



# LITERARY ASSOCIATION

Literature - the torch that enlightens the mind, the mirror that reflects the soul through ink and imagination, transforming the world into a realm that's better than the one that exists. It isn't merely jotting down words on paper or uttering rhyming verses but a powerful potion giving wings to oneself, exploring the unknown exotic imagination within oneself.

The Art of becoming bigger and better than oneself has always been a vision deeply rooted in the Literary Association of St. Joseph's College, Prayagraj. With our resolute roots, we have been instrumental in bringing about the flourishing of countless Josephites, harvesting their buds of curious intellect and helping them bloom and thrive becoming a voice, a tool for change and reform and being better humans for a better tomorrow.

This year has been a testament to our unwavering vision to enlighten and inspire the minds of the students. The Literary Association, steadfast in its mission, kickstarted the Academic Year, 2024-25 with organising the Shrimati Vimla Devi Essay Writing Competition for the students from classes 6 to 12 on the deeply empathic topic "Mothers", allowing them a platform to express their gratitude their heartfelt appreciation and reflections. With more than 600 students participating, our affectionate sons provided the judges with a plethora of essays, resonating their love for their mothers. It was a competition which was meticulously designed to refine and augment the participants' essay writing prowess, fostering a sophisticated mastery of linguistic expression and intellectual articulation.





The Literary Association also successfully organised the Inder Mohan Sethi Debate Competition in the auditorium on the 15th of October, 2024 sponsored by the Stellar Trust Fund for the very first time which aimed to foster the skills of critical thinking, research and public speaking.

Both competitions were patronised by Mr. Ravi Mohan Sethi, a retired IAS officer and alumnus of St. Joseph's College, Prayagraj who floated these innovative ideas of keeping the memories of his late parents, Mrs. Vimla Devi and Mr. Inder Mohan Sethi alive through these multi-pronged competitions. There were generous cash prizes for all the winners in all the categories.

On the 23rd of August, 2024, the Literary Association hosted and organised the ASISC Zonal Debate Competition which saw the participation of 9 schools in the Junior Category (comprising Classes 9 and 10) and the Senior Category (comprising Classes 11 and 12), making a total of 36 students from all across the Prayagraj Zone. The topic for the Debate in the Senior Category was "The rapid advancement of technology has contributed to a digital divide between different socio-economic groups" and for the Junior Category was "Censorship is a necessary evil". The discerning judges were tasked with the onerous responsibility of identifying the exemplary orators who would emerge as the representatives of the Prayagraj Zone at the Regional Level to be held in Lucknow.

In the Junior Category, Daksh Abhishiktt Lyall and Raghav Mishra of SJC stood First speaking For and Against the Motion respectively. In the Senior Category, Aditya Mishra stood Second speaking For the Motion and Ajjawad Abbas Ansari stood Third speaking Against the Motion.

In the ASISC Zonal Declamation Competition held at St. Mary's Convent, Prayagraj, Shreshth Joseph Sebastian stood Third in the Senior Category and Daksh Abhishiktt Lyall stood First in the Junior Category adding another feather to the College's already decorated cap.

The Literary Association organised a Crossword Competition on the 7th of September, 2024 which saw a participation of more than 120 students from Classes 6 to 12. With fervent minds, the students deciphered word puzzles, their cerebral agility sharpened putting their linguistic abilities, analytical thinking and vocabulary prowess to the test.

During the College Megafest - Josephest, the Literary Association played a pivotal role in conceptualising, scripting, directing, and orchestrating a spectacular Mime production, Silent Shadows, showcasing its versatility in storytelling through a harmonious blend of drama, music, gestures and graceful, fluid movement. Similarly, the Sell It To Win It Event was also managed and excellently collaborated, phenomenally produced and directed by the Literary Association which culminated in a resounding success. Their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment earned them the coveted Gold medals in both the Mime and Sell It To Win It Events- a testament to their exceptional talent and teamwork.

The Association was also responsible for training the students for competitions like the Claude Martin Debate in which Aditya Mishra was awarded the Best Speaker for all three levels of the debate in Pool D, and the Albert Barrow Creative Writing Competition in which Adwit Rajaram stood First in the Sub Junior Category.

The Literary Association also conducted a special





morning assembly in the month of September signifying the relevance and importance of English Literature and Language in through the media of proverbs and poetry with the inclusion of the works of William Shakespeare, George Bernard Shaw, John Keats among others. The Assembly was highly appreciated by the Principal and the entire gathering. It served as a basis to encourage the students to seek beyond their academic curriculum and to actively engage in reading and writing to make their souls grow and to transform themselves and the world wherein they abide.

The Association is extremely grateful to our Principal, Rev. Fr. Walter D'Silva for all his help and support at every step of each function. We also extend our gratitude to our Headmaster, Rev. Fr. Melvin Pais for his timely advice and guidance and our Additional Administrator, Mr. A. McGowan for all his motivation throughout the year. We are thankful to the members of the Association as well as non - member volunteers who have helped us in the successful conduct of many events namely, Avneesh Kumar for his extraordinary help with the technical work, Mohd. Sultan and Shresht Sebastian for volunteering to help in many of the Association's events.

A special acknowledgement of the dedication and commitment of two members of the Association, Usmani Abdul Rahman and Devansh Pandey is necessary as they went above and beyond their call of duty working tirelessly yet silently behind the scenes ensuring the smooth execution of each event. Their exceptionally steadfast allegiance and diligence have earned them a place of respect and the gratitude of the Association and its members.

We are eternally indebted to the incomparable Chairperson of the Association, Miss A.J. D'Cruz whose unwavering dedication and selfless commitment have been the bedrock of the Association's unparalleled success, being ever present, offering constant unwavering support to the students as a beacon of guidance throughout the year training the students with values and skills that we shall always remember and carry with us in our future ventures. Miss D'Cruz's transformative impact on the Association has been nothing short of phenomenal. Her visionary leadership and tenacious efforts have elevated the Association to unprecedented heights.

The Academic Year 2024 - 2025 sealed an undeniable, indelible mark in glorifying and cultivating the latent literary marvels amongst our students outside their academics and helped produce orators, debaters, writers, poets and actors. As we close this Academic Year, we hope that the banner of the Literary Association continues to be a trailblazer, upholding the motto of Association, 'Let Your Light Shine' for many more batches illuminating minds and hearts alike through the medium of art and literature.

The Office Bearers of the Literary Association for the Academic Year 2024 - 2025 were :

President:	Sarthak Singh
Vice President:	Shubh Narain
Treasurer:	Devansh Pandey
Organizing Secretary:	Shayaan Zaman
General Secretary:	Usmani Abdul Rahman