

# LOURDZTER

A LOURDES PUBLICATION

Our motto : Exploro, Reflect, Act !

EDUCATION-A STREAM OF LIGHT TO GLEAM HUMANITY



June  
2015

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*As the new academic year unfolds, with the rainbow in the sky, with the sun rays peeping through the dark clouds and the rain droplets gently falling on the grass, we are here with the new issue of Lourdzter. Lens the nature as a wonderful inspiration and colour its pages with your imaginative and innovative art and articles. Allow your ideas and views to flow freely to inspire those with receptive minds. The school theme Education – A Stream of Light to Gleam Humanity has much to say to you. Education, as the soil and light nourish growth, should let you see your growth as a better human being. An imaginative mind and creative idea once blend makes an inspiring 'YOU'. Let our school news letter be that platform to know that 'YOU'.*

Sr. Bindhu

## SCHOOL UPDATE

"Welcome back" said Lourdians and the rains to each other. On the first day of school we were pleasantly surprised. Waiting to greet us was a newly painted school building's new garden for the Prem Niketan babies and a renovated cultural hall.

As usual the students got busy in academics as well as co-curricular activities. In June we conducted the Caption Writing and the Book Mark Making Competitions. A Pravesh Ustav was organized for Std 1st and 2nd.

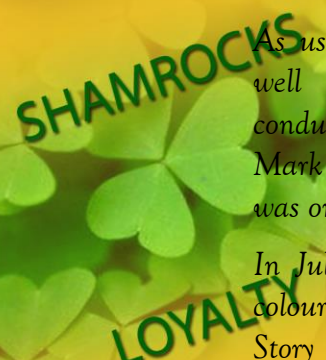
In July we conducted a Recitation and picture colouring Competition for students of I and II, Story Telling, Picture Collage Competition for students of Std. V, VI, VII and VII.

The High School students were also involved in

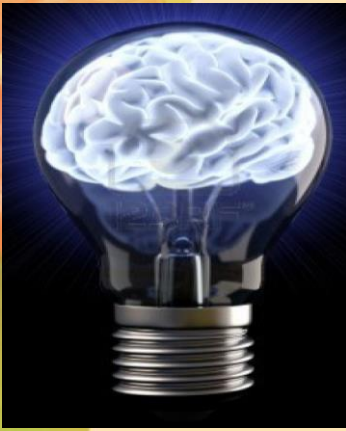
a Dramatics Competition, Chart Making and Photography Competition.

We, as members of the Sun's family have taken light for granted. Yet there are unexplored opportunities in light-based technologies. So the year 2015 has been declared the International Year of Light and Light-based technology in order to raise student awareness on light science and its applications to meet global challenges in energy demand, education, agriculture and health. So our school too has adopted the theme 'Light' for this academic year.

As usual we have added a Lourdian touch to this concept and expanded its meaning to include the figurative meanings of light. So let's read how our young ignited minds express their views on light.



## *Igniting Young minds of India....*



There is a generation gap between the old and the young. They should be guided and their emergencies should be utilized for the progress of the nation. By playing constructive role, the youth can make India prosperous in every field.

The youth of any nation are its potential energy. They are the powerhouse and storehouse of infinite energy. They are the ones who are the pride of the nation. It is the youth, which bring laurels to the country.

Youth make up about 34% of the total population of the country. If we can harness this powerhouse of the nation in the right direction then the country can reach untold heights. All we need is to direct the energy of our youth in constructive channels that lead to development and progress. The creative potential of the younger generation coupled with their zeal, enthusiasm, energy and versatility can work wonders for the country. We need to empower our youth so that they can make a better tomorrow.

Let us focus constructively using the power of the youth for the betterment of the nation. Let us frame such policies which aim at empowering our youth so that we can be assured of a better future and a brighter tomorrow. Our country is gradually shining brighter and brighter. It will be soon awoken by these curious and turbulent minds.

**-Nishtha Jariwala  
VIII-C**

### *The Silver Lining*

'I am no bird and no net ensnares me. I am a free woman with an independent will'.

What does freedom mean? At an absolute level no human being is free. We are tied down to our responsibilities, to our duties, to our parents, to our relatives and to our family. However it is expected that women are created for the family, for taking care of the home and family. Her whole and sole duty is toward her marital family.

None of these duties are in themselves wrong. The home has to be take care of, food has to be cooked daily, vegetables have to be brought and children have to be taken care of, but what is wrong, is the thinking of the society that women's primary aim in life is home and nothing can come in her way of this duty. Then her education, aspirations for a job or career become secondary. Her interests don't matter. For instance a young girl may have her interest in sports or music or joining the army, becoming a police officer, climbing up a mountain or becoming a pilot. These desires and aspirations are not allowed to bloom. A woman is truly free only if she is allowed to spire for these things, allowed to chase her dreams and allowed to live a life of her own will.

At the same time taking care of the home and family can always be a joint responsibility. Every member of the family can jointly take care of the home and domestic responsibility.

That would be a step towards freedom for women and that would be a day when the darkness in the lives of women would be replaced by the light of freedom.

**-VIII-C**

## **Light**

There has been light from the beginning. There will be light feebly at the end. In all its form-visible and invisible it saturates the universe. Light is more than bit inscrutable. Modern physics has sliced the stuff of nature into even smaller and more exotic constituents, but light won't reduce. Light is light, pure but not simple. Light is almost like air. There are exceptions certain moment of sudden appreciation when a particular manifestation of light, a transitory glory, appears – a rainbow, a sunset a pulse of heat, lightning twilight, the little red dot from a laser point. Light is now used for everything from laser eye surgery to telephone technology. The more you look at the topic, the more you realize that our lives are built around light that our daily existence is continuously shaped and made vivid by the ambiguous stuff that dates from the beginning of time. From our technology to our spirituality, we are creatures of light.

**-Shivakshi Desai  
VIII-A**

### **THE LIGHT IN ME**

*There is light  
In my inner soul  
In my deep bosom  
In my emotions so bright*

*There is light  
In my tender feeling  
In my soft emotions  
In my love so white*

*There is light  
In the divine thoughts  
In the prayerful heart  
In the actions so right*

*Who has ignited this bright light?  
Who has enkindled this white light?  
Who has shown this path right?*

*It is the divine light  
That has given us the sight  
To differentiate between the dark and light.*

**-Shivakshi Desai  
VIII-A**

## **Facts on light pollution**

### **The Problem is obvious:**

Hundreds of millions of lights are poorly designed. They send light up, down and all around instead of where light should be directed (towards the ground).

The glare from these lights often blinds and confuses drivers at night. In addition to this, the wasted electricity used to operate these lights contributes to global warming.

### **All that light ruins the night sky:**

Termed "Light Pollution", all those lights wash out the night sky ruining the beauty of the cosmos for all. Its particularly bad in larger cities. One avid Astro photographer who lives in Hong Kong refers to his city as 'a city without stars'.

Business and residence owners often claim that non-pollution light compromise advertising / security. However, its doubtful that all that light shining upward is doing much good.

Light pollution advocates don't suggest turning all of your outdoor lighting off. We just want you to aim your light in an appropriate direction and use fixtures that prevent light from going up into the sky.

**-Matangi Patel  
VIII-A**

### **The ray of white light in us**

Have you ever seen white light pass through a glass prism? It is very interesting. White light consist of seven colours : violet, indigo, yellow, orange and red. When we pass white light through a glass prism, it splits into these seven colours and this is known as a spectrum.

This spectrum can be compared to the life of a student. A student represents white light, the school represents the glass prism, and the different thoughts, ideas, knowledge, grace, moral values, personality development and self confidence represent the 7 beautiful colours. So, if we pass a student through school life, different qualities, ideas will develop in her and she will discover her true colours.

Education is exploring the darkness to find light.

**-Aamena Noorani  
VIII-A**



## The ghost light

The ghost light is described as an unexplained light occurring on dark nights as bright as a mercury lamp that changes its colour to blue, red and yellow and resembles a moving ball of fire, which may move as fast as an arrow but may also stop. These lights have been visible in the Banni grasslands and the adjoining Rann of Kutch in Gujarat for centuries. The local people call this ghost light as "Chir Batti". Chir meaning ghost and Batti meaning light.

This light can only be seen after 8 p.m. on dark nights and are always two to ten feet above the ground. Witness claim the lights at times appear to be playing hide and seek or following them.

Scientists believe that this is a flitting phosphorescent light seen at night, chiefly over marshy ground. It is caused by the oxidation of phosphine ( $\text{PH}_3$ ). Di phosphane ( $\text{P}_2\text{H}_4$ ), and methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ). These compounds, produced by organic decay, can cause photon emissions. Since phosphine and diphosphane mixtures spontaneously burn on contact with the oxygen in air, only small quantities of it would be needed to burn the much more abundant methane to create short-lived fires.

- Leena Kunjumon

VIII-A

## Fireflies

Everyone knows how fireflies got their name, but many people don't know how the insects produce their signature glow. Fireflies have dedicated light organs that are located under their abdomen. The insects take in oxygen and, inside special cells, combine it with a substance called luciferin to produce light with almost no heat.

Firefly light is usually intermittent, and flashes in patterns that are unique to each species. Each blinking pattern is an optical signal that helps fireflies find potential mates. Scientists are not sure how the insects regulate this process to run their lights on and off.

Firefly light may also serve as a defense mechanism that flashes as clear warning of the insect's unappetizing taste. The fact that even larvae are luminescent lends support to this theory. There are about 200 species of fireflies found in tropical and temperate areas.

-Ananya Thakkar

- Rashida Rangila

VIII-C

