

**Give...**



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### 10000 REASONS

**Bless the Lord O my soul**

**O my soul**

**Worship His Holy name**

**Sing like never before**

**O my soul**

**I'll worship Your Holy name**

**The sun comes up**

**It's a new day dawning**

**It's time to sing Your song again**

**Whatever may pass**

**And whatever lies before me**

**Let me be singing**

**When the evening comes**

**You're rich in love**

**And You're slow to anger Your name is great**

**And Your heart is kind**

**For all Your goodness**

**I will keep on singing**

**Ten thousand reasons**

**For my heart to find**

**And on that day**

**When my strength is failing**

**The end draws near**

**And my time has come**

**Still my soul will**

**Sing Your praise unending**

**Ten thousand years**

**And then forevermore**

## THE 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

*Today in the face of massive depletion of world's life-supporting resources, we have to change our practices and each of us has to work towards building a more sustainable future. To help all nations of the world to move forward in this direction, the General Assembly of the United Nations announced the "Agenda 2030". The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) contained therein describe the frame of our common global efforts.*

*The SDGs are the agenda that can help us to transform our world by tackling multiple challenges humankind is facing to ensure wellbeing, economic prosperity, and environmental protection.*





## CARE ~ COMPASSION ~ COURAGE

### ***SOCIAL JUSTICE EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH 2024-25***

**Social Justice Education & Community Outreach** is an integral part of our school academic program. It aims to form the minds and hearts of our students so that they grow into responsible citizens with a heart for those who are underprivileged and on the edges of our society. Our objective is to nurture a spirit of selfless love, undying peace, ceaseless gratitude, and deep compassion in our students. We seek to form them into young men who will live a life of virtue, goodness, and integrity.

Our Social Justice Education curriculum has evolved largely from the 17 Sustainable Development Goals formulated by the United Nations. Hence, we carefully plan our Social Justice curriculum every year around national and global issues that need our urgent attention and action. Themes like Climate Change, Gender Equality, Sustainable Living, and Ending Poverty have been our focus over the past few years. **Embedding Justice in the Curriculum** – which means linking elements of Social Justice and Human/Earth Rights Education into all our academic subjects/topics and school programmes – has been our theme since 2020 and in this academic year as well we will work in the same direction. The objective is that the entire school ethos is one of openness, inclusion, sensitivity, and awareness of the rights and dignity of each living being, especially of the less privileged and oppressed, and care for our planet.

Community Outreach is a key feature of the Social Justice Education Programme. Our school collaborates with various NGOs and we try to reach out to as many as possible who can benefit from our care and assistance. Last year we collaborated with groups that work in ration collections, food distribution, care for the elderly and persons with disabilities, and E-waste recycling. We also have a Justice Education Society, a Justice News Desk, and an Eco-Club so that our students can learn how to become conscious and aware citizens of the world through creative writing, journalism, interactive sessions, competitions, workshops, and other such mediums. Our school community has last year collaborated with other schools, especially of the Edmund Rice Network (both nationally and internationally), and various other stakeholders to create a more diverse and vibrant learning experience for our students. We also have volunteering opportunities and research-based projects so that they learn how to be responsible and conscientious participants/leaders in the fields of ecological activism, advocacy, and social service.

At SCS, more than just 'giving' (which in itself is noble), the school will attempt to foster a critical mindset in our students so that they learn to question oppressive structures and work for the transformation of our society. Our aim will always be that our students be made aware of the 'cry of the poor' and the 'cry of the Earth'. We aim to raise their sensitivity and knowledge on the rights and dignity of all beings and the Earth, our Common Home, so that they develop a sense of brotherhood and altruism in their life choices. It is our prayer that like our Founder, Blessed Edmund Rice, we may live a life of generous self-giving and relentless courage so that we may be ever faithful in our service to the world and all of God's creation.

# SAFETY AT SCHOOL

## I. DISASTER MANGEMENT

The school has taken the following steps towards disaster management:

- Emergency numbers are displayed on all the corridors of the Junior, Middle and Senior Section buildings.
- A safe and effective evacuation plan has been created for emergency conditions like fire, earthquake etc.
- Fire extinguishers and firefighting equipment have been installed on all the floors of the three buildings.
- Effective alarms are fitted in the offices of the three section heads.
- A daily headcount is done in all the classes.
- All visitors are issued passes to mark and authorize their entry.  
**M-** Maintenance, **P-** Parents, **V-** Visitors. Photo IDs are checked at the Gate.
- All students and staff in the School have an ID card with their relevant details.



Regular upkeep and maintenance of fire safety equipment and conduct of mock drills for evacuation to check and enhance the safety preparedness of the school are done.

## II. CHILD PROTECTION



Children are the most vulnerable in any society. At St Columba's we commit to formulate systems to protect children from physical, emotional and sexual abuse. The Protection Officers in their respective Centre of Activity strive for identification, prevention and reporting of any kind of child abuse thereby committing to create awareness and a safe environment for children. The Protection Officer is a member of a Centre of Activity appointed to ensure that all protective measures for safeguarding children are in place and implemented. Any kind of child abuse – bullying, physical, sexual, emotional must be reported to the Protection Officer by anyone who observes or witnesses it.

(i) Mrs. Pooja Guglani  
[poojaguglani@stcolumbas.edu.in](mailto:poojaguglani@stcolumbas.edu.in)  
Protection Officer  
Junior Section

(ii) Mrs. Poornima Dhasmana  
[dsm@stcolumbas.edu.in](mailto:dsm@stcolumbas.edu.in)  
Protection Officer  
Middle Section

(iii) Mrs. Namrata Menezes  
[nmz@stcolumbas.edu.in](mailto:nmz@stcolumbas.edu.in)  
Protection Officer  
Senior Section

## III. SHOWW (Act against Sexual harassment of Women in the Workplace)

At St. Columba's we respect the safety and equality of all persons on campus. Accordingly, all School Staff have been through a process of training to build on and strengthen this culture in school and society. All persons who enter the campus are also protected in a similar manner. Should any woman feel sexually harassed on campus, or if such is noticed, the incident is to be brought immediately to the attention of the any of the following persons belonging to the school's Internal Complaints Committee

- Presiding Officer: Mrs. Namrata Menezes (St. Columba's, Senior School)
- Mrs. Gail Pereira (St. Columba's, Middle School)
- Mr. Tejinder Singh (St. Columba's, Middle School)
- Mrs. Rupa Dey (St. Columba's, Junior School)
- Adv. Mrs. Sarika Mor (Tis Hazari Court)

**St. Columba's School, Ashok Place  
New Delhi – 110001**

Dear Parents,

St. Columba's has always catered to a mixed economic group of students from varied backgrounds and religions.

From its very foundation a substantial number of students in St. Columba's have sought fee concessions and have been benefiting from it being granted after a verification process. That so many of these students do well in life and have become useful citizens is a great consolation to us and the school community – thus motivating us to continue our commitment to them.

It is also true that such a scheme would not have been entirely possible were it not for the generosity of many parents, ex-students benefactors and sponsors, ensuring that these children also benefit from an education that others from stable economic backgrounds enjoy.

Thus, parents are free to contribute towards the education of children in St. Columba's School on a purely voluntary basis. The amount is left to each one's personal discretion. The child that one wishes to support is also the discretion of the contributor – whether it be a specific child you may be aware of or one that you would leave to the School to decide.

If you feel inclined to help, kindly deposit contributions as Cheque or DD, made out in favour of "**St. Columba's School**". Kindly ensure it is accompanied with a short letter with special instructions, if any.

May God bless you for reaching out to those who need our care and concern.

Yours sincerely,

Br. Robert Fernandes  
Principal



2024 – 2025

Thank you