

# Our Lady of Grace Society's Pushpanjali College of Education Papdy, Vasai



Permanently Affiliated to University of Mumbai  
Recognised u/s 2 f and 12 B of UGC  
Reaccredited 'A+' Grade by NAAC, CGPA 3.51



## Pushpanjali triumphs with an A+ from NAAC

*'Quality is not an act, it is a habit.'* The quote aptly sums up the secret of Pushpanjali's success during the Third Cycle of NAAC Accreditation. We are pleased to announce that the college was accredited with an A+ grade and a CGPA of 3.51. The NAAC Peer team visited the college on 7 and 8 October 2017. The honorable members of the NAAC Peer team - Prof K.B Budhori(Former Head and Dean, Department of. Education, HNB Garhwal University), Prof N.A Nadeem(Dean and Head, Dept of Education, Central University of Kashmir ) and Dr S Sharma(Principal L.N.K College of Education, Patan, Gujarat) - have affirmed the high quality of the teaching-learning process transacted in the college. The Peer Team also acknowledged the support provided by the visionary management. They appreciated the efforts of the management and faculty in providing quality teacher education. The management, staff and students benefitted from the interaction with the members of the Peer Team as their experience and expertise helped to review the various aspects of the B.Ed programme. The reflection fostered through this interaction will help the college to make strides of progress because ultimately quality is not a destination, it is a journey.



The grade obtained by the college is the culmination of the motivation and direction provided by the Management and the College Development Committee. The efforts and sustained hard work of Principal Dr Mariamma Joseph, IQAC co ordinator Dr Sheetal

Chaudhari, the faculty and support staff and the students are also acknowledged. We put on record our sincere gratitude to the experts on our IQAC Dr Karuna Gupta, Fr Patrick DSouza, Mr Willibrord George and Mr Sunil Rajpurkar. We thank Br Ryan Principal of St Augustine's High School and Sr Jaya, Principal of Nazareth High School for sparing their valuable time to interact with the Peer Team. Our alumni and parents of students were present in large numbers to share their experiences. We are also grateful to our Heavenly Father who helped us throughout our journey of accreditation. We also thank Mother Mary and our patroness St Therese of Lisiuex for keeping us in their loving care.



### **Adieu Principal Dr Mariamma Joseph**

After an illustrious innings of 28 years at Pushpanjali College of Education, Dr Mariamma Joseph retired in April 2018. She scripted love and enduring respect in the hearts of all those who came in contact with her. Madam joined Pushpanjali as a faculty member in 1990 the year of the inception of the college. She guided the college during its formative years and directed its infant steps. In 2010, she took over the reins as the Principal of the college and



led it to great heights of success. The 'A' grade from NAAC during the Second Cycle of Accreditation in 2011 and the 'A+' grade during the Third Cycle of Accreditation in 2017 are testimony to her erudite leadership and zealous efforts. The farewell programme was graced by many well-wishers including representatives of the management and alumni. Family and friends as well as the staff of the various educational institutions in the Our Lady of Grace Educational Complex were present to express their joy and gratitude. In her farewell address, Madam Joseph recounted her

years at Pushpanjali and expressed gratitude to all instrumental in helping her lead the college to moments of glorious success. Manager Sr Sushila, members of the College

Development Cell Sr Delphina, Mr Wilfred Pereira and Mr Richard Vaz, faculty members, alumni, retired faculty and other well wishers reminisced about the contribution Madam Joseph made towards the college. Everyone appreciated her dedication and diligence, her commitment and concern towards her vocation. We wish Madam Dr Mariamma Joseph a healthy and happy retired life.



### **Degree distribution 2015-17**

The first batch of the Two Year B.Ed Programme received their Degree Certificates during a solemn Degree Distribution Programme held on April 2018. Ms Manisha Sanwar (Educational Officer, BMC ) and Br Ryan Fernandes (Principal of St Augustine's High School) graced the occasion in the capacity of Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. Prize winners were awarded scholarships, certificates and prizes. Ms Manisha Sanwar in her address traced her journey from being a student at Pushpanjali to now leading over



200 schools in the capacity of an educational officer with the Brihanmumbai Municipal



Corporation managed schools. She emphasized the importance of e-education and shared her experience of using online learning with students. Br Ryan Fernandes deliberated on the multiple facets of an effective teacher reiterating that a good teacher is one who touches the lives of students and not just skims through content.

Ms Nikita Rebello (CGPA ) stood first in the college. The second place was jointly shared by Ms. Suparna Jaiswal and Ms Larisa Gonsalves.



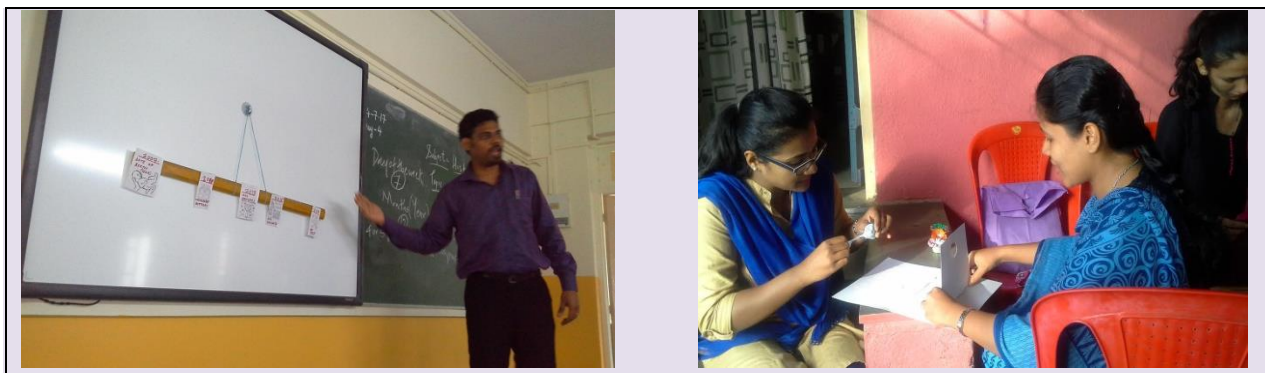
### Results of 2016-18

The batch of 2016-18 has brought laurels to the college through their consistently stupendous performance in all semesters. The pass percentage was 100%. Tracy DSouza and Andriya Colaco obtained O grades with a CGPA of 7.0. It is heartening to note that 44 students secured A grade and 4 students obtained B grade.

We congratulate all the students.

### Integrating Theory into Practice ..Our Internship experience

The intensive twenty week Internship Programme provided a platform to learn and practise various skills as delivering effective lessons, managing classrooms, conducting a test and engaging students during proxy lectures. We are grateful to all our internship schools for permitting us to complete our internship. We are grateful to inservice teachers who mentored the student –teachers and offered them valuable guidance regarding classroom management.



### **Pushpadeep enlightens**

Pushpadeep (Pushpanjali's Dept of Extension Education Activities) organises many programmes to augment the regular curricular inputs. Mr Pius Almeida, Retd Superintendent St Stanislaus High School Bandra interacted with students and guided them regarding various records and documents to be maintained by the school office. Thus he emphasized the interdependence of the teaching faculty and the office staff.

Dr Helen Jadhav conducted a course on Life Skills for Teachers. She dwelt on important life skills such as time management, stress management, communication and interpersonal skills.

Ms Heather Gabriel conducted a workshop on Use of Puppets for Classroom Teaching.

On 23 September, students of S.Y.B.Ed attended a lecture on Child Abuse. The resource person Ms Jean Pereira, Counsellor at Kripa Foundation said that teachers have to go beyond the classroom content and stay updated about the current events and happenings in today's world. They also are required to be tech-savvy to cope up with the pressure of handling the gen-next children who get a vast exposure to media and technology right from an early age. She emphasised the need for sex education and spoke about child abuse in its different forms – verbal, emotional, physical and sexual. She threw light on substance abuse and addiction. The talk was supported by many case studies.

Students of F.Y.B.Ed visited National School Virar and interacted with the Principal and teachers. The experience was useful to learn how the school ambience can add to meaningful learning. The students learned how every corner of a school can be used as a learning space.

**Co curricular activities** augment the academic inputs and help teachers to develop vibrant personalities. Vibrant teachers in turn bring out the best in their students. The college provided a platform to students to display their talents through various activities.

The students of F.Y.B.Ed had a **talent display** wherein they gave us glimpses of their talents in the form of song, dance and drama. A display of various craft articles, paintings and drawings was also organised.

Festivals were celebrated with much enthusiasm. Special assemblies on the occasion of Id, Diwali, Onam and Easter helped to understand the cultural and religious significance of the festivals. Lent was observed with special Lenten assemblies that helped to reflect and look inward. Christmas was marked by a special tableau. Various competitions were organized in connection with these festivals. The diya decoration, rangoli and food stall competitions made it a dazzling Diwali. The carol singing, card competition and candle decoration ushered the Christmas spirit. Makar Sankrant was celebrated with much enthusiasm as we looked at the cultural and social significance of the day.

**Pushpanjali Day, the Feast of patroness St Therese of Lisieux** was celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> October. The celebration of the Holy Eucharist invoked the blessings of God on the students and staff. Fr Anthony, the celebrant, reiterated the importance of the role of teachers in building a just and morally upright society. Special assemblies on the life of St Therese were organised as a precursor to this golden day.

**Teachers Day** was celebrated on 5 September. The day began with a prayer invoking God's blessings on the staff. An entertainment programme that merged song, dance and games followed. The members of the staff were overwhelmed by the affection showered on them.



### **Picnic to Goa**

Picnics are time to unwind and distress. During the first week of December, students of S.Y.B.Ed had a fun-filled time in Goa. Relaxation was blended with education as we visited places of historical interest like the Basilica of Bom Jesus, Se Cathedral, The Science Museum and ruins of Aguada Fort. A half day





visit to the Sahakar Farms helped to see spice plantations and learn about the extraction of herbal medicines.



We had some relaxing moments at the beaches and the river cruise and lots of entertainment in the form of an impromptu fancy dress show with a Halloween theme. Sumptuous meals and moments of song and dance added to the fun.



### Reaching the Unreached...Our Community Work Experience

*Everyone has a purpose in life and a unique talent to give to others. When we blend this unique talent with service to others we experience the ecstasy and exultation of our own spirit, which is the ultimate goal of all goals.* Community work activities helped the students to share

their talents with the less fortunate.



➤ **Educational excursion to Jawhar:**  
The visit to Bosco Samajik Vikas Sanstha, Walvanda, Jawhar was an enriching and sensitizing experience. In an orientation programme that was conducted by Fr.

Rickson and Savvy, along with the esteemed visionary, Fr Anacleto D'mello, the students were informed about the foundation of the institution, the basis it follows and were taken through an array of future plans Bosco Samajik Vikas Sanstha intends to actualise in the years to come. Seeing the difficult lifestyle of the people living in the regions of Jawhar, Mokhada, Talasari sensitised students to work harder towards the upliftment of these people in the society. Various activities were undertaken by the students for an enriching interaction session with the students of Bosco Samajik Vikas Sanstha. Sessions included topics like Career Guidance, life skills education- Time management, Decision Making, Stress Management and Interpersonal skills. Action songs and games were conducted for the primary section. This trip was both educational and awe-inspiring, and at the same time sensitising enough to stay with the students for a lifetime.



- **Helping the needy:** In this social activity, students served the sick people, helped senior citizens, helped the needy students in academics and entertained disabled students by engaging them in art and craft activities.

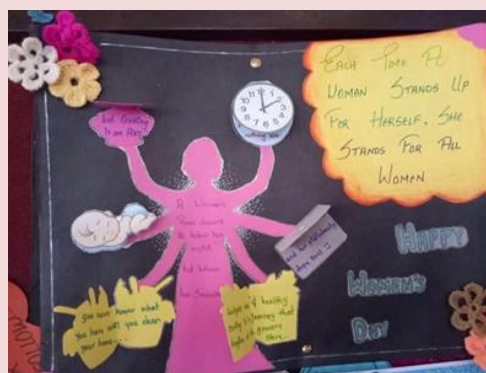


- **Visits to community centers:** The students visited different community centers such as orphanages and homes for the aged and spent quality time with the inmates.



- **Collection of Blind Relief Fund:** The College organized a session to sensitize the students about the needs of the blind people. The students collected a commendable sum which would be used for Blind Relief.
- **Celebrate together:** The students celebrated Diwali at community centers in collaboration with 'Jagruk Nagrik Sanstha'. They conducted entertainment programmes for the inmates followed by distribution of sweets and grocery material. Christmas was celebrated with girls from marginalized tribal families. Delicacies were distributed and some entertainment games were organized.

**Streevani, the Women's Development Cell**, organised a special programme to mark International Women's day on 8 March. Mrs Brigdina Coutinho, CEO of Bassein Catholic Co-operative Bank graced the occasion and spoke on the role of women in building a balanced society which respects and promotes gender equity. Students assumed the roles of contemporary women achievers and shared their success stories. A display on women achievers was organised to share the inspirational lives of over 25 women who battled various odds to achieve their goals. During the entire year various input sessions were held to generate awareness regarding gender laws and programmes and schemes for gender equality. Special assemblies on gender sensitization were conducted to mark International Day of the Girl Child.



**Rucha Literature Club** observed Hindi Diwas on 14 September. Dr Helen Jadhav gave a talk on the need to appreciate the richness of our culture through preservation and propagation of one's national language. She also spoke on the origins of the day and elucidated the efforts of stalwarts who lobbied for the adoption of Hindi as the official language of the republic of India. Students recited Hindi poems and



other literary compositions to mark the day.

15 October was observed as Reading Day to honour our Late President Dr A.P. J Abdul Kalam. Students conducted a special assembly to emphasize the importance of reading and also presented a review of many books written by Dr Kalam. Principal Dr Mariamma Joseph shared her views on the importance of reading to widen the horizons of one's mental faculties. Dr Agnes Dcosta spoke on the psychological benefits of reading. An exhibition on Books by Dr Kalam was organised under the guidance of Dr Helen Jadhav.

Marathi Literature day was observed in February to commemorate the anniversary of poet Kusumagraj. Talks were held to enlighten students about the literary genius Kusumagraj. The rich heritage of Marathi language was displayed through multimedia presentations. Poetry recitation was organised.





On 13th October 2017, **Immensa Commerce Club** organized a seminar on Digital banking in collaboration with Bassein Catholic Co-operation Bank. The seminar started at 10.30 am. Mrs. Gremila Miranda, the Assistant Manager of Vasai Branch and Ms. Edelwiess D'penha, Bank Officer, were the resource persons for the seminar. The event began with a short welcome and introduction of the guests by Prof. Dr. Mabel Pimenta. Basics of banking, online banking and other important topics were discussed.

The students of Commerce Club visited The New India Assurance Co-op Ltd office in Vasai.



They interviewed the manager regarding various concerns and doubts with regards to insurance. They also spent time with the office staff and noticed the management flow of the company. They also visited Federal Bank and Manickpur Urban Co-operative Bank to study various financial processes. To understand the intricacies involved in running a business, the students ran a canteen for the college students. The experience helped to get firsthand

knowledge regarding business activities





**Itihaas History Club** organised a visit to a stamp, coin and currency exhibition held at Fr Bhandari Hall. The exhibition showcased a rich collection of ancient and modern currency and stamps. The collector Mr Pascal Lopes gave insightful inputs



regarding the origin of these stamps and coins thus helping to view history through the lens of a researcher.

Special assemblies were organised to mark Constitution Day (26 November) and Gandhi

Jayanti (2 October). These assemblies were utilised as a platform to spread information about the rich heritage of our country.

**Pushpaganit Mathematics Club** organised a Mathematics Trail to the lake gardens. Students



observed various patterns and forms and appreciated the aesthetic presence of Mathematics in

our lives. The club arranged a Mathematics Fair on 22 September where various games and displays helped students see the fun element in learning of Mathematics and also appreciate the importance of Mathematics in one's daily life. A display of various instructional resources for learning Mathematics was also organised.



Under the aegis of **Vasundhara Environmental Club** a rally was organised to emphasize the need to refuse plastic and replace it with environmentally friendly alternatives. The rally was held in collaboration with an NGO Green Hammer Foundation. Participants walked from the college to Notre dame School where the rally terminated and along the way sensitized citizens to adopt a plastic free life style.

Special assemblies were held to mark days such as World Forest day (21 March) Earth Day(22 April) and Water Day (22 March). These assemblies created a general awareness regarding the precarious condition of our planet and also disseminated vital inputs regarding our role in saving the environment.

Students prepared various articles out of throw away material and the products were exhibited in a display entitled 'Best From Waste.'







**Eureka Science Club** celebrated National Science Day on 28 February with a special programme that highlighted the contribution of Dr C.V Raman. The students of Science Club conducted nature trails to study the local flora.

### Student Achievements

Ms Maslie Coutinho of F.Y.B.Ed won the first place for her poster on Harmony at a competition organised by St Xavier's Institute of Education, Churchgate.

Students also participated in Tarangan, an intercollegiate event organised by Thakur College, Kandivli and at the fest organised by BTTC College, Colaba.



Students are always encouraged to go beyond mere syllabi. This is done by encouraging them to participate in online courses to widen their horizons of knowledge and equip themselves with skills needed for the contemporary world. During the academic year 2017-18 Anthony Dias, Mildred Gonsalves and Tracy DSouza successfully completed a Massive Open Online course entitled 'Introduction to Technology Enabled Learning' conducted by Commonwealth of Learning and University of Athabasca, Canada.

**Pushpajyot Placement Cell** organised a pre-placement talk by Ms Fatima Dsouza where she guided the students regarding the preparation of one's Curriculum Vitae. She also guided the students to identify job opportunities through school websites. Representatives of many schools visited the college and interacted with the students orienting them to job openings. Students faced interviews both on campus and off campus. They were duly guided by the faculty. We are happy to announce that all students have secured good placements in reputed schools and colleges. Many are pursuing further education through distance mode.





## Alumni News

We are proud of our alumnus of the 1996-97 batch Mr Shankar Bali who has received the 'Shikshak Mitra Puraskar' for the year 2017-18. Shankar, who presently teaches at Dnyandeep Vidyalaya Goregoan, has always proved to be a meritorious teacher who values social justice. Shankar's poems have been published by magazines of repute. He is often invited to speak at various platforms for social justice. Congratulations Shankar! May your work inspire many others!



Alumni Nikita Rebello, Sarah Menezes and Poonam Thakur guided the students regarding facing the examinations with fortitude and equanimity. They provided valuable tips regarding sustained study habits and also responded to queries raised by the students. The alumni discussed their internship experiences and advised the students to make utmost use of the internship to learn classroom management.



A general body meeting of the alumni association was held in September 2017. Alumni shared various experiences and pledged their support to the college.

The **Internal Quality Assurance Cell** of the college organised a session on Quality Institutional Ranking Framework (QIRF) initiative of the NCTE. Faculty of Pushpanjali College and St Aloysius D.T.Ed College attended the same where Dr Agnes DCosta briefed the participants regarding TeachR- the Ranking and Accreditation Framework designed for Teacher Education Institutes. The IQAC also co ordinated with NAAC for the Annual Quality Assurance Report and other communication regarding the NAAC Third Cycle of Assessment. Quality Audit exercises were carried out to identify the status of quality in various arenas.



We are extremely happy to announce that Mr Willibrord George, member of our IQAC was the National Winner of the Advaita Foundation School Leadership Award for schools in the Urban Category. The Advaita Foundation School Leadership Awards are a platform to recognise fundamental transformation in the learning cultures of schools and of the teaching profession itself. Congratulations Mr Willibrord George!

The **Valedictory Day** for the batch of 2016-18 witnessed moments of mixed feelings. Students shared experiences of their two year journey at Pushpanjali. They expressed their appreciation for the various programmes that helped them hone their skills and groom themselves to be effective teachers. Principal Dr Mariamma Joseph spoke on the essentials of the heart of a teacher who blends sensibility with empathy. Fr Solomon Rodrigues guided the students and blessed them on the occasion. Students who excelled in various areas were given prizes. The Sr Glancy Baptista Prize awarded to students who display exemplary behaviour was jointly shared by Anthony Dias, Tracy DSouza and Mildred Gonsalves.



## Staff news

### • Papers published by the faculty

The faculty published the following papers

- Dr Sheetal Chaudhari's paper entitled 'A study of Perception of Students regarding Education for Global Peace' was published in the International Peer Reviewed Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary studies (Referred Quarterly) Special Issue July-Sept 2017, Vol 6 Issue 33(ISSN 2319-4766. The journal is globally indexed with an impact factor of 6.177.
- Dr Mabel Pimenta's paper 'Identification of Key Areas for Development of Self Concept of Adolescents' was published in the International Peer Reviewed Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary studies (Referred Quarterly) Special Issue July-Sept 2017, Vol 6 Issue 33(ISSN 2319-4766. The journal is globally indexed with an impact factor of 6.177.
- Dr Mabel Pimenta's paper 'Coping Skills-A Challenge before Adolescents' was published in Sanshodhan Chetna Sept 2017 issue (ISSN 2319-5525)
- Dr Mabel Pimenta's paper 'Use of Universal Instructional Design in Inclusive Classrooms-Technology can make a Difference' was published in New Frontiers in Education December 2017(ISSN 0972-1231)
- Ms Angelina Nunes' paper entitled 'Constructivist Approach in Teaching of Mathematics' was published in the International Peer Reviewed Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary studies (Referred Quarterly) Special Issue July-Sept 2017, Vol 6 Issue 33(ISSN 2319-4766. The journal is globally indexed with an impact factor of 6.177.
- Ms Angelina Nunes' paper entitled 'Brain Based Learning in Mathematics – Principles, Stages and Implications' was published in Vidyawarta Interdisciplinary Multilingual Referred Journal Issue 22 Vol 12 April to June 2018.
- Dr Helen Jadhav's paper 'Stress Management: Manifestation of Inner and Global Peace' was published in the International Peer Reviewed Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary studies (Referred Quarterly) Special Issue July-Sept 2017, Vol 6 Issue 33(ISSN 2319-4766. The journal is globally indexed with an impact factor of 6.177.
- Dr Agnes DCosta's paper 'Altering the landscape of Education 3.0 through Massive Open Online Courses' was published in the International Peer Reviewed Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary studies (Referred Quarterly) Special Issue July-Sept 2017, Vol 6 Issue 33(ISSN 2319-4766. The journal is globally indexed with an impact factor of 6.177.
- Dr Agnes DCosta's paper 'Rhizomatic Learning: Where one learns, unlearns and relearns', published in Researcher Tandem, Vol 7, No 24, (Peer Reviewed Referred Journal UGC approved Sr No 1315 Journal number 48548, ISSN 2230-8806)
- Dr Agnes DCosta's article 'Connecting, Collaborating and Communicating through Web 2.0' was published in Aarushi - Recent Trends in Pedagogy annual magazine of Hashu Advani College of Special Education.



### **Contribution of Faculty as resource persons**

The faculty rendered their expertise as resource persons in schools and other social institutions.

- Dr Sheetal Chaudhari guided parents at Convent of Jesus and Mary High school and oriented them on Effective Parenting.
- On 10 September 2017, Dr Mabel Pimenta spoke to Giriz Teachers' Association and guided them regarding 'Use of Universal Instructional Design to promote Inclusion'.
- Dr Helen Jadhav guided the parents at Thomas Baptista School and presented her views on Nurturing children with grace.
- Dr Agnes DCosta conducted workshops for Mathematics teachers at Salvation Seva Kendra, Dadar on 6 June 2017 and at Canossa Convent Mahim on 7 June 2017. A similar workshop was held on 9 November 2017 at Salvation Hall, Dadar. These workshops were organised by the Archdiocesan Board of Education Mumbai for teachers as part of inservice enrichment.
- Dr Agnes DCosta was judge for a debate organised by Nazareth Convent High School as part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations.
- On 9 August 2017 Dr Agnes DCosta was resource person for two sessions during the Refresher Course on Technology and academic Engagement organised by UGC Human Resource Development Centre and Dept of Education, University of Mumbai.
- On 18 December 2017 Dr Agnes DCosta was resource person for an orientation course organised by UGC Human Resource Development Centre, Mumbai and she conducted two sessions on Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).
- In March 2018 Dr Agnes DCosta was resource person for a workshop on Exploring E Learning Avenues at S.M Shetty College, Powai. This programme was organised by the IQAC of the college.

The members of the faculty have always been keenly involved in University related tasks and have been members of Local Inquiry 'Committees (LIC) for colleges seeking affiliation. Faculty members have been appointed paper setters and moderators for various University Examinations.