

DSTF JAZZ GB 2013-2014



THE G.B.B. HOSTEL
KAITAN PEREIRA, 9TH STD.

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PREFACE



A couple of days ago, a companion of mine was sharing with me about his lovely past journey and he summarized his entire life with an inspiring adage; "I was born in the G.B.B. family to live and not born to die". I came across a similar kind of an experience which was penned down by some other ex-student of G.B.B. He says, "As Christmas brings hope to all mankind, similarly G.B.B. has enkindled the ray of hope in my life. The dream of living a life of virtue and dignity is accomplished when we live for God and for others". Gnanmatha Bal Bhavan which came into existence is nestled in the heart of Camp, Belgaum. It has spread its lap to be another mother next to the biological one. The aim of the hostel is spelt out very well in its crest which reads: 'MEN FOR OTHERS'. In the process of realizing this dream, it had to alter some of its original way of functioning. Yet the dream remains alive till today.

I am privileged to be the part of this dream to nurture. One may begin to wonder as to what sort of a dream this is all about. G.B.B. cradles as many as 74 young lads every year and nurtures them. In the present scenario this house moulds the young minds and hearts from the vicinity. Believe me or not these young lads enter this house as early as when they are 4 years old and step out as ready to face the life ahead. This house builds pillars for the future society.

It gives me immense pleasure to express my deepest feeling that I am being formed as well and gives me a chance to try out my hand in forming the boys. Yes it demands many sacrifices from both sides. In this process the seed of the inner self germinates slowly and grows into a big tree, taking education as its root, physical health as its trunk, skills as its branches, virtues as its leaves, character as its flowers, and the polished personality as its fruit.

Thus the tree is known by its fruits.

Our vision is to cater to the catholic boys, primarily from the villages around Belgaum. Here students are educated and formed from Kindergarten to S.S.L.C.

Not only academics but our goal is to guide them thereafter in their progressive wholistic development. Thus this vision is kept going by creating a conducive environment, social and leadership formation along with physical and other skill based training. This magazine has attempted to give an opportunity to these tiny writers to tease their minds and display their creative skills. It is not so easy to keep this fire burning without our generous collaborators and benefactors both nationally and internationally. It is their generosity which fans the spark of vision into a huge flame to engulf the challenges of life. I extend my gratitude to all those who shoulder the same vision. I also expression by deepest gratitude to my Jesuit colleagues, who directly

and indirectly share the same fire and fuel it by their commitment. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Thomas Rensmann, and Mr. Friedrich Braumann. Under their able guidance this magazine has taken birth.

I appeal to all the readers to read and appreciate and encourage these little writers. Who knows by your encouragement one day they may turn into full fledged authors of works. Thus I ask our collaborators with the lay partners, we shall encourage our G.B.B. members to strive for the 'MAGIS' i.e., 'THE MORE' in all things, especially in being MEN FOR OTHERS to serve wherever they go for the GREATER GLORY OF GOD.

Sch. Sebastian Pereira S.J.

MESSAGE



GBB has over the years catered to several batches of students. It has met the primary intention of educating rural youth and giving them a fresh start in life. Many are well placed in career positions and social standing. Economically too one can see a definite upliftment of those who have spent a major chunk of their young lives in the boarding.

Credit should go to Fr. Agnel Pinto to the then Principal and the late Fr. Jerry Rodrigues who was the District superior at that point of time. The regular hostel was closed down. Both of these stalwarts one of the academic world and the other of the Pastoral mould launched the present set up with the definite purpose of letting our rural based boys do better in life.

There has been a stream of directors and regents down the line after this fresh start. Each has contributed magnificently to bringing the boys to a new level of functioning. Studies, sports

and games, learnt responsibilities with the boys being in charge of various activities, were paid attention to. The spiritual and creative aspects were encouraged in various ways by enterprising and dedicated regents. A special mention should be made of Br. Paschal who was long time Director. He gave of himself in the care of the boarders. Br. Paschal was the one who built the current refectory attached to the boarding premises.

I have noticed each regent brings his own special brand of formation in different areas of growth. Consistent are the fun games, musical items and other entertainment programs put up. The focus has been on the all round development of the boys. A source of pride is that a good number of the school band is boarders. There are a number of boarders too in the school football team these last few years. A few have joined the Society of Jesus and are young promising Jesuits. Some have reached

priesthood and are in positions of responsibility. There is one ex boarder who is in the initial stage of formation as a pre-novice.

A special acknowledgement has to be made of those who make all this happen. Our benefactors, both from abroad and local, have been instrumental in making it possible to run the boarding year after year. The interest and concern shown has not been just financial but an active follow up of each boarder by way of regular information, and even personal visits to the boarding by our generous benefactors. May the Lord bless them for their generosity and goodness of heart.

An interesting development is the volunteer services of youth from Germany to actively and whole heartedly get involved in the routine running of the boarding and conducting various activities. In fact this magazine is the brain child of the regent Seby, Tom and Friedrich. Last year the volunteer was Lynn. This was a wonderful happening with lots of interesting things happening by way of example, all round supervision of the boys and the active promotion of activities.

The boys show promise. May the efforts of all those contributing in so many ways be blessed.



Fr. Alban D'Souza S.J.

HISTORY

The Hostel was started in 1968. It was originally meant for the rich boys who could afford to pay high fees. But in 1977 the Jesuits fathers decided that they would like to give a chance to the poor boys to study in a Jesuit English medium school and also live in the hostel. When the orientation of the Hostel was changed, they named it Gnanmata Bal Bhavan (G.B.B.).

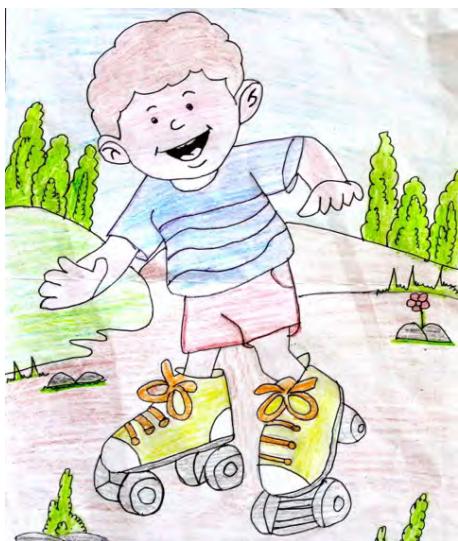
Now we boys from the villages around Belgaum and Khanapur benefit a lot from the hostel. We are being taught many values during our stay in the Hostel. We are supported in developing our skills. We are also encouraged and given opportunity to take part in various programs. We are also provided with many facilities that we would not have in our villages.

The values that the hostel gives us are spiritual values, moral values, skill formation and leadership formation. The hostel was and is a home to many boys who

once upon a time were from small villages and are now working in big companies, offices and are doing well in various parts of the world.

I would like to thank the Jesuits for giving us an opportunity to do well and come up in life. Thank you to all the benefactors, who sacrifice so much to see us grow.

Melvin D'souza, 9th Std.



Sylvester D'souza, 6th Std.

ORDINARY DAY

We, the GBB Family, want to introduce you to our hostel life.

We are 73 boys and are looked after by Br. Sebastian, who lives with us and guides us through this academic year.

This is how we spend a normal school-day in our hostel.

At 5:45 music slowly wake us up.

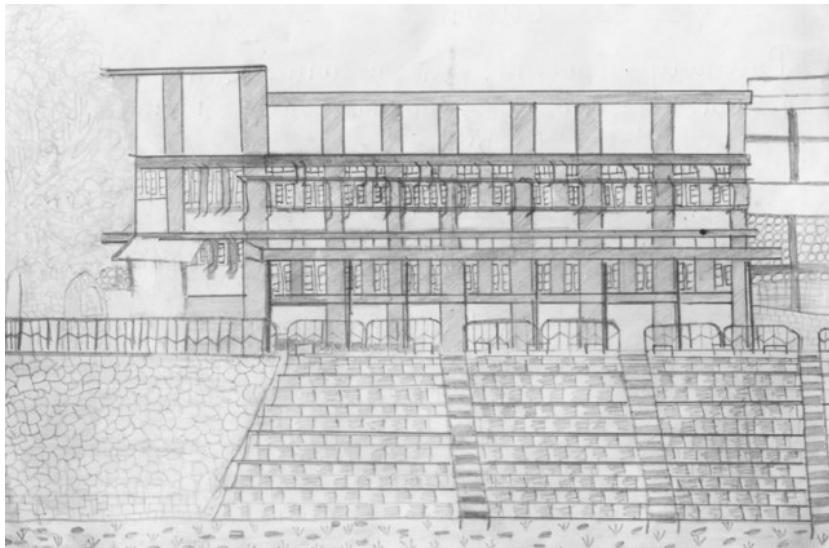
Our day begins with a morning prayer, which is alternatively followed by mass or jogging outside. Afterwards we get 30 min to pre-

pare for our upcoming school day. Before we can go for breakfast, we all together make sure that our home is clean and tidy.

Our food is prepared by two "Manas" who always prepare a good and healthy meal for us.

To make sure that everyone, especially the little boys, are properly dressed for school, we have a hostel-assembly just before the school bell.

After an exhausting school day, we return to the hostel to have



John Dias, 8th Std.

afternoon tea followed by our favorite time of the day:

Games time.

Given that our youngest hostellites are only 4 years old, we have two more "*Manas*" who help and are like a second mother to them.

The sound of the bell, signals us that it is time to come back inside to have a wash.

After having run around and a good wash, we are ready to begin our daily studies. We have two sessions of studies of 40 minute with a 20 minute break in between. We use this time to prepare for the following school day and for upcoming exams.

At 7:15 p.m. we pray the rosary

and all together go for supper.

Then we get some free time which we use to either play board games or to discuss important topics as a group.

The older boys have a final 25 minutes of studies before watching the news. In that time our smaller boys get ready for bed and go to sleep at 9:00 p.m.

Before going to bed we recall our day to become aware of the good but also the not so good experiences that we had.

We get some personal time that we can use for reading or finishing our studies.

After an exhausting day we switch off the lights at 10:00 p.m.

Tom & Friedrich

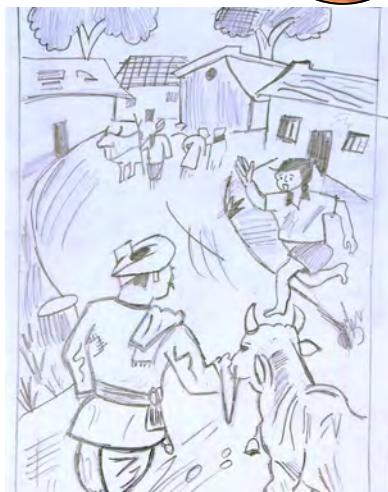




VILLAGE LIFE

I am from a small village called Navga, in Khanapur Taluka. I enjoy doing many things in my village. Firstly I like going to the fields, watching the birds flying here and there and singing in the fresh air. I love playing different games with my friends. Compared to the hostel, we live in freedom here. Almost every house in my village has a garden. It might be in the front or at the rear. Seeing it we can come to know whether people are interested in nature or not.

We celebrate feasts in a grand way. There is a lot of dancing, singing, etc. I am the only son in



Justin Mascarenhas, 8th Std.

my family so I have to take care of my mother and sister whenever my father is not at home. I like going to the fields and helping my parents. There is unity in our village. People of all religions are united and support each other in the different works they do. Sometimes there are fights but after some time they get united again.

That is why I can say: "Village life is the best!"



Steven, Stephan (both UKG)

Xavier Souz, 6th Std.

TOM AND FREDDY



When brother Sebastian told us that two volunteers from Germany were coming, we were all very excited. Their names are Tom and Friedrich. They finished their 12th Std. at a Jesuit school in Bonn, the Aloisiuskolleg. They are 18 and 19 years old and joined us on 29th August. Tom is leaving us on the 18th of December, but Friedrich will stay till June 2014. We have lots of fun and love playing with them, cracking jokes and laughing. They are here for

an experience before going to the university.

We enjoy having them with us. They conduct various activities, dances, singing, games, etc. Tom is good at football and Friedrich loves to play the violoncello. We are happy and enjoy our hostel life with them.

Kushal Carvalho, 8th Std.



Freddy and Tom in Desur



GOA RETREAT

We, 33 students, Tom, Friedrich and Br. Sebastian left Belgaum at 7:30 am and reached Goa within a few hours. Our journey led us through the Anmod Ghats where we enjoyed the beautiful view and took some nice snaps.

Our retreat was conducted in the Old Goa Retreat House located next to the Bom Jesu Basilica. Before starting our retreat we shared our food we had brought from home. After finishing our lunch we were free for two hours to look around the churches. Over the next few days we were taught how to find God in our daily work and how to focus on the important things. Therefore we used to pray, meditate and sing spiritu-



al songs. Every day we would recite the rosary. We also had a special mass that dealt with our 10th Std. exams. Before leaving for Miramar in Panjim we had the opportunity to share our inner most thoughts and feelings with Br. John and Fr. Shannon. In Miramar, we stayed at Loyola Hall, a place where pre-novices live. We walked along the beautiful Miramar beach and next headed for the Donna Paula. There we enjoyed a scenic view of the Goan coastline. The next morning we only had time for breakfast before waving goodbye to Gabriel, an ex-hostelite and the other pre-novices staying at Loyola Hall. We hopped onto the bus and got back to Belgaum.



Austin Pais, 9th Std.

Milton Almeida, 10th Std.

HOSTEL LOVE



My name is James D'souza and I am 13 years old. I am from a small village called Bokmur. My mother's name is Sobiry and my father's is Vijay. I have one sister. My hobbies are playing the drums and singing. After having finished my studies, I want to become a priest. Our church name is "Mount Carmel". I like the hostel from the day I came here. Br. Sebastian is the regent at the moment. And however strict he is, he is always kind. For that we should always remember to thank

him and we should not only think about ourselves, but also about others. If you were a hostel brother, you would know how difficult it is. I will never forget my days in the hostel. The fathers are always kind to me and the maids are like a second mother to me. I love this hostel and I am very privileged to be here.

James D'souza, 6th Std.



MANAS

Who is a *Mana*? (Literally in Konkani it means 'elder sister')

A *Mana* is a person who takes care and loves others. At present we have four *Manas* here in our hostel. Their names are Eliza, Magdaline, Meenaxi and Nigamma, but we just call her Kannada *Mana* as she feels comfortable being called by that.



Eliza Mana with her daughter Supria

Magdu Mana works in the kitchen. She has been serving and living in this hostel for the last 27 years. She has spent most of her life serving the hostel. Her selfless service is really amazing. Her life and work is an example to us.



Eliza Mana started working in the hostel a few years ago and we really like her. She works along with Magdaline in the kitchen but also takes care of the UKG and LGK boys when their teacher is not there. As she is a very spiritual person, she goes for mass and prayer service regularly, sometimes even more often than we go. **Nigamma** and **Meenaxi** come early in the morning, wash the clothes of the KG students, help clean the hostel and leave after giving the small boys a bath in the afternoon.

I would love to conclude by saying a BIG THANK YOU to our *Manas* for working for us in our hostel.



Magdu Mana

Thank you.

*Harsh Redkar,
9th Std.*

RETURN



On the last day of our exams of the second semester and we leave the hostel full of joy and excitement to go home. We say "Happy Holidays" to our classmates and all other friends of the school and the hostel. The 10th standard boys have to stay longer for their final board exams. They are studying hard. After some days the boys of 1st to the 9th standard boys have their report day. This is the day when we get to know our results of the second semester. Some of us are really afraid to see whether they have failed or passed.

During our vacation in the months of April and May we all enjoy as we go to different places, playing and eating different food. When we return to the hostel we all are sad that the holidays got over so fast. Some smaller boys do not understand why they have to leave their parents and come back to the hostel. Still we are excited to share our holiday experiences with the other hostel boys.

As soon as school re-opens we all are happy to meet our classmates and friends.

Rohan Dias, 7th Std.



Nelson Bardeskar, 7th Std.



FRIEDRICH

Before telling you about my first impression and experience in the hostel and with the boys, I would like to introduce myself briefly:

My name is Friedrich Braumann. I am 18 years old, just two years elder than the boys and I come from Germany, where I've just finished my 12th standard, what would be equal to P.U.C. (Pre University College) here in India.

I came here to help out with the boys in school and in the hostel, all in all to get a whole new experience of what is life here. I have been staying in the hostel now for a little more than three



months and so far, I have to say, I am impressed, by the boys and by the country in general.

All is so different; India seems crowded, loud, sometimes unorderly to me. Just crossing the road and hearing the cars honking, was more adventures to me than you can imagine. I think, after the first few weeks I got adjusted, used to the difference. I love the pleasant weather and especially the food ("chapatis, dal, biryani"). The *manas* are really doing a great job, cooking for the boys in the hostel.

But now a little more about the boys: I've already said that I am impressed. To me it seems like every one of them is really giving his own, personal best. Although the hostel can't be anymore than, as brother Sebastian once said, a launching pad for their future life, the majority of the boys seems to seize this opportunity.

In comparison to the day scholars their English is outstanding. Their daily routine seems tough.

Getting up at 5.45 was all but easy for me in the beginning, especially considering that one has studies till 10.30 the previous night. Having in mind that some of the kindergarten boys are just five years old and stay away from home for such a long time, I really have to raise my hat off to all of them.

Of course there are some incidents happening from time to time, but this is what keeps life in the hostel interesting and without incidents, Sebastian, Tom and I wouldn't be needed.

The unity between the hostel boys is another fact what immediately attracted my attention. The way they stay together in the



school hallways, the way ten and sixth standard boys sit together on their beds in the break times - in my opinion one cannot take this for granted. The Hostel is a big family, our sweet home as the boys call it, and I have to thank all of you for welcoming us so warm.



Thank you boys, thank you fathers.

Friedrich Braumann



MOTHER'S LOVE

What do you feel when you hear the word mother? – Yes, it's love!

A mother is mostly known for her unconditional love, and my dear readers it is not only love, but also her selfless sacrifice that every mother makes. I really think that as long as the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, there will be no mother on earth who would forget her children even though the children might forget their mother. Because it is said that God cannot be with eve-

ryone and everywhere at the same time, he created and blessed each one of us with a loving mother.

She took care of us when we were young. She set silent tears when we were in trouble but also enjoys the nice times together with us. A mother is to each one of us the most important person on earth. She understands you better than anyone else. If she corrects you, it is for your own good. That is why you should respect her.

Always keep your mother, father and the rest of your family in your prayers and ask God to guide them and bless them, so that you all may be united and stay together.



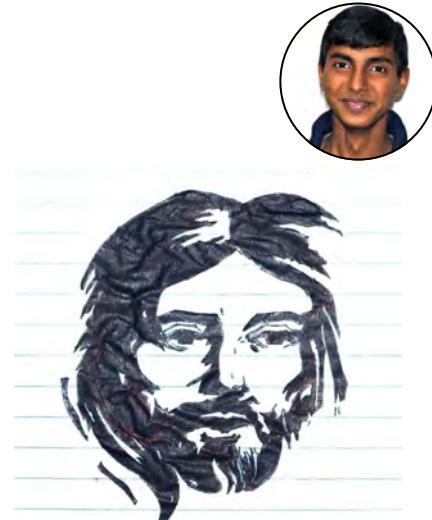
Justin Mascarenhas, 8th Std.

Justin Minin Mascarenhas, 8th Std.

FOOT STEPS

Once, when I was asleep, I heard God calling me to follow his footsteps. Then suddenly I woke up and started walking - step by step. I was afraid of walking but yet I had faith in God and I kept on walking with full trust. I was wondering whether the way was good or bad.

Until today I never walked alone as I have my Lord by my side. I know that God will lead me through whatever happens although I don't know what is in store for me. It is God's plan, the one who always guides me and holds my hands. I don't fear be-



Stanley Pinto, 9th Std.

cause God is with me. If God is with me who can be against me?

So I thank him for walking with me and leading me today, always and till the end of my life.

Thank you Lord.



Anil D'souza, 9th Std

Milton Almeida, 10th Std.



THREE BROTHERS

Br. Joel, Br. Savio and Br. Rahul are in the Xavier Trainy College. They come usually on Saturdays around 4 o'clock, stay overnight and leave on Sunday afternoon. When they are around they are really a great help to us. We co-operate with them while doing any activity.

They help us with our studies as well. Br. Joel and Br. Savio teach us mathematics, whereas Br. Joel mainly focuses on the little boys. Br Savio helps only the 10th Std. boys. Br. Rahul helps us in every



Br. Joel

subject we need help in.

On the 13th October, boys from the 6th to 10th Std went to Desur for a football match against the Brothers there. The only goal was shot by Sebastian in the first half of the game. Thus the hostelites won the match. We had a really good time in Desur. In the break time of the game we had snacks and drinks and afterwards we had some time to roam in the campus.

I would like to thank the Brothers for being such a great help to us with our studies on the weekends and for giving us the opportunity to have a nice trip to Desur and play the match.

Thank you, we shall always keep you in our prayers.

Ronnie Dalmet, 7th Std.

HOSTEL BOY



My name is Richard Fernandes. I study in the 6th Std and live in the hostel. My father's name is Mariyan and my mother's name is Elizabeth. We live in Goa in a village named Varca near Margao. I have one brother and two sisters. My parents are farmers on our big farm. My sisters are teachers and my brother wants to become a priest. He stays in Panjim in the pre-novitiate.



Sebastian Pereira, 1st Std.

My hobbies are riding the bicycle, playing with my toys and playing football with my friends. I love to joke and to tell stories too.

Richard Fernandes, 6th Std.

COMMUNITY DAYS



On the community days the whole hostel comes together to play games. We enjoy those days very much.

In the morning we are allowed to wake up a little later and we have a good breakfast. Then we get ready for the upcoming activities. We play different games like throwing balls in a bucket and bursting balloons. We all try to do our best to collect as many points as possible for our group. In the evening we have a quiz followed by a good meal. Then we watch a nice movie and rest for the next day.



The second day we play games like football or cricket. We have mass in the evening and offer our good will to God. Then we have speeches and dinner.

After that we get together and wait for the results of which group scored the most points and get rewarded with prizes. We always enjoy these two great days.



Stallion Fernandes, 6th Std.



YOUNG AGAIN

When I'm tired and need to de-stress, there's a place I like to visit - the Hostel! Although I would like to play with the boys daily, our schedules differ and on rare occasions, I am fortunate to spend a little time with them. What a joy to have the little ones jump around and play their "masti" (mischief).

Over the last 10 years, I have watched these little boys grow into young men, flying from this secure nest into the big wonderful world outside. This hostel has given them wings to fly - with ample opportunities to study, play, act, sing, perform - and to grow in wisdom and maturity.



I was very happy when Tom and Friedrich (now re-christened Freddy in India) volunteered to come down and work in India. Their work in the hostel has been a blessing and a motivating factor to the little hostellites. The hostel work carries on over the years thanks to the selfless, tireless dedicated work of the Jesuit brothers (Regents), teachers and the maids (manas). And the boys are grateful - they come back after getting jobs and proudly narrate how well they are doing today, although once upon a time, they contributed their share of the masti in the hostel!



Fr. Roland Coelho S.J:











REFLECTION

I call Gnanmata Bal Bhavan hostel a home away from home. It's a place for all round formation. Boys coming from villages with different backgrounds living harmoniously within a span of time. Tiny little kids just 4 years old all set with a small trunk and things required for their needs to stay in the hostel. They are here for twelve years. It's a miracle to see these little boys getting acclimatized with the new surroundings, new friends and new place of learning. Their zeal to learn English is to hear their complains

which they voice out in English. My experience over here in St. Paul's with the hostel boys is very warm, loving and learning. They teach a lot to me through their lives. They have been always obedient, God fearing, respectful wanting to help others and to live as brothers.

Hostel functions because of the generosity of the well wishers, our benefactors, Parents and of course the co-operation and collaboration of our lay collaborators. The life in the hostel teaches the boys to be responsible by fol-



lowing set of time table. Time for Prayer, Eucharist, Study, Games etc. The different activities held in the hostel like value based games, seminar on personality development, community days, various competitions, help these hostel boys to discover their talents and win Gold, Silver and Bronze medals as well as shields and certificates. Surely it's a joy and pride to see our hostel boys doing extremely well, in the field of sports as well as academics. Their talent is well appreciated by all in school in playing the musical instruments in the school Brass Band.

Gnan mata Balbhavan is a house of simple living and high thinking



Matthew Pereira, 1st Std



in a way forming men for others. Surely these boys will always offer their prayer for the well being of all of you who are reading the articles and experiences of the boys. Dear readers may you be inspired and blessed to visit these boys and be a part of G.B.B. Family. May the Motto of the Jesuits to make these boys " MEN FOR OTHERS " be fulfilled.

God Bless Us All.

*Fr. Mathew Bardeskar S.J.
{Motiram}*

JOINT BIRTHDAYS



Fr. Roland, Fr. Mathew and Fr. Rego have their birthdays close together, so we decided to have a joint birthday celebration for them. We planned to put up a program, had many rehearsals and were all very excited. Then finally the day came and we did some last minute preparations. Some of us prepared a group dance, others decided to sing for the audience. Our little boys recited some short nursery rhymes.

The Kindergarten boys began the program with a short prayer. Then we had the group singing, group dancing and some individual dances. After our band-boys played happy birthday we invited the guests onto the stage for the traditional cake cutting. Fr. Roland and Fr. Mathew enjoyed watching our event and even danced along with us to the final song.

Milton Fernandes, 6th Std.



Sch. Heskias, Tom, Freddy, Fr. Roland, Fr. Rego, Fr. Mathew



FOOTBALL

Football plays a big role in the hostel. Every day we all play together. Some of us hostel boys were selected to play for the school team in various tournaments.

The first tournament of the year, the "Roycetan Gomes Memorial Tournament" is an under 14 tournament. In this tournament all the teams from Belgaum participated. After several well played games, we reached the finals and faced Islamiya School. Unfortunately we lost the final by a single goal.

"Father Eddie Memorial Tournament" is another tournament organized every year by St. Paul's

on the ground in front of the hostel. It is for Under-17s. Four of our hostelites were part of the team. Rohan, Cyril, Austin and Sebastian. They played with great sportsman spirit. In the finals St. Pauls played against M.V.M and thumpingly won 5:0 and in the process, set a new record. Cyril was adjudged as the best player of the tournament.

Finally there was the "Darshan Trophy", another under 17-Tournament that we won. In the finals we beat Sarvodaya 2:1 and this time Rohan was rewarded the best player.

We are proud to have G.B.B hostelites in the school teams.



Justin Mascarenhas, 8th Std.

Vishal Souz, 7th Std.



NATURE

"Hello there, it's Mr. Nature speaking. Do you know that I am angry with you? Do you know the things you are doing to me? Let me tell you. Now I am feeling very ill as I have difficulties to breathe. With polluted poisonous water for drinking, forests cut down and temperatures increasing, I do not think I will be able to live for long. In these conditions I won't be present forever. Do you want this? – I do not think so. You should better start planting trees and reduce the smoke from factories and vehicles, recycle

paper and stop dumping chemicals into my veins. You should use wind and water as sources for energy.

If you do this, you will keep me happy and healthy environment and I can go on living with you and the next generations to come."

Nelson Bardeskar, 7th Std.



Rosario Pereira, 6th Std.

WHAT IS A TEACHER?



A teacher is someone who teaches you the best and finest values of life.

A teacher is someone who encourages you in everything that is best for you, especially your personal gifts and talents.

A teacher reminds you to be honest and truthful in every aspect and moment of your life.



Ronnie Dalmet, 7th Std.

A teacher makes you understand that friendship is more important and much ahead of power, wealth and fame.

A teacher is someone who helps you to find happiness in the simple things you do in life.

A teacher is someone who helps you to seize your day fully, with your whole heart, mind, body and soul.

Therefore, a teacher is an instrument in laying a foundation of what you become in life...., although the best teacher might be your own experience.

Cyril Lobo, 10th Std.

DELHI



After playing many tournaments for the school, I was selected to represent Karnataka and Goa at the National Games in Delhi. It was a golden opportunity that players were selected from St. Paul's High School.

The journey was long, but enjoyable. All in all we travelled 4 days in the train and 2 days in the bus. This was the first time I was travelling so far. The military officers looked after us. Therefore we had a tough daily program: Waking up at 5:30, breakfast at 8:00, lunch at 12:00 and dinner at 9:00. I learnt to be punctual and disciplined, as we do in the hostel

I enjoyed the games, the people and the spirit of sportsmanship. We had great fun together. At meals time, all came together. It was exciting moment to experience different aspects of the Indian culture, represented by the states all at one place. Different languages, clothing, habits, cultures yet one nation.

At the closing ceremony, Army

officers displayed their skills on bikes and with helicopters. It was amazing to see their skills. It was a wonderful experience representing Karnataka and Goa and on our way home we visited Wonderla waterpark in Bangalore and had a great time there. I even got the chance to see Akshay Kumar, a famous Indian Bollywood actor.

Totally, I spent 15 days in Delhi. On this trip I learned many things for life and will never forget them. I will remember this experience my whole life.

Austin Pais, 9th Std.



Austin Pais, 9th Std.



OLIVER TWIST

Mrs. Cassandra, a teacher from Goa offered us to do a skit on Oliver Twist in the school. She gives us hostelboys the chance to play the main characters. So, more than 15 persons are played by us boys, including Oliver. We have lots of practices and are planning to have the performance on the hostel's Christmas celebration. This is the story of Oliver:

Oliver is an orphan living near London in England. A man takes him into his workhouse, where they get only one meal a day. One day the orphans decide, that Oliver has to ask for more food. They kick Oliver out of the orphanage and bring him to a coffin maker. There is a fight between Oliver and his assistant. Oliver

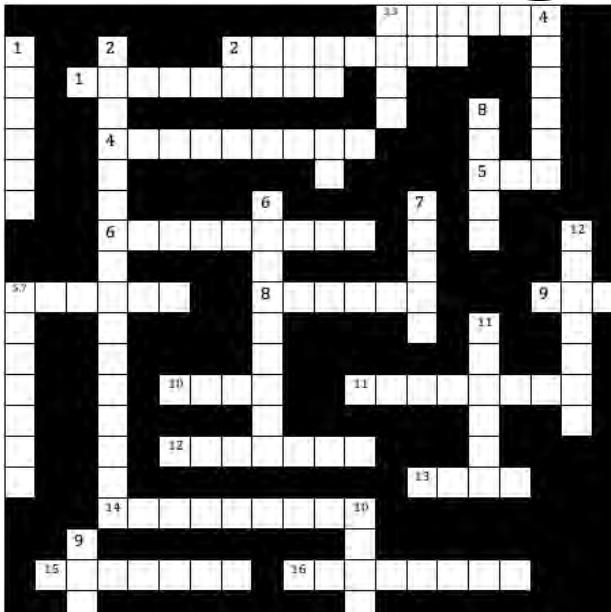
flees to London. The 'Artful Dodger' finds him and gives him something to eat. Dodger brings Oliver to his house and shows him his friends. In fact they are all thieves, led and trained by Fagin. Oliver accompanies some of the boys in stealing a handkerchief from a bookseller called Mr. Brownlow. Oliver gets caught, although he didn't steal anything. Luckily the owner of bookshop remembers the boy's faces. He brings him to his house to take care of him. Dodger sees Oliver delivering books for Mr. Brownlow. He kidnaps him and takes him back to the thieves. They bring him to Bill Sikes, the head of the gang. The only one who helps him is Nancy, Bill's wife. She goes to Mr. Brownlow to tell him everything about Oliver. Bill gets to know and kills her, but Mr. Brownlow is able to open a case through the London police and they catch the thief gang. Oliver lives a happy life with Mr. Brownlow till the end of his days.



Cassandra explaining the play

Kevin Fernandes, 5th Std.

RIDDLES & JOKES



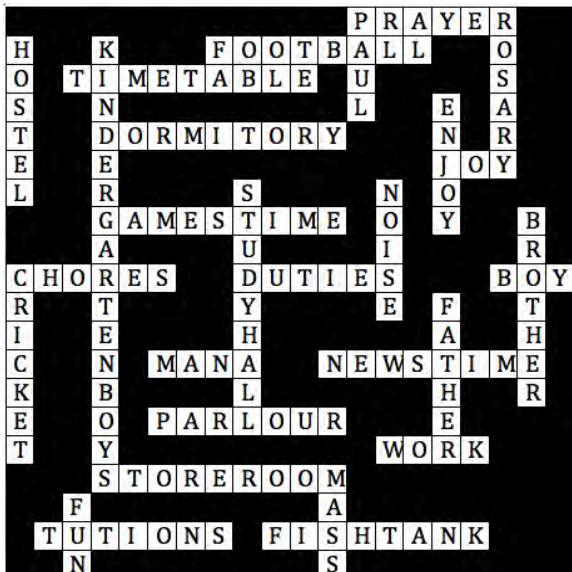
Vertical:

1. We call it „sweet home“
2. Our smallest family members.
3. Patron of our school.
4. We say it daily in the evening.
5. After football our favorite game
6. More than 2 hours a day we spend here.
7. Except for in studytme all of the boys make it.
8. All of us do it.
9. All of us have it.
10. Every Sunday we go.
11. Our spiritual guides.
12. Taking care of us in the „sweet home“

Horizontal:

1. Every boy has to follow it.
2. Favorite game of the boys.
3. Speaking to god.
4. We sleep here.
5. We are filled with....
6. Favorite time of the day.
7. Hated, but needed.
8. Appointed jobs.
9. We are still...
10. Not only here to cook the food.
11. We get to know what's going on.
12. Place to read the newspaper
13. Chores=
14. Were we keep our stock.
15. Extra classes some boys have to take.
16. Our little animal friends live here.

... SOLUTION



Riddles:

1. I have a trunk and many hands. Who am I?
2. What runs, but never walks, often murmurs but never talks and has a bed but never sleeps?
3. The more you have of me the less you can see.

Valentine Pereira, 9th Std.

Solution:

1. Tree 2. River 3. Darkness

Teacher: "How many of you want to go to heaven?"

All put their hands up except for Freddy.

Teacher: "Freddy, don't you want to go to heaven?"

Freddy: "Yes, miss, but Brother told me to go straight to hostel!"

Freddy Lobo, 7th Std.

Pat: "Swimming is an excellent exercise. It keeps you slim and is very good for the figure."

Mac: "Then, why are ducks short and fat?"

Marcelino Carvalho, 7th Std.



BOMBAY

Four of us hostel boys were selected to go to Bombay. It gave us an experience of life in the metropolitan city. The Bombay trip was sponsored and we were looked after by Mr. Leo, an ex-student of St. Paul's and a good friend of Fr. Roland, our principal.

We were accompanied by Br. Sebastian and our two friends from Germany, Tom and Freddy.

We traveled to Bombay by train. We had to catch two different trains. First a train was from Belgaum to Miraj. We reached Miraj 2 hours later. We had our dinner there at a small shop. Some of us had brought some food from

home and we all shared what we had. We got our next train at 8 p.m. from Miraj to Bombay. It was an exciting trip as it was a night journey and for some of us it was the first time traveling by train.

We reached Dadar, a busy station in Bombay at 6:30 a.m. on the 18th of October. Mr. Leo came to pick us up from the station. He welcomed us and took us to his house. We stayed the 3 days in his flat. We were happy to be in Bombay as it was our first time here. We visited many places.

We saw tall buildings, skyscrapers and many old buildings which were built by the British. I



Anil in front of the Taj Hotel, Mumbai

enjoyed seeing them, they were really wonderful. Bombay is a very crowded place but also a well maintained and developed place.

On the 19th of October we visited the Taj Hotel and the Gateway of India. While visiting different places in Bombay we were travelling by metro trains and it was a great experience for us. It was not easy to get into the metro trains as they were full most of the time. The train would only halt for 30 seconds at the station and in this limited time we had to get in and get off. But it was also fun and a life experience.

We also visited many churches and they were wonderful, most of them were also built by the British. The churches had beautiful architecture and beautiful carved saint statues. It was really nice to see all these beautiful churches.

On the last day of our stay in Bombay, we did some shopping for ourselves and then got on to a private luxury bus to leave Bombay and head back to Belgaum.

The Bombay trip was wonderful. Thank you, Mr. Leo for giving us the opportunity to experience life in Bombay.



Kaitan Pereira, 9th Std.

Kaitan, Milton, Anil, Tom, Br. Sebastian and Milton



SISTER'S LOVE

A sister is someone who loves you and fulfills your needs. Always she is the one who teaches you how to share, study, play, etc. She takes care of you when you are at home and at school. When you are not well she takes you to the doctor and gives you first aid.

I have one sister and I really love her from the bottom of my heart. She helps me wherever she can. She shows her gratitude by coming to meet me on "Parents day".



Kaitan Pereira, 9th Std.



Stallion Fernandes, 6th Std.

During the holidays she helps me out with my schoolwork. In the break times we play and have great fun together.

If I have any problem she is the one who listens to me. If I fall, she picks me up and helps me stop crying. But even more important is that she corrects me, too. If I am wrong, she helps me understand and teaches me to do the right things.

I really love my sister and she loves me too.

Prinson D'costa, 6th Std.

MUSIC



What is music? Why do we like music and why do we need it?

Music is an expression or an act of striving up emotions by harmonious combinations of sounds. Music is a language and makes effect on emotions, makes people cry or dance and makes repetitive work easier to bear. In general music is made from sounds, called notes, organized into patterns: melody, rhythm and harmony. It is a beautiful gift, given by our creator. That is the reason we call it a gift as we are born with it and our senses are able to co-ordinate with it. Even a newborn child responds to musical sounds.

It is medically proven that music relaxes the mind. It is one of the greatest tools with which we can express our feelings. The other therapeutic effects of music are that it can calm one down and relieve one from stress and disturbance. Music gives one comfort and solace when one is disappointed, depressed and exhaust-

ed. Music can also help one to concentrate and even improves memory power.

Therefore it is a beautiful gift from God, our creator. It can be a kind of a fulfillment to learn and play music for Him in adoration and worship. There are many different types of music that are sorted in genres. For example: Rock, pop, classical, metal, punk, folk and electronic.

Now I would like to share some of



Ronnie Dalmet, 7th Std.

my personal experiences with music. I joined the brass band when I was in the 6th standard. We have our own school brass band and we used to go for prac-

work, especially during the exam time. I thank God for giving me this beautiful talent.

I love music. Music is my life.



Kaitan Pereira, 9th Std.

tices from 7:30 to 8.30 in the mornings. There we learn how to play music. I used to play the trumpet. Usually we play for Sports Day and Passing Out Parade and during Christmas time we play Carols. Our bandmaster Mr. Bajantari, an ex-army man, teaches us.

I want to say that I love music and play music because it helps me to refresh my mind when I can think of nothing else than my school-

Wilson Fernandes, 10th Std.



Justin Mascarenhas, 8th Std.

NEW PRAYER ROOM



The new prayer room is wonderful. I have been waiting for it for a long time. When suddenly our Prefect, Br. Sebastian had a plan to make it a reality, my desire and wish came true. The prayer room is a small but silent place with a tabernacle and an altar. God is present here. Our brother planned to have mass every day, with a small group of us so that we can share our personal needs with God.

The room is very quiet and calm. The front facing wall has a beautiful cross on it. The door, which was given its original, natural look, is so wonderful that all the boys get tempted to enter. Once



Stanley Pinto, 9th Std.

inside the new soft carpet feels good and comfortable.

All of us feel good to pray in the new prayer room.



Sylvester D'souza, 6th Std.

Kevin Fernandes, 5th Std.



FRIENDS

I have good friends in the hostel. They are kind to me and also to the others. I entered the hostel when I was 4 years old. I really did not know who my classmates would be. I quickly got to know many boys in the hostel who would also be my classmates at school and we became friends. I tried to be good to all and they were really good to me.

Friendship in the hostel is better than normal friendship. Friends in the hostel are special because we live together and learn many things from each other. We pick up some good habits, discipline and good manners.

Normal friends just come and go. We cannot spend as much time with them. Hostel boys are always together throughout the day and night.

Friendship is very important in our life as they are like brothers and sisters to me. Without friends I could not live. I have many good friends in the hostel but sometimes we find and search the

wrong things in them.

But whatever happens I love my friends and they help me a lot. Whether they are big or small, young or old they are my friends.

I would like to thank my friends for all the times you have helped and supported me. May God bless all of you.

Rohan D'souza, 9th Std.



Austin Pais, 9th Std.



TWO GERMANS

Many times we have been asked: What are two Germans doing in India? Our answer would always be that we have come for experience. But not many would accept that answer. For many people that we have met over the past few months it was difficult to understand why two Germans would come to India on a voluntary basis.

But both of us are still confident that we have made a good decision not to go straight to univer-

sity but to take a break and spend some time in a different country, a different culture with different people.

The experiences we make every day are so valuable to us. Not only dealing with crying children and the problems 73 boys have living together in different ages. But also getting to know these boys who mainly have not had an easy childhood, is an experience that we probably would not have been able to make if we had gone to





university this year.

Not to forget that we are trying to help the boys and have the feeling that we are making a difference. We are not only trying to support the boys in their studies but also to influence the way they behave and hope that this might help them in their life at some point.

But we are only able to make these experiences because the Jesuits were willing take us up here. We have been looked after so well which made it very easy for us to adjust and enjoy our stay from day one.

So for us it is a privilege to spend so much time with the children. It will be very difficult for me to wave "good bye".

I hope that the Hostel will serve many more children in the next few years. It makes me happy that there are students from our school interested in coming out to St. Paul's next year and to continue the work we are doing. I am sure they will be a great help and it will most importantly benefit the children.

Tom Rensmann

WATER PROBLEM



Last year when we returned to the hostel after our vacation there was a water problem in the hostel. There was no water supply from the Cantonment board because rain fall was very rare and so there was not enough water in Belgaum city. Usually we need two tankers for the hostel per day. We had to go out of the compound to have a bath or wash our clothes etc. After a few days we were asked to go home because there was no water at all. On the one hand we were happy to be back at home but on the other hand we had to travel a long way every day to come to school. It got frustrating after a few days because we reached home late and did not have enough time for our studies. Many of us did not do well in our first and second unit test and our parents were disappointed. Some parents of younger boys had to come along with their child and leave them at school and wait for them all throughout the day.

After some time we had a group

discussion with the fathers and they understood our problem and decided to re-open the hostel in the month of September. We all were happy to be back and after some time the water started coming from the Cantonment board again.

Stanley Pinto, 9th Std.



Savio Lobo, 1st Std.

CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a beautiful festival. On this day, Lord Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem. Kings and shepherds visited Jesus Christ. An angel told the shepherds: "In David's town your Savior will be born." Filled with joy and happiness the shepherds went to visit Jesus. The three wise kings followed a star that led them to Bethlehem. The first king brought gold, the second frankincense and the third brought myrrh.

On his birthday we prepare some dishes and go to church at midnight. We have a lot of fun. During the Christmas season, Santa



Thomas Fernandes, 1st Std.



Kristan Lobo, 5 th Std

Claus visits us and brings us lots of toys and toffees. Before Christmas we go to some villages to sing Christmas carols. We also prepare a crib, a star and decorate a Christmas tree in the hostel. We dance at night and play different games. At Christmas time we all enjoy together and share sweets with our neighbors. During Christmas we also pray for all the poor, sick and needy people in the world. We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Austin Fernandes, 5th Std. and.

Kristan Lobo, 5th Std.

12 YEARS



I joined this hostel as a tiny toddler in the year 2001. I did not know how to read and write and I did not know why I had to come here. When my parents left me at the hostel, I started crying and wanted to go with them. After some time I understood why I had come to the hostel. At that time Fr. Cecil and Br. Orville took good care of me and my companions.

Over the past 12 years I took part in many activities, sports and cultural programs. In the Hostel I have not only learned poems and lessons but also how to respect and obey my elders. This hostel has even taught me to distinguish between good and bad. It has helped me to gain confidence and has shown me how to discover my talents and build my courage and face an audience. All the brothers have also taught me the importance of prayer, meditation and silence. I have enjoyed the picnics to Goa and Gokak. I have also enjoyed the carol singing where we go to wish people in different places.

This hostel has taught me how to grow in relationship and be friendly with one another. Fr. Rego gave me the opportunity to study in this institution and to stand on my own feet. I will never forget the Brothers, Fathers and *Manas* who have taken good care of me in the past 12 years my friends who have supported me in my difficult times when I was sick and who accompanied me during my 12 long years in the Hostel.

Milton Monteiro, 10th Std.



Wilson Fernandes, 10th Std..

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Let me begin with a short story:

Once God called his angels and told them to find a place on earth where people would not be able to find him. The angels went in search of places.

The 1st angel came to God and said that he has found a place on top of a mountain where no one could be found. God replied that man has already climbed on top of all mountains to find out what there is.

The 2nd angle suggested to hide in the depth of the sea. God replied that modern technology has made it possible for man to see till the bottom of the sea.

The 3rd angel told God to go and hide in people's hearts because no one will look into there.

So during Christmas we should have a wide open heart that thinks of others first. Christmas is a time of love and joy. We should not only prepare for Christmas externally but also internally. We should give room in our heart.

The birth of Jesus stands as a significant event in history. Jesus was born in a stable to show that he is one among us. Christmas is not so much opening our presents but we should open our hearts. Christmas should not only be celebrated by giving sweets but by helping the needy. During Christmas we should forgive ourselves, our friends and enemies alike to celebrate the joy of Christmas together.

Milton Monteiro, 10th Std.



Justin Mascarenhas, 8th Std.

Dear Benefactors, Collaborators & Well-Wishers.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the support and encouragement you have rendered to us. If these G.B.B. tender buds bloom into beautiful flowers and spread their fragrance into the world, it is only because of you and your love and care. It is my kind privilege to express my deepest gratitude on behalf of the G.B.B. Family. Thank you one and all.

We wish you a Happy Christmas and a Joyous
New Year!

Contact:

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