



JUST NEWS

Newsletter from the Justice Newsdesk

July - October

St. Columba's Hosts Fifth Edition of Edmund Rice Justice Meet on Gender Equality

On September 3rd, 2024, St. Columba's School hosted the fifth edition of the Edmund Rice Justice Meet in the Edmund Rice Hall.

Organized by the Just Ed Society of the Senior School, the event focused on the theme "*Building Communities that Foster Gender Equality*." Months of preparation culminated in a successful gathering, with **17 schools** participating. Over 100 students actively took part in the meet, which provided a platform for advocating justice and equality.



The event featured **interactive workshops** on gender issues, an engaging ice-breaker quiz, group activities, and presentations.

A **panel discussion** with four gender activists explored harassment faced by women and suggested solutions. After lunch, participants engaged in **specialized workshops on advocacy** through Theatre, Caricature, Poetry, Digital Media, and Music, with performances and presentations showcasing their learnings. Each school was tasked with creating a **community action project**, with final presentations scheduled for November 9.

The meet concluded with a vote of thanks from the headmaster, distribution of certificates, and a closing video. The event surpassed previous editions in success and impact.





St. Columba's hosts 4th edition of the interschool Science Symposium

"There are no dreams too large, no innovation unimaginable and no frontiers beyond the reach of today's students."

5th August 2024 was yet another victorious day for Science as St. Columba's School hosted various schools of Delhi on a journey of scientific innovations. With the theme for Science Symposium this year - ***AI Odyssey: Identifying challenges and illuminating solutions in the field of medicine***, the students left no stones unturned to explore the use of AI.

The event saw **10 schools** participating in the two events: Presentation and Model making. The chief guest for the event- Mr Ravi Victor, Principal St. Vincent School, Asansol graced the occasion. The panel of judges included doctors and Science teachers with years of experience- Dr. Deepshikha Singh, Dr. Rahul Uniyal, Dr. Suruchi Singh, Dr. Tapshri and Col. Rajendra Chauhan.

The auspicious lighting of lamp was followed by felicitation of the chief guest and the judges. This was followed by a short moment of prayer. Each of the 10 participating schools exhibited their best innovative ideas as presentations in the MSA and showcased their creative scientific potential through Model in the Science Lab.

The level of expertise and creativity displayed was truly impressive, reflecting the hard work and dedication of all participants. The event highlighted the forefront of scientific research and development, inspiring us all to continue exploring and innovating.





Middle School collection drive : over 1000 kg grains donated



Columbans packaging the donated grains.

The drive not only provided essential supplies but also instilled values of empathy and social responsibility in students. It offered a practical lesson in giving and service, inspired by the teachings of the school's Blessed Founder, Edmund Rice.

This initiative highlights the school's commitment to fostering compassionate, socially aware students dedicated to making a positive difference.

From August 23 to September 6, 2024, the middle school, in collaboration with the Robinhood Army, held a two-week Food Collection Drive. Students from Classes 4 to 10 contributed non-perishable food items like rice, pulses, and flour to support underprivileged communities.

Teachers encouraged active participation, resulting in an impressive **1,055 kilograms** of food being collected. The donation was handed over to Robinhood Army volunteers on September 10, 2024, for distribution to families in need.

THIS YEAR, WE AIM TO SERVE
2.5 MILLION MEALS

JOIN THE CAUSE:
HOW CAN YOU HELP?

CONTRIBUTING
NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS
AATA, DAL, RICE, OR
ANY NECESSARY ITEM

RHA IS A ZERO FUNDS ORGANIZATION

**St. Columba's
School**

RobinHood Army's goal for 2024

Columbans celebrate unity in diversity on Mandela Day.

"Courage is not the absence of fear, but the ability to triumph over it.

The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."



The Mandela Day assembly at St. Columba's School, organized by the Just Ed Society on **July 16, 2024**, celebrated Nelson Mandela's enduring legacy. The assembly began with a powerful quote about courage from Mandela, emphasizing the theme of bravery in the face of fear. The students then highlighted Mandela's life and contributions, mentioning the significance of Nelson Mandela Day.

Case studies were presented, showcasing various forms of discrimination. They discussed cyberbullying, followed by recounting a tragic bullying incident at Jadavpur University. A student shared personal experiences of discrimination as a Northeastern student. The case studies covered the struggles of people from all spheres of life.

Then a thought-provoking monologue on racial discrimination was performed, followed by a choir performance of John Lennon's "Imagine". Then, a reflective prayer, honoring Mandela's legacy was recited.

The assembly concluded with the members of the Just Ed Society urging everyone to strive for justice, equality, and compassion, ending with the national anthem.

St. Columba's Pioneers change with the “Green School” Initiative.



St. Columba's School, New Delhi, is making significant strides in sustainability and social justice. This year, we conducted our first green school audit, focusing on water management, air quality, energy efficiency, waste management, and biodiversity. Our initiatives have resulted in **37.5% energy savings**, a **36.07% improvement in sustainable transport**, and an impressive **86.75% enhancement in green spaces**.

Key initiatives include the Climate Meet, which engaged over **80 students** from 17 schools in workshops on waste management, composting, and bio-enzyme creation. Additionally, the Edmund Rice Justice Meet has impacted over **10,000 students** and educators worldwide, with this year's theme centered on SDG 5: Gender Equality, highlighting the importance of social justice and inclusion.

Looking ahead, we have a Climate Meet planned for January 2025, along with plans to install an air quality meter, enhance plastic waste reduction, and promote composting while actively reducing wastage across all areas.

St. Columba's commitment to sustainability and social responsibility inspires the next generation to be stewards of the planet and advocates for change. Through our collective efforts, we are dedicated to creating a sustainable and just future for all.



St. Columba's Welcomes Australian Principals for Exchange on Advocacy Efforts

On 3rd October, a visit by a group of Australian principals to St. Columba's proved to be an eye-opening and insightful experience. The exchange began with a discussion on how their schools function, placing special emphasis on their charitable efforts during Christmas. Among these efforts, distributing gifts and food to those in need stood out as a particularly meaningful initiative.

The conversation soon shifted to how the students of the senior school, particularly in Grades 11 and 12, actively advocate for social change.



The Australian principals were notably impressed by the school's efforts, especially the Edmund Rice Justice Meet held on September 3rd, 2024. This event provided a glimpse into how students raise awareness and take meaningful action on important issues.

As the dialogue progressed, there was an exchange of insights into how Australian schools approach events and social concerns. A key point of discussion centered around gender discrimination. The challenges faced by Australia in addressing gender equality highlighted that even developed nations are not immune to societal flaws.



The overarching message from the conversation was clear: while legal frameworks may evolve, societal attitudes often take much longer to change.

Junior School hosts Annual Debate.

The Class 3 Annual Debate Competition at St. Columba's Junior School, held on **13th August 2024**, commenced with a dedication to Blessed Edmund Rice, motivating young debaters to believe in the power of their voices.

Students debated captivating topics such as "Should we have a junk food day?" "Are cartoon superheroes better role models?" and "Is it right to bully a bully?"

The enthusiastic participants showcased remarkable confidence and left the audience captivated with their insightful arguments and convincing presentations.



Classes 4 and 5 Engage in Cyber Security Education with Expert



On 31st July 2024, a Cyber Security Awareness session was held for Classes 4 and 5 by Mrs. Sumy Gautam, a specialist in cyber security. She stressed the importance of protecting systems, networks, and personal information while using social media and online gaming. Mrs. Gautam also discussed the legal consequences of crimes like photo morphing, malicious emails, and cyberbullying. She advised students to be cautious when making online friends. The session ended with a Q&A, where students sought guidance, followed by a vote of thanks.

JUNIOR SCHOOL IN A GLIMPSE

LEARNING VALUES



TRUE FRIENDSHIP



POWER OF WORDS



PERSEVERANCE



**PATIENCE IS THE
ROAD TO WISDOM**



TRUE FRIENDSHIP



**COLLECTION
DRIVE**



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



HONESTY

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

~ Krishnav Rastogi 12B

Like birds of a feather, we flock together,
Through every storm and sunny weather.
In laughter and tears, in joy and in strife,
True friends are the colors that brighten our life.

They stand by our side when the world feels gray,
With them, we find strength to face each new day.
Forgiveness can heal when friendships are torn,
Though distance may come, their memories are worn.

In moments of doubt, they lift us up high,
With words that inspire, our spirits can fly.
Yet shadows may linger when trust starts to fray,
Misunderstandings can lead hearts astray.

Through trials we learn what true friendship means,
Navigating valleys, fulfilling our dreams.
For every sweet laughter, there may be some tears,
But facing the darkness can strengthen our years.

So cherish your friends; hold them close and dear,
For they are the wings that lift you from fear.
In unity, we grow, through both light and shade,
True bonds are resilient, in love they are made.

IN FREEDOM'S SHADOW

~ Arpit Jonathan Pillay

In a world where dreams take flight,
Equality gleams, it shines so bright,
No one's above, no one's below,
Together, in harmony, we glow and grow.

Hand in hand, side by side,
Men and women, with equal pride,
Working together, day by day,
In every field, in every way.

No walls of hate, no chains to bind,
A new dawn falls, for all humankind

With no discrimination, where minds are free,
Where gender doesn't matter, where equality is the key.

Let fairness be the rule we keep striving for,
Let respect for every gender, be our driving force.

In our hearts, let justice leap
In our minds, let division forever sleep

Together we are strong, with our heads held high,
Let's make this world, fairer with no cry



THE JUSTICE NEWSDESK
WISHES YOU A
VERY HAPPY

GREEN DIWALI

This Diwali, let's look *beyond* the past and present.
Let's celebrate a future that **shines** with **sustainability** and
care for our planet.

May this season bring you happiness, health, and the
promise of a greener tomorrow.

Wishing you a joyous and eco-friendly Diwali!



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Have some **Justice News** to share?
Want your work **published**?

Reach out to us using the ID below!



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