

## E-NEWSLETTER

MES's Pillai College of Education & Research,  
Chembur Chembur Naka, Chembur, Mumbai-  
400071.



**NAAC Accredited A**  
**Grade (3.36 – Third**  
**Cycle)**

### HORIZON

### AUGUST-2020

#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Wishing all a very Happy Independence Day – 15<sup>th</sup> August.

Every year the month of August brings in feeling of celebration with Independence Day and other festivities round the corner. This year we are engulfed with the COVID-19 pandemic and life does not seem to move further and there doesn't seem to see a Dawn of new beginnings. With these uncertainties hovering around us, we have truly understood the meaning of Independence and Freedom. We have realised to a certain extent about being in Lockdown and restrictions. This should be a lesson that we should all learn is – value things, value people and Thank God for all the blessings. We need to nurture the feeling of oneness by showing caring, concern, equality, brotherhood and be a source of inspiration to others. There is lot to unlearn, learn and relearn during this period of pandemic and lockdown that will harness your skills. Let this period not Drain you but Gain you with expertise and excellence in all that you do towards self-development, societal development and nation development.

Best wishes to all and as we step out slowly in our work place and other institutions. Please take utmost care of yourself. . Follow all the safety measures. Each one of you is very precious to your near and dear ones

#### EDITORS

*Dr. Reni Francis (Principal),*  
*Dr. Sunita Jain,*  
*Dr. Swasti Dhar,*  
*Dr. Jaya Cherian*

#### STUDENT EDITORS

*Ms. Cristin Susan Kenny*  
*Ms. Sherry Sam Jose*  
*Ms. Jessykamalam Samuel*  
*Ms. Maseera Qureshi*  
*Ms. Priyanka Pal*  
*Ms. Sharaniya Poosathurai*

#### EDITOR'S DESK

August brings out the patriotism in each Indian and PCER Chembur too, was no different. With India's 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day around the corner, the theme and values for the month were Patriotism and India's multicultural and diverse tapestry.

Classes started in early from the first week of the month. The students were soon engrossed with online classes, activities, competitions and festivities galore.

August had a plethora of occasions for cultural and national celebrations. We started with the festival of Eid and culminated with celebrating Onam at the end of the month. Mid-month, we had Janmashtami, and Mumbai's favourite festival, Ganesh Chaturthi. PCER students incorporated all into their online assemblies and celebrations.

We are happy to bring to you a glimpse of the active affairs of August!

## *Highlights of the month*



- **Principal's Message**
- **Editorial**
- **Achievements**
- **Positive Vibes**
- **Assembly Snippets**
- **Practice Teaching**
- **The Learning Q-est Series via the Alumni Returns Programme**
  - **Secrets from the Classroom**
  - **Experiences in Today's Challenging Times**
- **National Level Inter- Collegiate Essay Competition for a social cause**
- **History Quiz on the occasion of Independence Day**
- **National Sports Day**
- **Onam Celebration**
- **Students Achievements**
- **Students Corner**



# ACHIEVEMENT



**MES's Pillai College of Education and Research was certified as Swachhta Action Plan Institute.**



With the changing times such as the pandemic, every educator needs to sharpen his/her skills. To continue to be an inspiration to all, Dr. Reni Francis, our principal, successfully achieved the certification of becoming a **Google Certified Educator L1**. This examination is for educators who have learnt and are now demonstrating the fundamental skills necessary to use Google's tools in the classroom and this certification validates standard technology implementation abilities. Kudos to our principal on achieving yet another feather to her cap and continuing to inspire us.

# Positive Vibes



Hi Ma'am,

*I am finding a lot of problems in completing my task, I delay my task unnecessarily and get into problems. Kindly help me overcome this issue.*



Hello dear,

*Procrastination is a major issue and it can cause problems in day to day life. The simple way to come out of it is to keep a journal, list out all the tasks and prioritize them, then start following one at a time, as you proceed the completed task will energize you to follow the same pattern !*

## STAY POSITIVE



Hi Ma'am,

*My friend is having a relationship issue and is depressed, how can I help her?*



Hello dear,

*Listen to your friend patiently and comfort her. Advice to seek professional help and assist her in getting the service. Support her physically and emotionally to overcome the problem .*



## ASSEMBLY SNIPPETS



The theme for the assembly for the month of August was Patriotism emphasising values of **Peace, Tolerance, Fraternity, Brotherhood, Respect, Empathy, Sacrifice**. Through the various assembly activities in the form of songs, poems, messages, stories, videos the students highlighted the contributions and sacrifices of our freedom fighters. They emphasized aspects such as the active participation of women in the Freedom Struggle of our country, to show our respect towards our country by following rules and always remembering the brave soldiers who defend our borders and our peace. The assembly included prayers, messages and stories focusing on the festivals of Janmashtami and Ganesh Chaturthi.

The students presented a special assembly marking our 74th Independence Day celebration. The assembly started with a prayer by Ms. Priyanka Mishra for the nation, Ms. Maria Preethica spoke at length about the values of freedom and patriotism. She highlighted how in these difficult times too, we are united in our desire to help the country. Ms. Rukhsar spoke about the significance of the day and the crisis being faced by India and the entire world today due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Her thoughts were with the different sections of the society who were helping each other in order to overcome these difficult times. The assembly ended with the playing of the National Anthem. Though separated by distance, our hearts were together on this momentous day.

A special Assembly and Institutional Flag Hoisting was done on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2020. Though it was a period of Lockdown our patriotism had no lockdown.



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18y2m0SLfUjylIVqugug1dzOVQAq2s6rh/view?usp=sharing>

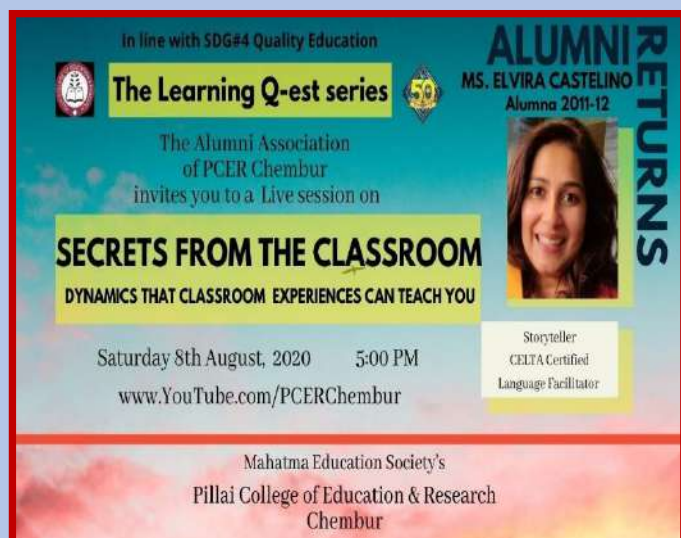
## PRACTICE TEACHING

In the month of July, students were given a lot of opportunities through online platforms to enrich their content knowledge. This paved the way in the month of August wherein they started their Internship period from 10th August, 2020. First, the pedagogy teachers gave demonstrations of Live and Recorded lessons. This helped the student teachers to be oriented towards presenting recorded/ live lessons under the supervision of teacher educators via Google Meet. This process not only helped the student teachers to be thorough with the pedagogy of teaching but also removed screen inhibitions.

The continuous guidance with improving their lesson plans and executing their lessons smoothly helped in the smooth sailing of their practice teaching through their internship period. They also started maintaining their Reflective Journal to introspect and excel in their daily activities.



# THE LEARNING Q-EST SERIES VIA THE ALUMNI RETURNS PROGRAMME



## Secrets from the Classroom - Dynamics that Classroom Experiences can Teach You

On the 8th of August, 2020, **Ms. Elvira Castelino**, our alumna from the batch of 2011-12 spoke to the students and the alumni of PCER, Chembur about the dynamics which exist in every classroom and how a new teacher can prepare for it.

Drawing on her vast experience in visiting many classrooms as a part of teaching a 'Reading Programme' while working with The Pomegranate Workshop, an Arts in Education organisation, Ms. Elvira spoke about how a student should always be kept at the centre of the process. She explained the practicalities of the teaching profession which are not always spelt out for a new teacher and what they should know and how they may prepare.

The Learning Q-est series is in line with **SDG#4: Quality Education** and the entire discussion can be viewed at -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CzwZSLYt4I>

## Experiences in Today's Challenging Times

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of August, 2020 PCER alumni from the batch of 2017-19, Ms. Jincy James and Ms. Nanda Deshmukh addressed the students and the alumni of the college via an online session of the Alumni Returns where we carried forward the 'Learning Q-est Series' in line with SDG#4: Quality Education.

They spoke about their **Experiences in Today's Challenging Times** and shared the perspective of teaching at the Junior College and Degree College level and also the challenge of teaching a number-loaded subject like Accountancy.

The Pandemic has forced the entire education system to adapt and adopt at a very fast rate but the college students, who stand at the cusp between adolescence and adulthood need special care and support from their teachers and so teachers had to step up not only with content and subject knowledge but also with providing emotional support.

The complete session can be viewed at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-1s0BkoZ51s>





# NATIONAL LEVEL INTER-COLLEGIATE ESSAY COMPETITION FOR A SOCIAL CAUSE

In Commemoration of the Golden Jubilee year of Mahatma Education Society, PCER, Chembur in association with Leo Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar Galaxy organised National Level Inter-Collegiate Essay Competition for a Social Cause. The theme of the Essay competition was *Freedom to India from Corona Virus*.

## The objectives of this competition were:

- 1) To enhance literary skills among the students
- 2) To be a source of helping hand for the underprivileged during this pandemic.

The registration link was

<https://forms.gle/ko9b33uugB3mRXs88>

This aligns with SDG 3: Good health and well-being and SDG: 17 Partnerships for the goals

## We received 51 entries for the competition.

### The winners are as follows:

First Prize: Ms. Shivangi Parekh (H.R. College of Commerce and Economics)

Second Prize: Ms. Disha Karkera (PCER, Chembur)

Third Prize: Master Ryan Francis (SIES College of Arts, Science and Commerce)

Third Prize: Ms. Priyanka Mohite (PCER, Chembur)

The money received through our registration helped us to buy masks and **benefitted 250 underprivileged families in Bhandup, Mulund and Govandi slums.** The people find it a very meaningful way of donation. Comments from the beneficiaries-“ Hamare pass Bhaji keliye paisa nahi, phirkaisemei mask isthamalkarum”, “Beta muchelene ka dhaphairchalirupayakaisemucheparvadeka, aurhamaregharme char janhei, muchenahihota... Thank you”.

The volunteers found it very difficult to move inside the chawl but at the end of the work all found it as a worthwhile activity.

**MES's Pillai College of Education & Research, Chembur**  
**NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade**  
**in association with**  
**Leo Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar Galaxy**

National Level Inter-Collegiate Essay Competition  
 for a Social cause  
*'The Future depends on what you do today' - Mahatma Gandhi*  
**Theme: Freedom to India from Corona Virus**

Register for a Social cause in providing masks to the underprivileged  
 Pay your registration fees of minimum Rs.100 or more at:  
<https://forms.gle/ko9b33uugB3mRXs88>  
 Last date of registration: 10th Aug, 2020  
**Winners will be announced on 15th August, 2020**  
**Cash Prizes will be awarded to the Winners**

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*Certificate of Appreciation*

This is to certify that Ms. Shivangi Parekh  
 has secured First Prize at the National Level Intercollegiate Essay Competition  
 Theme: Freedom of India from Corona Virus  
 on 15th August, 2020

*Dr. Ravi Francis*  
 Principal, PCER, Chembur

*Nidhi J. Kamani*  
 Leo Nidhi Kamani  
 Club President

**MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur**  
**NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade**  
**in association with Leo Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar Galaxy**

On Independence Day, 15th August, 2020,  
 PCER, Chembur distributed masks for 250 families in  
 Bhandup, Mulund and Govandi Slums as a part of their Social  
 cause initiative through a National Level Essay competition,  
 Theme "Freedom from Corona Virus"

**THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS**  
**LEO CLUB OF MUMBAI GHATKOPAR GALAXY**  
 Parent Club : Lions Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar Galaxy | 2020-21

To:  
 MES's Pillai College Of Education & Research , Chembur.

On 15th of August Leo Club Of Mumbai Ghatkopar Galaxy in  
 Association with PCER, Chembur was given the opportunity to  
 conduct National Level Inter-Collegiate Essay Competition for a  
 Social Cause. The theme being 'Freedom to India from Corona  
 Virus'.

The motive of the Essay Competition was to enhance the literary  
 skills in students and to also be a helping hand for the  
 underprivileged families during this Pandemic.

We received a total of 51 Entries for the competition. We proudly  
 say that the funds received through the registrations helped us to  
 provide Masks and benefitted 250 Underprivileged Families in  
 areas of Bhandup, Mulund and Govandi Slums.

It was an honour for us to be a part this event. On behalf of the  
 entire Club we are thankful to PCER for giving us this fine  
 opportunity to Serve The Society.

Thanking You,  
 Leo Nidhi Kamani  
 President of Leo Club Of Mumbai Ghatkopar Galaxy.

**LEO VATSAL MANEK**      **LEO NIDHI KAMANI**      **LEO PRANAV HINGWALA**  
 SECRETARY      PRESIDENT      TREASURER



## HISTORY QUIZ

In commemoration of the Golden Jubilee Year of Mahatma Education Society a quiz competition - 'Tryst with History' was organized by the Student Council of MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur on the occasion of Independence Day.

The quiz aimed at creating awareness and interest in the subject of History. It consisted of 30 questions of 1 mark each. The questions were related to Indian history and culture. There were 79 participants from various institutions. The e-certificates were sent by mail to the participants.

The quiz was in alignment with the **SDG goal 4: Quality Education**.

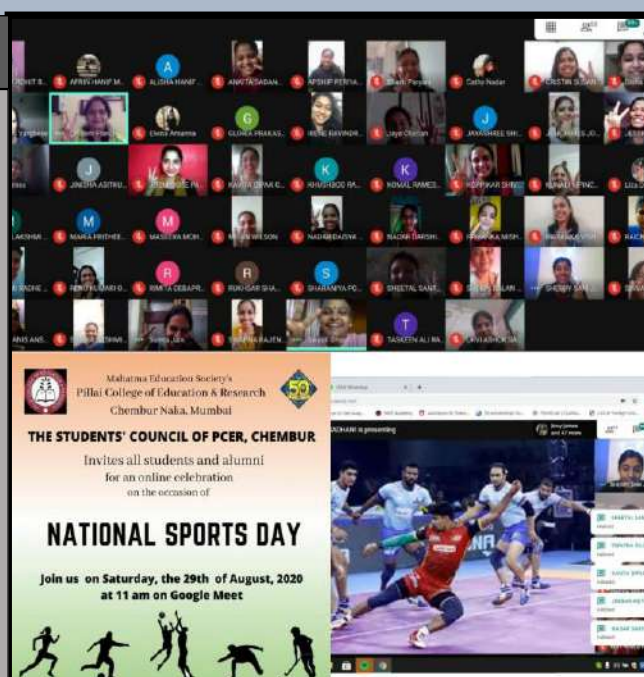
The quiz provided an opportunity to enhance knowledge of historically significant events and personalities who have contributed to our rich cultural heritage and to the development of our nation.

## NATIONAL SPORTS DAY

Team PCER did not let the lockdown situation dampen their spirits and sportsmanship as they got together virtually via Google Meet to celebrate India's National Sports Day on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, 2020. This activity was in line with SDG#3: Good Health and Well being

The virtual meet was organized by the Students' Council of the current batch who put together an exciting array of quizzes and activities for the students and alumni of PCER, Chembur. It was a joyful and happy event which was thoroughly enjoyed by the participants.

The entire event can be watched at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yJpgfgqTmtBXUmN-ljBD-P86PkBuKH0v/view?usp=sharing>



## ONAM CELEBRATION

PCER, Chembur organized a virtual celebration of the Onam festival on 31st August, 2020 at 11.00am via Google Meet. Onam, the harvest festival of Kerala, is a time for being with family and friends but this year, due to the pandemic lockdown and social distancing measures, the festivities were carried out virtually.

Onam is a time for togetherness, gratitude for the harvest yield, for enjoying the fruits of labour, and for appreciating the richness and beauty of our culture. The Student Council of PCER highlighted these aspects of the festival through the special assembly organized by them. The programme commenced with a prayer followed by an array of performances in the form of songs, dance, speech and creative presentations focusing on various aspects of the festival. Principal Dr. Reni Francis addressed the students on the occasion, emphasizing the importance of oneness and working together as a team. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks. The programme was highly appreciated by everyone for the creativity and team effort displayed by the







## STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Ms. Disha Karkera, Ms. Shivani Mayekar and Ms. AabhaBagaitkar** successfully participated and received an **A Grade** in the International Faculty Development Program conducted by Kaash Foundation's Centre for Academic and Professional Development in collaboration with University of Ottawa, Canada and St. Xavier's Institute of Education, Mumbai for History Teachers on ***Pedagogy of Teaching History*** from 3rd August to 9th August, 2020.

- **Ms. Disha Karkera** secured the **Second Prize** at the National Level Intercollegiate Essay Competition Theme: Freedom of India from Corona Virus on 15th August, 2020.

- **Ms. Priyanka Mohite** secured the **Third Prize** at the National Level Intercollegiate Essay Competition Theme: Freedom of India from Corona Virus on 15th August, 2020.

- **Ms. Disha Karkera, Ms. Shivani Mayekar and Ms. AabhaBagaitkar** successfully participated in the 3rd International Faculty Development Program organized by Kaash Foundation's Centre for Academic and Professional Development in collaboration with English Language Teachers Association of India and St. Xavier's Institute of Education, Mumbai on ***Emerging Approaches & Trends in English Language and Literature*** from 24th August to 29th August 2020.





### **FREEDOM TO INDIA FROM CORONAVIRUS**

“Heal the world make it a better place, for you and for me and the entire human race”

These lyrics of the famous song of Michael Jackson definitely stand true in the situation that we are currently facing. Today, the world needs solidarity and unity to fight any calamity, natural or unnatural. Coronavirus has turned the world upside down and very dramatically brought alterations to the everyday life of people across the globe. Our present situations are such that have been profoundly shaped by social realities such as racial and economic inequality, dissemination of misinformation and anxieties about the capability of the different countries to find a solution to this problem.

People have disowned their own blood relations for the fear of being affected with the disease. The Lockdown, which was considered to be a measure to control the situation, had its own pros and cons. While people had to remain indoors many of them even lost their jobs and livelihood, many were homeless. Measures taken by the government were commendable - right from social distancing, providing necessary items to door-steps, providing medical aid etc. But this is just one aspect which we have been complaining and putting forth.

There is another aspect which we have overlooked completely i.e. the positive side of the lockdown. The pandemic gave freedom to India and its citizens to become *AtmaNirbhar*. The world became “Digital”. Medical aid and facilities were rendered thus strengthening foreign relations. Another positive feature of this has been the gesture of social solidarity and the overwhelming assistance from all the corners of the world. We can see nations coming forward to combat the situation unanimously. With the restriction of movements there has been inculcation of discipline in every one’s life. Now people have been exercising in order to stay healthy and immune boosted. The fear of getting affected or falling prey to the coronavirus is amidst all of us and the only thing which will help all to overcome this phobia is self-discipline and rule abiding citizens.

Freedom in the literal sense means to break free from the bondage. The current situation has taught a lesson to all that in order to break this bondage of the virus collective efforts have to be made. Heart to heart connection of the feelings and emotions has to be developed. This present situation has even given more meaning to the education system in the country. No more the physical bondages have been a barrier for providing education to students. This pandemic situation education has gone online thus making it available to all in whichever corner of the world they reside. Punitive and collaborative efforts have been undertaken to find a vaccine and cure to this deadly virus.

With this positive note I would like to conclude by saying, with the Prime Minister’s efforts we are not far from being called as “Sone kiChidiya” once again, all we need is social understanding in foregoing the crisis and laying a path forward.

**-Ms.Disha Karkera**

**S.Y.B.Ed**



## **FREEDOM TO INDIA FROM CORONAVIRUS**

“Freedom, in any case, is only possible by constantly struggling for it.” very precisely quoted by Albert Einstein. There are many battles that we have fought till date but this one is unique in its own way. As a nation we have always been resilient and together when attacked. Today even though the fight is unarmed, and the enemy is invisible, yet our strategy to gain freedom is the same, unity and cooperation.

In the past few months the world had come to a standstill. And in this process, we witnessed many peaks like the fear of virus, lockdowns, restrictions, care and precaution which eventually subsided with time. In order to win this battle we need to be disciplined. Just like our struggle of independence, this battle too shall last for long. And hence before fighting an enemy we should first understand what it is all about.

VIRUS basically is neither a living nor a non-living thing. It needs a live host to survive. While coronavirus being highly contagious adds to the cruelty of this disease. When our enemy is so smart we need to be smarter than it. As anything survives and flourishes when provided with proper care. In this case we need to defeat this virus by denying its shelter in our body and our life.

Unlike freedom movements, armed battles, bombs and weapons we need to fight this war with awareness movements, hygiene practices, boosting our immunity and stopping the chain of spread. Simple yet effective steps such as using a mask will not only protect you but also help prevent the spread and break the chain. Maintaining distance of minimum 6 feet is the new way of showing care. Being informed and aware is much better than being ignorant and unsafe. Even though the times are tough, they have taught us a lot and most of all they showed us the mirror which we had always denied. We all witnessed the healing of earth when we were locked. This lockdown made us realize what we really long for.

Besides this war, many more deadly viruses we are fighting today from rape, female foeticide to corruption and poverty. We are plagued with judgments and prejudice and lack the basic empathy. While we fight this coronavirus we should also strive for freedom from all such viruses which back us down and hurdle our progress.

As we are progressing towards the restart we should keep this in mind the battle even though calmed, is still going on. So why not understand these new war rules to fight from our own houses and make our nation free from this enemy coronavirus. And as it goes “Miles to go before I sleep...” there will be many battles to fight and together we had and shall always attain our Freedom.

**Ms.Priyanka  
Mohite**

**S.Y.B.Ed**