

Dear Readers,

Greetings!

As we step into a brand-new year, it fills my heart with immense joy to extend my warmest wishes to the dedicated staff, talented students, and esteemed well-wishers of Carmel Convent School. Reflecting on my visit to train the students for their Annual Function, I am filled with gratitude and admiration. Carmel Convent School truly embodies a nurturing environment that seamlessly blends academic excellence, creativity, cultural values, and holistic development. The enthusiasm, dedication, and talent of the students during rehearsals were remarkable and served as a reflection of the school's unwavering commitment to excellence.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the Principal, Sr. Maria Swati, whose visionary leadership and heartfelt warmth create an inspiring atmosphere where both students and faculty thrive. The hospitality and positivity I experienced on campus left me with cherished memories.

As we welcome 2025, I hope Carmel Convent School continues to stand out as a beacon of holistic education, fostering young minds to thrive in all aspects of life. Wishing this year brings new opportunities, success, and numerous blessings to our entire school community.

Wishing you all a joyous, prosperous, and blessed New Year!

Rahul Gupta
Dance & Cultural Head
GEMS Education, Dubai

Fostering Awareness and Compassion

Carmel Convent School observed World AIDS Day on December 2, 2024, emphasizing compassion, inclusion, and awareness. Students delivered insightful speeches and participated in a moving dance performance that depicted the journey of individuals living with HIV. A skit addressed common misconceptions about HIV/AIDS, fostering understanding and promoting action.

Wearing red ribbons, the school community demonstrated solidarity and pledged to fight stigma and strive for an AIDS-free future. This event, guided by the vision of Sister Maria Swati, reinforced the belief that education is the most powerful tool for positive change.



Bhartiya Bhasha Utsav Celebration

From December 4th to 10th, 2024, we celebrated Bhartiya Bhasha Utsav, honouring the birth anniversary of Mahakavi Subramania Bharati. Themed "Unity through Languages," the week-long celebration showcased India's linguistic diversity through various engaging activities. Students from Classes 1 to 11 enthusiastically participated in poetry recitations, storytelling sessions, spelling bees, tongue twister competitions, and a vibrant fancy dress competition. The festivities instilled a deep pride in rich heritage and strengthened the unity among the young Carmelites.

Celebrating All Abilities: Human Rights Day

On December 10th, 2024 Carmel commemorated Human Rights Day in conjunction with Disability Day, under the theme "Our Rights, Our Future." The festivities commenced with a prayer dance and service, followed by a moving skit focused on disability awareness. A lively cultural program featured a variety of talents, including performances highlighting Dogri culture. The school community reaffirmed its dedication to upholding human rights, reflecting Carmel's commitment to inclusivity and the pursuit of a just society.



Battle of the Bands: Inter-School Showdown!



On December 7th, 2024, The School Band proudly participated in the Inter-School Band Competition organized by the Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar Education Society. Held at St. Peter's School, Karan Bagh, the competition culminated in an exciting Annual Awards ceremony. The young girls captivated the audience with their remarkable timing, rhythm, and synchronization skills. Demonstrating remarkable teamwork and a true sense of unity, the Carmel Band delivered a powerful performance that was highly praised by all and achieved an outstanding 2nd Place in the competition!

Carmel Shines at Q?riosity Quiz

Carmel student Subhaika Charak achieved a remarkable feat by reaching the semi-finals of the Q?riosity Quiz, a challenging inter-school competition. Competing against thousands of students, she showcased exceptional academic talent. This achievement garnered recognition for Subhaika and Carmel Convent School, inspiring other students to strive for excellence.



Carmel Choir Crowned Carol Champions

15th of December 2024: The melodious voices of Carmel Convent School resonated with triumph at the Inter-School Carol Singing Competition held at St. Mary's Garrison Church, Gandhi Nagar. The team, consisting of 13 talented students and three teachers brought glory to the school by securing the coveted First Prize amidst stiff competition. The performance embodied Carmel's values of excellence, teamwork, and passion. At Carmel, we are committed to nurturing the gifts that uplift the soul and promote unity. This achievement reflects the harmonious blend of talent, dedication, and faith that embodies our ethos. As we celebrate this success, we are reminded of our school motto: "Belief Enhances Life." Indeed, it was this belief that transformed melodies into a moment of triumph.



Transforming Classroom Dynamics

On December 14, 2024, An Effective Classroom Management workshop for educators by Johana Fernandez, a respected education expert known for her effective classroom strategies. The session offered practical advice on creating engaging and well-managed learning environments. Through insightful discussions and hands-on exercises, teachers gained valuable insights into fostering student engagement and developing a positive classroom dynamic.



Tackling E-Waste: A Workshop on Sustainability

On December 21 2024, students from Grades 8 and 9 participated in a workshop on "Dry and E-Waste Management" by Mr. Rahul Gupta from VRG Group. Through engaging short films, students learned about the benefits of recycling biodegradable waste and the harmful effects of hazardous waste. Inspired by the workshop, students pledged to take responsibility for environmental protection. They recognized that even small, mindful actions can help create a safe and healthy environment for everyone.



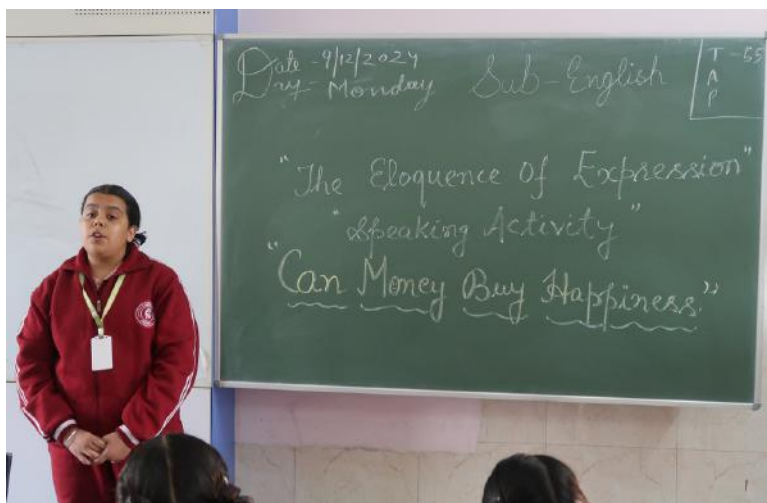
Investing in Leadership

Carmel Convent School held its Investiture and Handing over Ceremony on December 3, 2024, marking the transition of leadership for 2025. Rev. Fr. Shaiju Chacko and Rev. Fr. Senoj Thomas graced the event, emphasizing the importance of responsibility and leadership. The outgoing cabinet, led by Ms. Subhaika Charak and Ms. Mayila Javed, handed over their roles to the newly elected team, headed by Ms. Muskan Khajuria and Ms. Harleen Kour, chosen through democratic voting on 20th November 2024. The ceremony featured a prayer dance, a march past, and the conferring of badges and sashes. Ms. Muskan Khajuria led her team in taking the oath, pledging to uphold the school motto, "Belief Enhances Life." Rev. Fr. Shaiju Chacko inspired the audience with his speech, and the event concluded with congratulations from the outgoing leaders, celebrating young leaders.



Money vs. Happiness: A Speaking Challenge

As part of the theme "Eloquence of Expression," Grade 9 students at Carmel engaged in a debate on the age-old question: "Can Money Buy Happiness?" Students presented compelling arguments, examining the role of money in providing comfort and opportunities while also highlighting the significance of intangible factors such as relationships and inner peace.



Balloons and Science: Unveiling 'Air Occupies Space'

Class 1 A and B students had an exciting outdoor session on the playground during their zero period, exploring the concept of "Air Occupies Space." Through a fun balloon activity, they observed how air changes the shape of a balloon, deepening their understanding of this fundamental concept. After inflating their balloons, they enjoyed playful moments before responsibly disposing of the residues. This hands-on activity blended learning with fun, leaving the students curious and inspired.

Making a Difference Together

Carmel Convent School recently celebrated Social Service Week from 9th - 14th December 2024 with a mission to spread joy and foster social responsibility. Students organized a collection drive for food, clothing, and personal care items distributed to various centres, including Mandal, Akhnoor Old Age Home, and families in need within the Bakshi Nagar area. The highlight of the week was a Christmas-themed canteen that brought festive cheer while raising funds for charity. This initiative not only spread joy to the beneficiaries but also fostered empathy, teamwork, and leadership skills among the students. The week showcased Carmel's commitment to community service, making a meaningful impact and promoting the spirit of giving and togetherness.



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A Celebration of Creativity and Compassion:

On December 17th, Carmel was transformed into a winter wonderland as the Yellow House organized festive activities. From twinkling stars crafted by our youngest learners to beautifully decorated Christmas trees, the spirit of Christmas filled every corner. Students embraced creativity, teamwork, and the true meaning of the season through engaging activities aligned with the SDGs. "Christmas waves a magic wand over the world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful."



A Christmas to Remember: Celebrating with Joy!

On 23rd December, Carmel Convent School radiated with festive cheer as it celebrated Christmas with grandeur and joy. The occasion was honoured by the presence of Chief Guest Fr. Santosh, Procurator of the Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar Society, accompanied by distinguished guests including Fr. Chacko, Fr. Senoj, Fr. Roshan, Fr. Suhail, Fr. Ohma, and Fr. Cornelius. The celebration commenced with a warm welcome and a vibrant welcome dance by Grade 1AB students. The ceremonial lighting of the candle, symbolizing hope and peace, set the tone for the event. The program unfolded with a heartfelt Christmas play and enchanting carol performances of classics like Silent Night, The First Noel, and O Come, All Ye Faithful. The audience was thrilled by a showcase of cultural diversity, which included a graceful Gujarati dance and a lively Bhangra performance. Pre-primary students enchanted everyone with their wishing dance, while senior students captivated the audience with spirited renditions of "Mary, Did You Know?" and "Mary's Boy Child." The celebration concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks, capturing the true essence of Christmas: joy, love, and unity.

