HORIZON



MES'S PILLAI COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, CHEMBUR NAKA, CHEMBUR, MUMBAI - 400071

From the Principal's Desk



Dr. Reni Francis, Principal

"Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony." — Mahatma Gandhi

As the month of October rings in values of sharing, caring and harmony it gives us a very important message as teachers. We need to imbibe these qualities among our children. It ignites the flavour of Joy of Giving. At PCER too our initiatives of Gandhian week and publication of VENTEL book on best practices was a great learning. As educators we need to

- S Supportive
- **H** Heart warming
- A Acceptance
- R Reassurance and
- **E** Emancipation.



We need to support others that is the biggest act of sharing and caring by a smile and positive attitude. These acceptances make every individual towards reassurance and emancipation. These values imbibed by every teacher makes a difference in the life of the students.

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Editorial















George Bernard Shaw once said "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself". This holds true for Gandhiji because he preached what he practiced and for him change started with himself. Gandhiji's life constantly evolved based on learning from his own experiences and experiments. The beliefs he held are relevant even today as we battle stress and aspire for peace of mind. Leader, motivator, researcher, crusader, visionary, apostle of peace - Gandhiji was an institution in himself.

In the month of October PCER Chembur conducted the activities to instill Gandhian values among our students with the hope of channelizing their energies towards nation building.

PCER Chembur strived to inculcate environmental consciousness, moral values, intrapersonal skills, community and society-oriented awareness in young minds through various activities by adapting Gandhian philosophy.



By education, I mean

an all-round

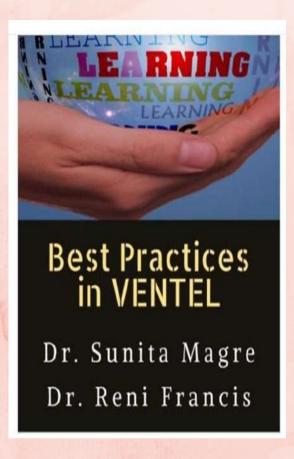
drawing of the best in child

and man in body, mind and spirit.

Faculty Achievements

Publication of a book,- "Best Practices in VENTEL" by Dr. Reni Francis

Dr. Sunita Magre, Professor and Chairperson, Board of Studies, University of Mumbai and Dr. Reni Francis, Principal, PCER Chembur, and Member, University of Mumbai, published a book 'Best Practices in VENTEL' by Notion Press; 1st edition (27 September 2021), ISBN 1685635245. This book is a compilation of the various best practices presented at the online Colloquium on Best Practices in VENTEL- MGNCRE Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav for student teachers of VENTEL Cell, organised by Board of Studies in Education, University of Mumbai in collaboration with MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur on 1st October, 2021. The best practices shared in this book is the implementation of VENTEL at the Institution/ Teacher/ Student/ NGO level.





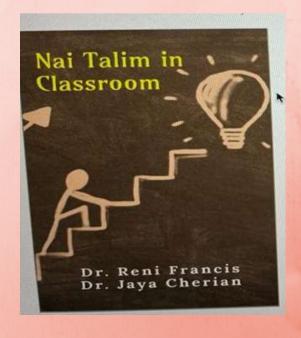






Publication of a book - Nai Talim in classroom

Dr. Reni Francis, Principal, PCER Chembur and Dr. Jaya Cherian, Asst. Prof. PCER Chembur published a book 'Nai Talim in Classroom' by Notion Press; 1st edition (28 September 2021) ,ISBN 1685636209. This book is a compilation of the Lesson Plans based on Mahatma Gandhi's ideology of Nai Talim. The lesson plans focus on experiential learning, work education , craft centered learning and involving the students in the teaching learning process.



Dr. Reni Francis - Invited as a Resource person

Dr. Reni Francis, Principal, PCER Chembur was invited as resource person for a three day online training workshop and capacity building programme on, "Women as agents of change for Disaster Risk Reduction, Strengthening and Resilience" organised by B. L. Amlani College of Commerce and Economics, Vile Parle, Mumbai. Dr. Reni Francis shared her thoughts on the topic, "Fundamentals of Disaster management and the Institutional Mechanism in India".

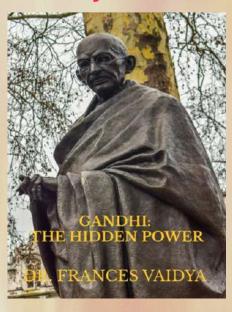






Publication of an article by Ms. Achala Bhor, Faculty PCER

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, Ms. Achala Bhor, Faculty, PCER published an article, "Education from Mahatma Gandhiji's Perspective" in a book titled, Gandhi: The Hidden Power" authored by Dr. Frances Vaidya, Associate Professor, Gandhi Shikshan Bhavan's Surajba College of Education, Juhu. This is a book wherein Gandhiji philosophy of Life and Gandhiji's educational philosophy is compiled wherein a number of educationists have contributed. The book contains various themes where Gandhiji focussed such as Women Empowerment, Nai Talim, Craft Centered Education, Peace, Trusteeship and much more.



Colloquium on Best practices in VENTEL

The Board of Studies in Education, University of Mumbai in collaboration with MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur organised an online Colloquium on Best Practices in VENTEL-MGNCRE Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav for Student Teachers of VENTEL Cell. Participants from various colleges from Mumbai presented their work and explained about the activities carried out by VENTEL Cell in their college. The Colloquium was conducted on 1st October,2021 from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm on Zoom platform.



Ozone Day



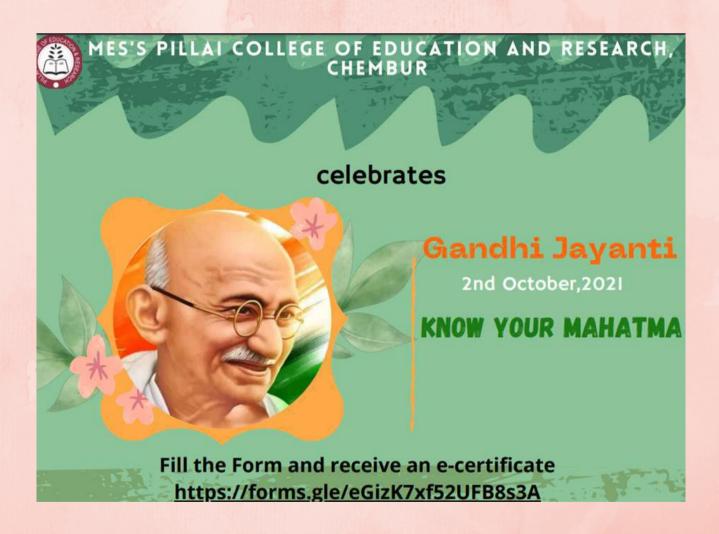
Students of PCER Chembur Celebrated World Ozone Day with the students of MES's Chembur English High school on 1st October 2021. The online Zoom session provided scientific information on formation of ozone layer, Causes and effects of ozone depletion and steps students can take to protect the Ozone layer.

The interactive session 'Small steps towards the protection of Ozone' was conducted by students of PCER Chembur, Ms. Rasika Bhujabalrao and Ms. Bhakti Sawant as a part of Nai Talim Week Celebrations. The session was appreciated by the respected Principal of PCER Chembur Dr. Reni Francis and the Principal of Chembur English High School Ms. Preeti Pawar

Celebration of Gandhi Jayanti

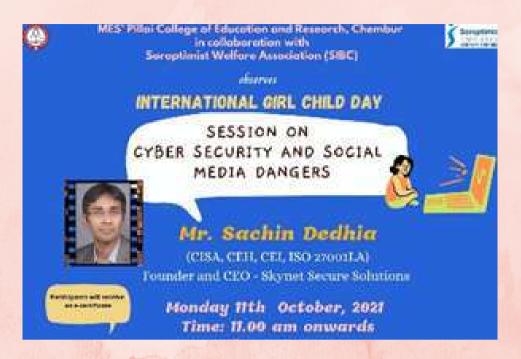
Quiz: Know your Mahatma

On 2nd October, 2021, PCER Chembur, celebrated Gandhi Jayanti by organising a quiz, "Know your Mahatma". The quiz was conducted through google forms and the participants received an e-certificate. This activity was conducted in order to commemorate work of Mahatma Gandhiji and to make it known to the young generation.



As a part of Nai Talim Week Celebrations PCER Chembur released a video containing inspiring thoughts of Mahatma Gandhiji. The thoughts are selected with a purpose of educating the audience about the life goals one must have and presented in an attractive manner. With the aim of enlightening the new generation with the noble and inspiring thoughts of Mahatma Gandhiji.

Session on Cyber Security and Social media Dangers by Dr. Sachin Dedhia



PCER, Chembur in collaboration with Soroptimist Welfare Association and Mahatma Junior College of Education observed the International Girl Child Day through an online Zoom session on Cyber Security and Social Media Dangers. The resource person was Mr. Sachin Dedhia. The objective behind this webinar was to spread awareness of cyber security and social media dangers. The webinar focused on the online safety of security measures, online protection and cyber wellness

Workshop on Effective Communication Strategies in the Classroom by Dr. Asha AK

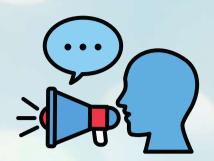


PCER College Chembur, organized a workshop on "Effective Communication Strategies in the Classroom" on 13th October, 2021 through Zoom. This workshop was conducted by Dr Asha A K, who is a Life skill trainer and assistant professor, Aishabai College of Education, Mumbai.

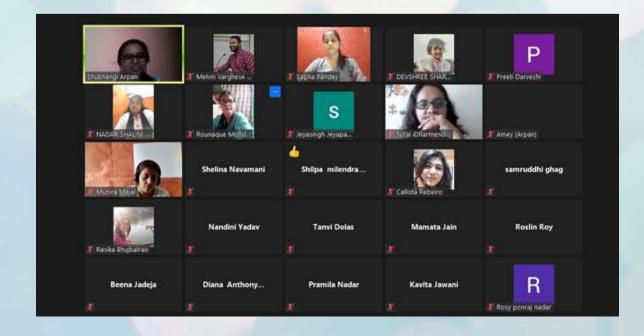
The objective of this workshop was to encourage the use effective communication skills and strategies that are required for being an efficient teacher. This activity was aligned with SDG4: Quality Education.

Training program by Arpan Foundation



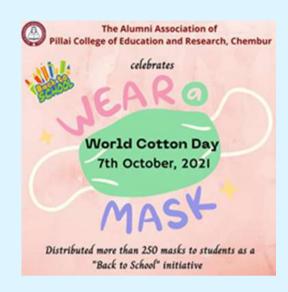


On 11th & 12th October 2021 SI Bombay Chembur(SIBC) in association with Arpan Foundation organised a two days training program on the 'Understanding Child Sexual Abuse and Personal Safety Education(PSE) Programme' through Zoom platform. This training was based on building skills of professionals to enable them to conduct PSE programs with children, adult awareness sessions and handle disclosures effectively and age-appropriately. The content and learnings of this training program byfocused on gaining knowledge, skills, and a positive attitude to reach out to children, families, and communities at large

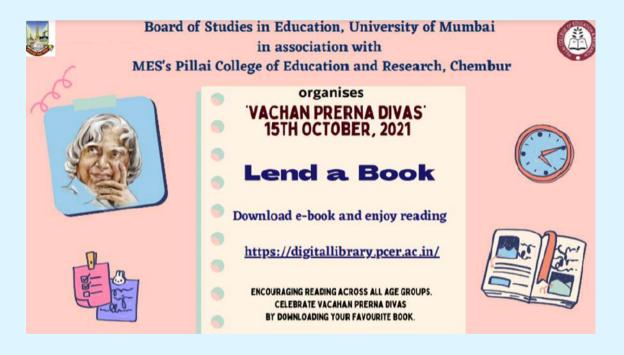


World cotton Day (distribution of masks)

World Cotton Day was celebrated by the Alumni Association of PCER Chembur on 7th October 2021 by distributing more than 250 masks to students as a "Back to School Initiative". Since the Maharashtra government has re-opened schools, the aim of this activity was to encourage safety protocols among bringing students in new normalcy classroom learning. The noble cause and initiative was appreciated by the Management, the Principal Dr. Reni Francis and all the alumni of PCER Chembur



Vachan Prerna Divas, 15th October, 2021



The Board of Studies in Education, University of Mumbai in collaboration with MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur observed Vachan Prerna Divas on 15th October, 2021 with an activity, "Lend a Book" wherein an ebook can be downloaded from the digital library portal of PCER. The objective behind this is to encourage reading across all age groups.

Design your IDEA Competition

The Board of Studies in Education, University of Mumbai in collaboration with MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur organised a Design your IDEA competition. This competition was open for school teachers, teacher educators and student teachers. In this competition school teachers, teacher educators and student teachers from various schools and colleges across Mumbai participated



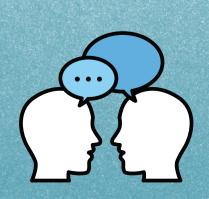


The winners of the competition are

First prize: Dr. Agnes D'Costa, Associate professor, Pushpanjali College of Education. Vasai

Second prize: Ms. Upasna Sanjiv Roy, Sec. School Teacher at GSIS, Powai Third prize: Ms. Amrin Adnan Shaikh, Anjuman Islam College, Vashi







Welcome to B.Ed students at PCER Chembur campus

PCER opened its campus to the students and welcomed them back to the campus on the 23rd of October, 2021. At present, only those students who have had at least one dose of vaccination were permitted along with an assurance that they will be going it for their second dose at the earliest.

The college will initially work once a week for 3 hours and then step up the number of days of physical presence keeping the state Covid protocols in mind.

In keeping with the social distancing protocols issued by the government, all the students ensured that they maintained proper social distancing and were cautious about sanitisation and hygiene.

In order to bring in some cheer and fun, a Best Face Mask Competition was conducted.

The winners were: Ms. Nirali Bhagat (1st Prize) and Ms. Ninoshka Rodrigues (2nd Prize)



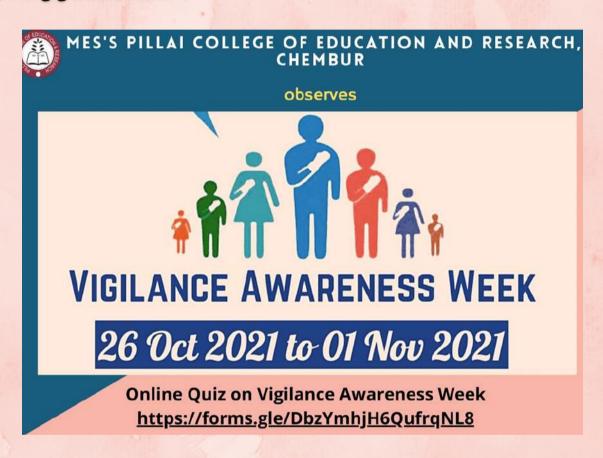




Ms. Ninoshka Rogrigues

Quiz on Vigilance Awareness Week

PCER Chembur, observed Vigilance Awareness Week from 26th October 2021 to 1st November, 2021 by organising a quiz. This quiz was conducted through google forms and the participants received an e-certificate. This activity was conducted in order to recognise the ills of corruption and promoting ways to combat it at an individual as well as systemic level for the young generation.



Semester 2 University Exams

The semester 2 University exams were successfully conducted by PCER in the month of October. The exams were conducted as per the regulations of the University of Mumbai on the 6th, 7th & 9th of October 2021 through the online mode. The students were oriented with respect to the requisite preparations and instructions to be followed for the examinations. The proctored examinations were conducted through google meet and consisted of Multiple Choice Questions of 30 marks and Descriptive Questions of 30 marks.

Donation Drive

The Alumni Association of PCER Chembur conducted a Donation Drive from 11th to 28th October, 2021. The Faculty, Alumni and students from PCER Chembur came forward to donate generously so that those who are less fortunate could also have something to cheer about during Diwali.

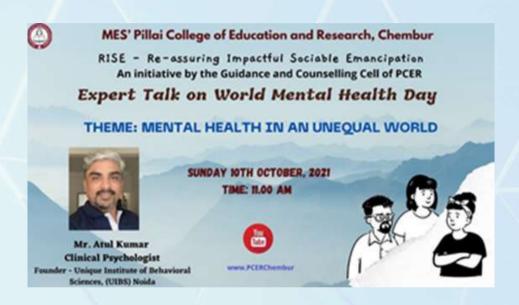
The collection was distributed among the needy on 30th October, 2021.





Session on Mental Health in an Unequal World by Mr. Atul Kumar

PCER organized an expert talk on the theme - Mental Health in an Unequal World on 10th October 2021 at 11.00 am on the occasion of World Mental Health Day. The resource person Mr. Atul Kumar, Clinical Psychologist shared important tips to maintain mental health. It was an initiative by the Guidance and Counselling cell of PCER Chembur. The session conducted through Youtube Live highlighted the importance of mental health and factors affecting mental health. The session was hosted by Dr. Mary George Varghese, Asst. Professor PCER Chembur. This activity was aligned with SDG 3- Good Health and Well-being



Expert Talk by Dr. Uddhav Chaudhari

PCER organised an expert talk by scientist on Food and Mood: How Nutrition Affects Mental Health. The session was conducted by Dr. Uddhav Chaudhari, Scientist 'E', Indian Council for Research (ICMR), National Institute for Research in Reproductive Mumbai. Health (NIRRH), Parel, Uddhav Chaudhari gave a comprehensive exposition on the role that nutrition plays on our mental health and well being.



The expert talk was conducted through Youtube Live on 30th October,2021 at 5.00 pm. This activity was aligned with SDG 3- Good Health and Well-being.



Special Assembly

The students of PCER, Chembur celebrated the special occasions in the month of October like Gandhi Jayanti, Shastri Jayanti, Dussehra, World Teachers' Day, World Students' Day & International day of the girl child, on the 28th of October 2021 via a special assembly organised by the students of Batch 2020-22.

The assembly was organised on zoom meet and hosted by Ms. Rani Prasad. She created suspense throughout the assembly by providing hints and allowing the audience to identify the leaders. The Assembly started with a short prayer recited by Ms. Ritu Kumari. She recited the prayer which talked about the permanence of almighty god to whom we abide.

The assembly followed by sharing a piece of information on Gandhi jayanti and Shastri jayanti. These two national leaders did not just share their birth anniversary but even shared the same principles on which they lead their lives and also inspire our lives.

Ms. Rashi shared thoughts and work of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, an idol for people in the teaching field. Ms. Preeti and Ms. Roshani thanked and honoured all the teachers for their constant hard work and support through a magical dance performance.

The thoughts of Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam, the Missile Man of India were shared by Ms. Jemy, Ms. Roshni, Ms. Pravina and Ms. Preethi Sasidharan.

The International day of the girl child celebrated by enacting a skit valuing and empowering all girls and women by Ms. Rani Prasad, Ms. Rounaque Shaikh, Ms. Rukshar Azam Shaikh, Ms. Priya Pothnurru and Ms. Roshni Sharma.

Dussehra celebration, highlighting the victory of good over evil was done thoughtfully by Ms. Preeti Darveshi, Ms. Priti Pandit, Ms. Priya Moopanar and Ms. Rosy Nadar. The showcased how Dussehra is celebrated in different parts of India.

The entire program was presented in a form of ppt for which the fruitful efforts of Ms. Rasika Bhujbalrao was of utmost importance, who edited all the videos and prepared the final ppt. The principal of PCER Chembur Dr. Reni Francis, appreciated and praised the team with her kind words for organising a wonderful assembly.

Alumni Corner

This month's article has been written by Ms. Priyanka Mohite, alumna from the Batch of 2018-20 and at present a Biology Faculty, Lakshya Prep Junior College, Chembur.

She presents her view on online teaching of Science during the Pandemic.

Science Teachers and Online Teaching

The heading itself sounds unpalatable isn't it? How can someone teach a subject like science whose major chunk belongs to the practical and hands on performing? But, out of many lessons that this pandemic has taught us, this is the one for me!

I was transformed from being a student to being an intern and eventually a faculty in this course of pandemic. As a student of this college, we all started our journey with enthusiasm and were learning at a full pace until this coronavirus put a break on it all.



But, our management and teachers never made us feel anxious about it and they smoothly sailed us through this rough patch. To look at the positive side of this pandemic, our batch had the hybrid learning experience of both offline and online learning. This entire experience unknowingly made us all so compatible with technology that when I started teaching it just seemed like a session of our practice sessions.

Science at home was an impossible concept till now, but we all have adapted to this new normal! Teachers and students both made it possible with the help of technology.

Soon after my appointment as the Biology faculty at Junior college, I had to conduct Biology practical for the XII std students. We used various ways to make it interesting since the students just had to sit and study the topic. Videos were used and different software like simulations were used in which the students could operate virtually and pseudo-perform the experiment. It was a nice tool which helped students visualize the experiment at the same time control the parameter and check the effects for their own.

But still some practicals were difficult to carry out in simulations. At this point I would like to share a personal, funny, weird experience with you all. There was this one practical where students were supposed to isolate DNA from banana fruit. And I was feeling very reluctant to just show them the video and simulations were not that helpful for this particular experiment. So I searched for different ways which might make it more understandable for students.

With the help of a few videos on Youtube I came up with a decision to demonstrate this experiment for my students. So I used all kinds of substitutes or as we call it 'Jugads' such as using a vegetable masher in case of mortar and pestle, container in place of test tube, and sanitizer in place of alcohol. Yes! I used sanitizer and I conducted the experiment and my students were so glad and they were happy that they too can perform it at home.

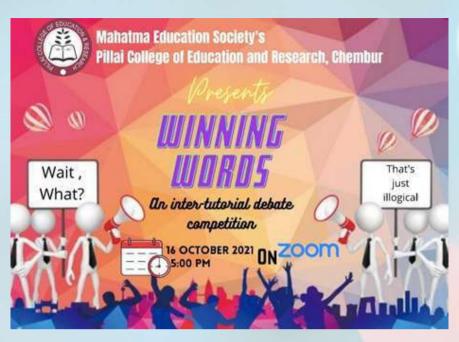
I would like to sum up what I learned from these institutions, my teachers and my friends. That, "there is always a way a little away....".



Student's Corner



Winning Words - Intracollege Debate Competition (16th October, 2021)



In order to commemorate the National Students' Day which falls on 15th October, 2021, the Student Council of PCER, Chembur organised an intracollege debate competition.

The competition was held live over Zoom and the students participated as tutorial group teams. Each team consisted of two students. The students debated on the following topics:

Virtual Learning is more impactful than Classroom Learning (Elimination round)

India's Farm Laws: Is it a global problem? (Final round)

The debate was judged by:

Dr. Ignat Mendes - HOD Chemistry Department, Sophia College, Mumbai

Ms. Wilma D'souza - Supervisor, Z A Memon English School, Thane

Mr. Yogesh Pawar - Journalist and Social Worker

The winners of the competition were:

Ms. Callista Rebeira & Ms. Adrieal Fernandes from Dr. Mary Varghese's tutorial group while Ms. Maitree Vora & Ms. Lyzandra Rebello from Dr. Swasti Dhar's tutorial group were the runners-up.

Hungry Pulse - A short Film (16th October, 2021)





PCER Chembur commemorated the occasion of World Food Day on 16th October, 2021, by releasing a short film 'Hungry Pulse'. This film was conceived, enacted and directed by the of PCER Chembur students deprivation depicted the wastefulness that we see ourselves. Where millions of people lose their lives due to food and hunger crises, one third of the food produced globally is wasted or lost.

It highlighted the fact that the food shortage we see is created artificially due to political and economic reasons and urged everyone to adopt mindful and inclusive practices so that no one ever has to face hunger. The film gave a strong message of food conservation.

The activity was in line with SDG #2: Zero Hunger and can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-Z4XN0JIoE

