

ज्ञानमाता

बाल भवन



HOSTEL

Magazine 2014 - 2015



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Preface

One of my all-time favourite basketball player Kobe Bryant once said, "The most important thing is to try and inspire people so that they can be great in whatever they want to do". My job as the prefect at G.B.B this academic year has been precisely this; inspire my boys and help them to do well in life. This year's batch has been a wonderful and resourceful one. You are in need of an artist, there is one; You are in need of an electrician, there's one. That way there is never scarcity of talent and resource at G.B.B.

In general, the boys are generous with their time and energy. There have been many mini 'projects' that have been carried out in the hostel this year and what strikes me is that there are always volunteers who come forward and offer their help and time. This at times makes me question my own

commitment and generosity. I hope that these generous boys continue to inspire their peers and fellow hostellers.

This magazine is a humble attempt of our boys to present some of their ideas, thoughts and experiences before you. Do appreciate their efforts when you meet any of them. Savor the writings with a child like attitude.

I am very grateful to our Director; Fr Alban who has been a pillar of strength at all times and to whatever ideas come up. Thanks to Fr Mathew who keeps in touch with our benefactors, keeps them updated about activities at the hostel and who is cheerful and spreads that cheer to us in the hostel. Br Tony is ever willing to help us whenever any official works bring about their difficulties. The three young college going brothers Jovilton, Sean and Velenson help

train our boys to improve their English. My Jesuit brothers are whom I lean on and who support me whenever I am in need of their assistance. I am very appreciative of all the efforts that they put in spite of their busy schedules.

The Manas look after the logistics and make things flow so smoothly at G.B.B. I am very grateful for the service they render to our youngsters. I thank the tuition teachers Maria, Marjorie, Milagrine and Zarina for bearing up with the mischief that our boys make while they take up their studies. Some teachers in the school too have been very encouraging of our boys and push them to achieve greater heights. I thank those teachers who support our boys when they are achievers and also when they fall and make mistakes. The brothers from XTC are a great help on weekends when the boys are there full day in the hostel. Minding so many can be a great task. The brothers make this look so easy. The Germans, Corina,

Helen and Tom have travelled distant miles and spared their valuable time looking after our boys. Words cannot express the gratitude that the hostel feels for you. A 'Danke' for now should suffice.

My most important pillar of support, my greatest critique and my punching bag this year has been Juan. A creative and artistic genius who challenges and drives me to do more and who has taken up a lot of beautifying works in the hostel. He is the force which has driven our boys to be creative. Without you Juan, the magazine would not attain fruition. Muchas Gracias Juan.

Last but not the least this magazine is a dedication to our benefactors, those who support us financially, spiritually and with their time and energy. May you continue to support our boys and always remember that we pray and remember you very often.

-Br Anderson Fernandes S.J.



Message

If there is one big change over the years it is that the boys have an increased sense of responsibility for the running of the boarding. Regents have encouraged the boys to be in charge of the various functioning aspects of boarding life.

Most commendable is the manner that the big boys help look after the smaller boys. Apart from the practicality of this duty is also the sense of responsibility that is inculcated. When a 5th standard boy fell ill with a toothache on a Sunday evening two Xth standard boys willingly and capably handled the situation.

A development I particular appreciate is that the boys participate more actively and confidently in school events. There are a considerable number of boarders who are there to run up to collect their share of the certificates and prizes. And this includes doing well in academics as well. Fr. Matthew has encouraged the boys to take leadership

positions in school including that of commander.

The regent even though handicapped with a knee operation did a marvelous job of training the boys to be more serious about their studies particularly. Even with the financial constraints there is a new look to some parts of the boarding with the renovation work Br. Anderson has undertaken. Juan the Spanish volunteer was a big help.

The collegians too willingly and ably stepped in when needed.

Br. Anderson with the help of Fr. Savio Abreu at the request of the provincial are undertaking a survey of the outcomes of the boarding ministry over the years. Certainly the primary aim of educating and formation of our youth from the rural areas has been accomplished. The results of the survey should indicate how far and to what extent the vision and purpose of the subsidized boarding has borne meaningful and worthwhile fruit. The dreams of pastoral minded Fr. Jerry Rodrigues

and academician Fr. Agnel Pinto stand in testimony of the success of their venture. The new study will indicate what else needs to be done and in what manner.

Thanks to the efforts of the support staff and well wishers much is being done and accomplished. The only way is to go ahead with better ideas and course correction wherever needed.

Blessings

-Fr. Alban D'souza S.J.



MC notes

Most irritating moment..... When someone comes to wake us up;
 Most important news in the morning No mass;
 Most important moment of the day..... To keep ourselves healthy;
 Most dreadful moment When we are late for something
 Most lovely news in school When teachers are absent
 Most important news from the principal There is a holiday
 Most relaxing area during the study time Outside the study hall
 Good news from brother that we have extra games
 Most painful movement..... When our friend is not feeling well
 Most interesting time When brother asks us to read a paragraph
 from the Kannada text book
 Most happy time.... When storeroom in charge informs us that there is
 something special for dinner
 Most joyful day.... Second Sunday to meet our parents

-Marcelino Carvalho (7th)



My Journey Called 'Tanmaya Sadhana'

At Lonavla (Jan 07 to Feb 27, 2015)

God blessed me with a wonderful gift, a chance to attend Tanmaya Sadhana at Lonavla. When I started the program here, I was aware what I wanted from this course, "The more I open up myself for guidance, the more benefit I will receive at Sadhana". This challenged me to open up myself fully.

During the orientation days, I heard, Emotional maturity is the ability to choose the most appropriate among the many choices available. I felt very happy to hear this statement. I felt, I got the secret to the success of my life. I realized the inability to make the most appropriate choice in a given situation was what lacking in me.

I also learnt the attitude of sense of wonder during the sessions on 'drawing from the depth' and in listening to what we shared, made me to think that if you want to have self awareness, develop the sense of wonder towards life and look at life with a new perspective. The inputs,

insights and sharing during the Affectivity and human developmental stages classes were challenging me to become aware of all the childhood experiences I went through, and made me to feel, realize and experience that a lot childhood and adolescent life is still present in me.

Whenever I had an opportunity to offer Eucharist for my companions and the community at Sadhana made me feel that Eucharistic is a very powerful way of communicating to God. One of the beautiful quality and the asset helped me during this course was openness to learn and to be healed. I had an attitude of giving myself fully to the course and it was this attitude that was forming me into a beautiful person. I was able to discipline myself and also change and be aware of my behavior patterns.

After having becoming aware of the areas I need to pay attention to in my life, the integration days helped me in

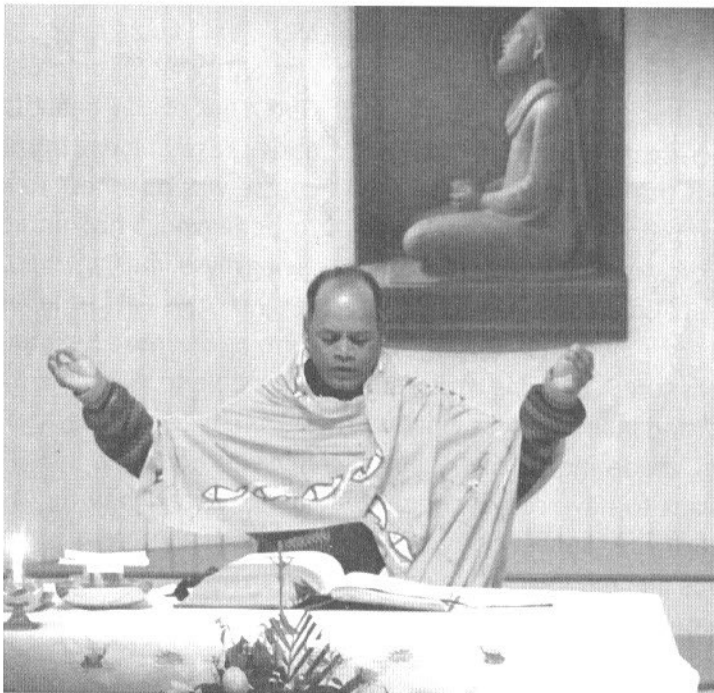
becoming aware of my inner resources and the positive energy in me. Now I am able to experience God's presence and peace in new places, more than ever. I find the environment here very conducive for introspection. The actual outcomes are: new life, new perspectives, new directions and greater depth. I believe in myself and my strength and also respect the goodness in others too.

Dear Readers what do you gain by reading my experience? Surely as you read my life you may

witness a spark in your life too. Let there be positive thoughts, happy thoughts rule our lives. The statement changes my life today is "I am not the slave of my Past" I am a new person, I want to be a blessing to others.

-Fr. Matthew Bardeskar S.J.

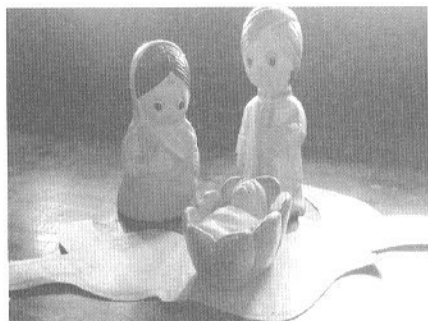
**Correspondent to Benefactors
and well wishers of Gnanmata Bal
Bhavan**





Christmas Celebrations

We began preparing for Christmas at the stroke of December. We started with the mass on the first day of the month. We had to pick out a chit with a name on it and this person would become our Christmas friend for the Christmas season. We had to pray for him and his family throughout the advent season and had to give him a Christmas gift on the day of our Christmas celebration in the hostel. We also made four groups among ourselves. One prepared Christmas carols, another-the crib, the third the star and the last group was in charge of the decoration.



The two German girls, Helen and Corina prepared a lovely chart with some inspiring thoughts and quotes for each day of the month. Our Spanish friend Juan prepared a lovely advent wreath with the help of the primary boys.

Our Christmas celebration in the hostel was on the 20th December. We had a programme for our benefactors and priests. We exchanged gifts, danced around the camp fire, sang carols and had a lovely celebration. After that we went home for our Christmas vacations to spend time with our families and village folk.

-Princeson D'Costa (7th)



My contribution during Christmas



After the first time we met to prepare for Christmas, I volunteered to join in the making of the hostel crib. I was tempted to join the sweets making committee but I felt I could better contribute in making the crib. We had a great time making the crib with lots of fun. Br Anderson and our friends would give us ideas which we added to our own. Our friends also helped us when we needed their help. I liked the spirit of service and togetherness as we worked towards the goal of preparing a nice crib for Jesus to be born. I was also involved in the Christmas programme dance and also sang

Christmas carols for the school celebrations. Being part of the band also allowed me to display my talents and proclaim the birth of our Lord to everyone.

-Kristan Lobo (6th)





Carol Singing

Oh! What a time it was. What a joy it was to sing. It was a time when we went out to sing and bring the joy of Christmas to many people. For the first time, the hostellers went to houses of our parishioners to sing carols. I felt really proud and played the trombone as the others sang with full gusto. The people we sang for really felt the spirit of Christmas. The people who we visited and sang for were not just Christians but non Christians too. I am so glad that we were given this



opportunity to sing and share the Christmas joy.

"Like jam in bread and like cement in bricks,
Christmas is more joyful when we celebrate and mix"

-Justin Mascarenhas (9th)





Christmas Message

Once God called his angels and told them to find a place on earth where people would not be able to find him. The angels went in search of such a place.

The first angel came to God and said that he has found a place on the top of a mountain where no one could find Him. God replied that man has already climbed on top of all the mountains to find out what is there.

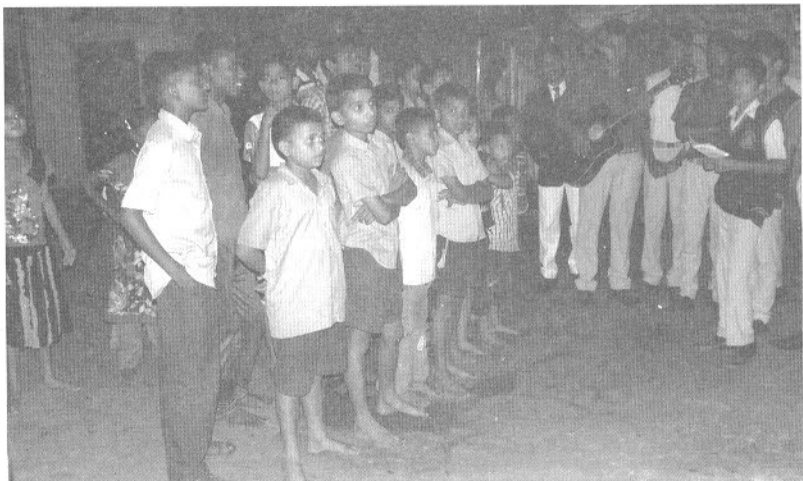
The second angel suggested to hide in the depths of the sea. God replied that modern technology has made it possible for man to see the

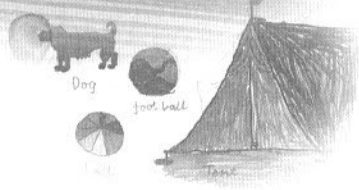
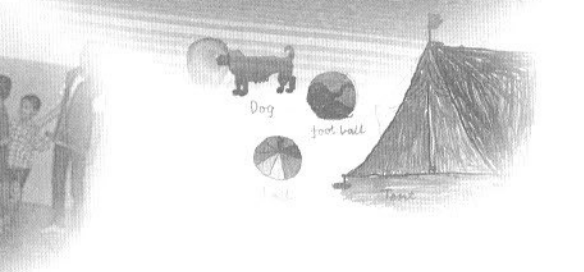
bottom of the sea.

The third angel told God and hide in people's hearts because no one will ever look out there. So true!

So during Christmas we should have a large heart that thinks of others first. Christmas is a time of love and we should not only focus on external preparations but internal preparations too. We should make room in our hearts for Jesus to enter and stay. I hope this message will make your future Christmases more meaningful.

-Richard Fernandes (7th)







Spreading the Christmas message in Belgaum

As the season of Advent set in, the band members of St Paul's wanted to go beyond our boundaries and spread the message of love and joy around Belgaum. Our idea was to combine the band and choir and perform for the Christian schools around the city.

After the necessary permissions were sought, we began our practices with lots of enthusiasm and eagerness under the guidance of Br Anderson and Sir Bajantri. The practices lifted our Christmas spirits. About a month of rigorous practice passed and we finally were performing. We performed for St Mary's School, Divine Providence School and St Joseph's School. We improvised by adding a wonderful dancing santa (a hosteller) to our show, whom all the kids loved.

We didn't limit spreading the Christtmas message and love only to schools. We visited old aged

homes, orphanages, centres for the terminally ill and such places. The people, who are rarely visited were overjoyed to see so many of us performing exclusively for them. Our German volunteers were impressed by the intensity of our performance and by our ability to create a joyful atmosphere.

All in all we had a great and spiritual time spreading the Christmas message in Belgaum which was to spread "Joy to the world".

-Stanley Pinto (10th)





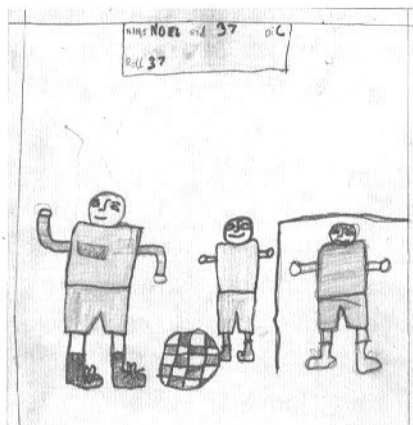
Our Manas

We have four manas in our hostel. They are Magdalene, Eliza, Meenakshi and Helina. They are very kind to us and help us. Magdeline and Eliza mana cook food for us while Meenakshi and Helina manas wash our clothes, iron them, sweep the hostel and clean the washrooms. They are very happy with us. Sometimes they give us things to eat. The manas serve us very well. We listen to them. They are good to us.

-Santhosh Fernandes (4th)



Playing Football in the Hostel



From class one to four, I had to play with my small friends in the hostel. But after reaching class 5, I had to play with the bigger boys of the hostel. On the first day I played with them, I was frightened seeing the senior boys. Later on I got the courage and tried to play like them. I developed my football skills by practicing hard and by going for early morning practices. My proudest moment was when I was selected to play for my school team. The lesson I learned from this experience is Never..Never give up.

-Rosario Pereira (7th)



Two Germans Girls

In the last edition of the magazine, we had written about two German boys. In this edition I will write about the two pretty German girls who spent half a year with us. It was the first time we had girl volunteers with us in the hostel.

Corina came to India to get an experience of how people live in India. She had many hobbies like reading novels, swimming, she loved playing football and other games with the younger ones of the hostel. Helen also likes playing sports and if you carefully observe

her, she never stops smiling. She always helped the small children with their homework and projects. They also taught us German songs and trained the primary boys in a couple of dances. They are very good dancers and tried to pass on this talent to the boys.

Both together were a part of the G.B.B family and got involved in the different activities of the hostel. We organized a farewell programme for them when they were leaving.

-John Dias (9th)





Confirmed in the Spirit



It was a historic day at G.B.B hostel as the biggest group of 10th standard boys was confirmed in the Fatima Cathedral on the 1st of February. We had to go for our confirmation classes on Saturdays and Sundays and we also had to prepare for our first prelims. It was a period of mixed feelings. I was very excited but also anxious about my exams.

We had arranged for a small lunch and the preparation for it was great fun. We learnt to take up responsibilities, we did the shopping along with the parents of Melvin and Sebastian. But before the shopping began we had to plan out well. Planning was the most

difficult part of our preparation but with the help of our parents and Br Anderson, we were able to have a successful programme. Our parents and us, had a broad smile on our faces while we were receiving the sacrament of Confirmation. We were confirmed and blessed by Bishop Peter Machado and were given our certificates of confirmation by our Parish Priest, Fr Victor. I'd like to thank all those people who took the trouble of getting me prepared for receiving this holy sacrament and special thanks to the hostel for making that day very memorable.

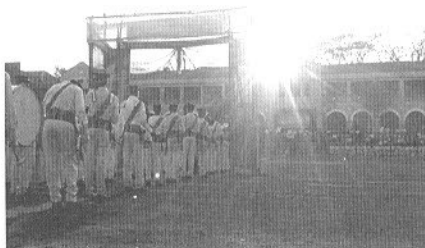
-Rohan D'Souza (10th)



How the Band has helped Me

The Brass Band of St Paul's School consists of 3/4th of its students from the G.B.B Hostel. The Band has been of great help to me and to the school. It is one of the most sought after thing at every major event or function. We have our band practices in the morning before school. Sir Bajantri is our school band master and helps us a lot in improving our skills.

There are many instruments such as trumpets, bugles, euphoniums, saxophones, trombones, drums and so on. I play



the euphonium in the band. We play the band for various events such as the Passing out parade, Sports day, National festivals and some school programmes. Majority of the band members are hostellers and ours is one of the best bands in Belgaum today. We also perform at different schools. Thanks to the school for letting us improve this talent.



-Melvin D'Souza (10th)



Significance of Music in Our Lives

Why do we like music? Why do we need music in our life? Well I joined the school brass band when I was in the fifth standard. On the first day of practice, Sir Bajantri gave us an introduction and made me understand the meaning of music. After some days, I picked up the euphonium. As I was learning, sir told us various things about maintenance of the instruments, handling and so on. He told us that we should handle our instruments as a child in our arms. Later on I picked up the trumpet, bugle and the drums.

It is medically proven that music relaxes the mind. It is one of the greatest tools through which



we can express our feelings. Music can also help one to concentrate and improve their memory power. I therefore thank God for this gift of music he has given me.

I learnt music with love and enjoyment. I also got to take charge and conduct practices in the absence of the band master. It was a great experience for me. I advise everyone to learn some music which will help you in some way in your life. I thank Sir Bajantri and Sir Anthony for this lovely opportunity I had in training and leading our school band.



-Anil D'Souza (10th)



Don't Hesitate to Approach Your Mother

I can only start these words by showing my gratitude to Fr. Alban and Br. Anderson for having made it possible for me to paint the boards you can now see in the hostel chapel.

The triptych, 'Mary Mother of Wisdom' – Gnanmata depicts Our Lady accompanied by the 69 boys of our G.B.B family. It is true that only ten of them "come in the picture", but these certainly represent each and every one of you. Seek not for portraits, it is not about showing few of you, but about representing how close she is, the Mother of the Lord to ALL OF US.

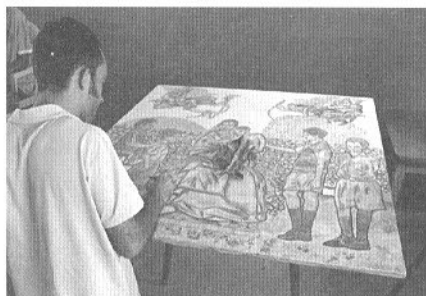
We do miss our relations when we spend long periods away from them, but by sticking together we stand as a family helping and encouraging one another in everything we do.

The triptych represents how you have grown up in this house; from the time you were a

K.G. kid till you finish your 10th Standard. Long miles you have travelled in this hostel and you were never left alone. The Society of Jesus has provided you the best Fathers and Brothers to look after your needs. A good number of Manas and volunteers also serve you in their capacities. But most of all it is She, the Virgin Mary who always comes with us, interceding for us to Jesus by being our pillar of support not just during our school days but throughout our life.

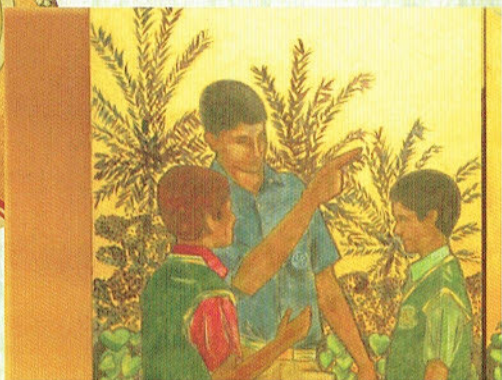
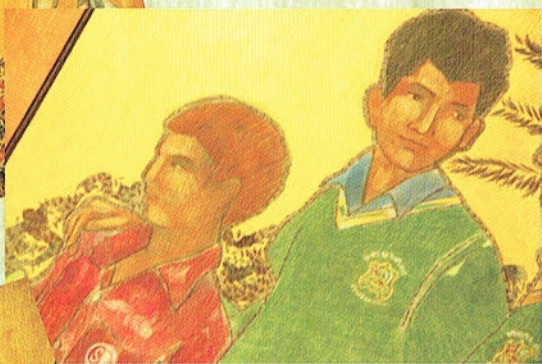
As we look at the painting let us thank the Lord for the gift of the Church and for the uncountable graces showered upon us.

-Juan Lama









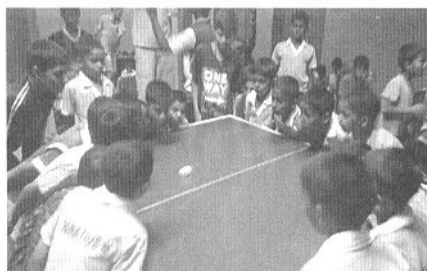


Community days 2015

I am a new child in the G.B.B family. It has not been too long that I came in the hostel but I have already received a lot of love and care from my fellow companions, hostellers and the people in charge of me.

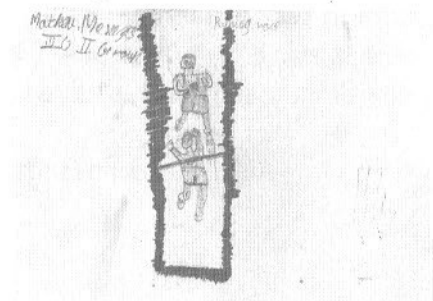
I participated in many activities of the hostel. Since I came, one of the most memorable events was the Community days. The community days were organized by Br Anderson, Juan along with Justin, John and Ronnie. The event was mainly organized to bring more love and unity among us hostellers as brothers born from different mothers.

There were many surprising games which we enjoyed playing and also learnt to take



responsibilities in our respective groups. Juan was the official photographer and captured some fantastic pictures of the three days. A special thanks to Fr. Alban and Br Anderson for accepting my request and taking me into this family. I have learnt a lot and will cherish it throughout my life. Thanks once again for conducting the Community days so well.

-Elwin Mascarenhas (10th)





Looking forward to the weekends

I never heard or knew what 'football' meant until I joined the hostel but as soon as I saw the others play; I learnt it in a jiffy. Playing football in the hostel is like playing for the country. I not only enjoy playing here but have learnt to behave and respect others and the game.

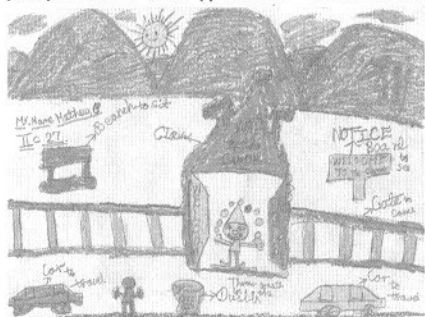
The whole week I do not feel like playing as there is not much excitement. There's excitement only on Saturdays and Sundays. I wait for these two days of the week so eagerly. You may ask why excitement only on weekends? The whole week, half of the hostel is engaged in different activities like tuitions, football practices, studying for exams and so on. Therefore there are not many players on the ground. There are



also those suffering from injuries who unfortunately have to sit out. I myself was a casualty once and was told not to play till I was fit to play but as soon as I was alright, I rushed on the ground and was overjoyed.

The senior boys are fascinating and talented in football. They not only play but also encourage us while playing. We all love football very much and miss it while we are at home as there are no players and playgrounds as we have in our hostel. I am going to miss playing football when I go home for the summer vacations.

-Austin Fernandes (6th)





Playing for the School Team

As a lover of football, I was eagerly waiting to play for the school team. I was very particular in going for the morning practices. Because of my hard work and dedication, I was selected for the school junior football team. I represented my school team in



various tournaments. I played as the main defender in the under -14 team. I also captained the team for a few matches.

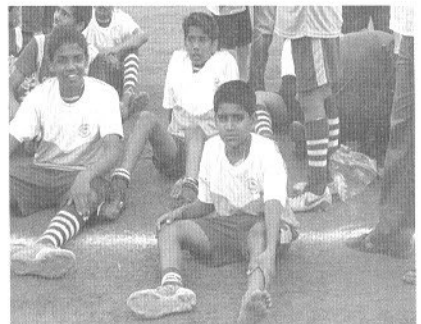
There were many tournaments we won during this academic year. First of all we won the Royceton Memorial tournament for a record 25th time. We also won the Nandini trophy



which was organized for the first time. I was also lucky to represent Belgaum at the divisional level at Devengere.

We kept the glory of our school St Paul's and kept our flag flying high. I feel very proud and honoured to play for my school team.

-Stallion Fernandes (7th)



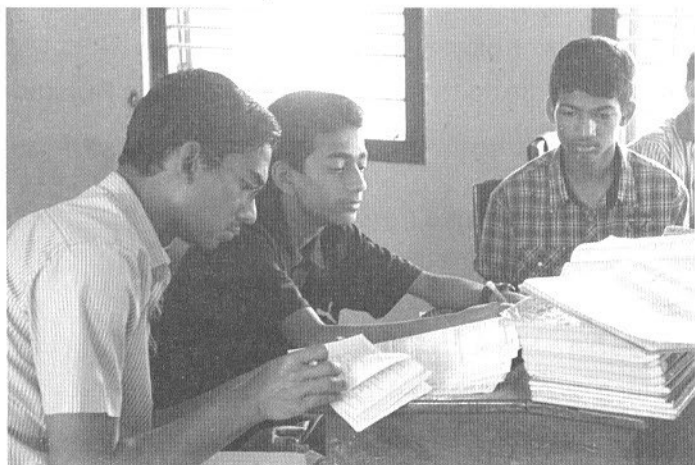


XTC Brothers

There are three brothers from Desur, who comes for their apostolate to our hostel every Saturday. They are Br David, Br Golden Star and Br Infant. They reach here around 4.30 in the evening and spend the rest of the day with us. On Sundays, three other brothers join them. They are known as Juniors. Their names are Br Nehal, Br Jaeison and Br Sunil. These brothers are a great help for us. They guide us in our studies to a great extent and motivate and encourages us to participate in other activities too. We have learned many things from them like prayer, meditation etc. They are

extremely good in sports like table tennis, cricket, football etc. We used to trouble them a lot, especially while they were giving sessions and conducting activities, but they never lost their temper. They would correct us gently correct us and we would then obey them. We had fun and joy with them, playing, laughing and enjoying etc. I end by saying a great and big thank you to our dear X.T.C brothers and never forget what they have taught us

-Ronnie Dalmont (8th)



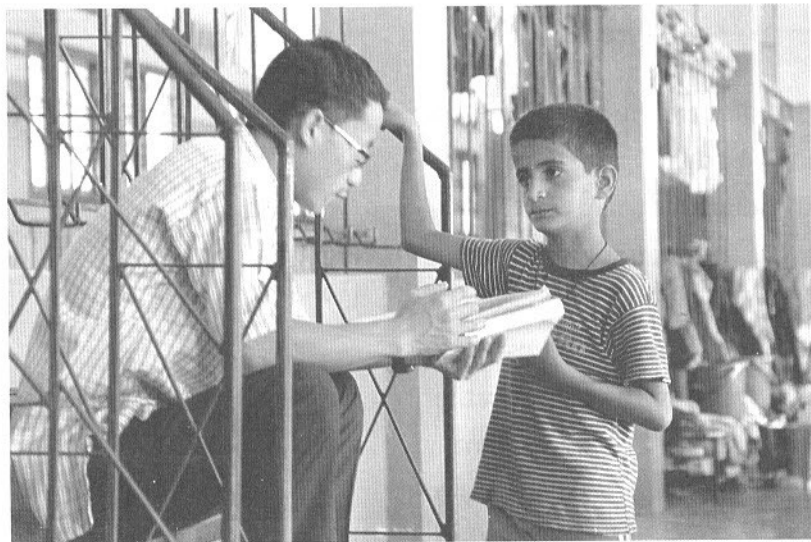


XTC Brothers

XTC brother are very helpful persons in the Hostel and play an important role in the lives of living in it. The XTC brothers started coming to GBB from the month of July. They come on Saturday and go back on go back to Desur on Sunday evening at 3 o'clock. We have learned many things from them. They taught us meditation, and knowing about our own self better. They also give us sessions, talk about their experience in joining and working as young

Jesuits. They conduct games and help us in our studies. They are responsible for making our weekends interesting. When we are sad or unhappy, they are always there to motivate us. I would like to thanks the brothers for coming and teaching us something about God and about ourselves.

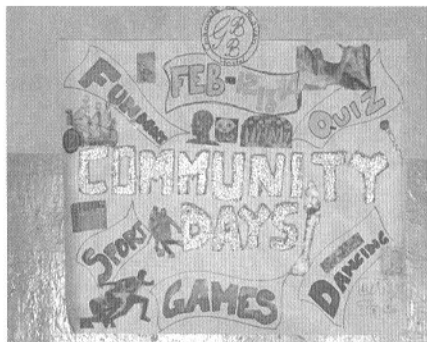
-Kushal Carvalho (9th)





Poster Making

On Sundays, Br Anderson used to conduct small activities like card making, drawing, painting etc. One Sunday, we engaged ourselves in poster making. Brother divided us into 7 groups and gave each group a thought. Based on this we



had to prepare the chart. The time limit of 1 hour 30 min was given to each group. Our group was thinking of what to do and what ideas we could implement. He ended up making many silly mistakes as we focused more on the borders rather than the main painting. Finally towards the end, we managed to

give the poster some shape using out creativity. In the end the following thought was clearly seen radiating its essence, "Purity was the mother of peace: Meditation is the method to obtain peace; Universal Love is the key to peace".

-Valentine Pereira (10th)





The Best Boy

Once there was a boy named Bruno. Bruno had to face defeat again and again which made him very sad. This discouraged him so much so that he was no longer took interest in the activities that would interest a normal child.

One day, he happened to meet an old poor man. The old man invited Bruno to his house. Bruno followed the old man to his house. Bruno felt uncomfortable about the house but the old man tried his best to make Bruno feel at ease.

After Bruno was relaxed, the old man asked him, "What is your name child?" Bruno replied, "My name is Bruno". The old man asked him again, "Why is it that I see you sad?"

Bruno replied, "Because no one bothers about me and no one cares for me. I don't have friends and my parents also don't bother about me". So the old man spoke, "my child, don't be so sad. Why do you say that you are alone? Am I not there for you? From today onwards, I will give you company in whatever you do. Whether it your

studies or your games, I will try my best to be a friend to you despite my advanced age"

So the Bruno was encouraged. He began to take his studies seriously and he also excelled in sports. It was time for the best boy award in his school. Bruno was nominated for the best boy award. He was happy for the first time. He had worked hard to be the best boy and did not lose hope in himself and God.

On the final day, Bruno was awarded the best sportsperson of the school. But in the election round, he was not elected by the students as the best boy. The teachers, who very well knew, what progress Bruno had made in his life, decided among themselves to award Bruno the best boy. Among the teachers, Bruno was elected the best boy. The final decision was left in the hands of the head master who also supported his staff. Finally it was Bruno who became the best boy of the school.

-John Dias (9th)

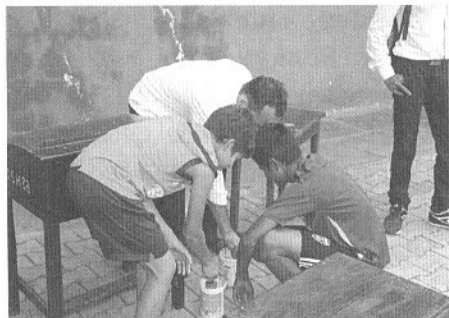


Helping the Hostel Boys

We all live together here in the GBB family. We share things with each other and live in harmony. When I am absent from class, the other boys from my class help me by informing me as to what happened in the class during my absence. When I was sick, my friends served me food and took good care of me. Sometimes, when the bigger boys lose their writing material or the younger boy need help in shifting things, in such time we lend a helping hand to each other. We help our friends in their studies especially those who are



really in need of it. At times we come together to form groups and learn some good things like sharing things and group studies. We also learn to inculcate the positive values radiated by our seniors. By sharing and helping, the other person feels good and is inspired to help others. We are also corrected at times when we are wrong. We are stopped when we are on the wrong track. In this way we try to build and help each other to grow.



-Xavier Souz (8th)



Good night, dear boys

As a former day scholar, living in a boarding school was always a huge mystery to me. So coming to St. Paul's for some social work was the first time I would experience a hostel. And I have to admit that I am impressed. The organization for this kind of institution is especially demanding. Almost 70 boys of different ages are together 24 hours, 7 days a week and it must be guaranteed to their parents that their children don't miss anything, as they spend their whole youth there. Brother Anderson, the Jesuits, tuition teachers and manas as the organizers - they all create the remarkable GBB-spirit. Not only these make this place remarkable, but also the boys who take care of each other and fulfill their daily schedules.

Before coming to India as a volunteer, I was afraid whether the boys would accept us in their community, but that fear was obsolete. From the first day on, the boys made us feel welcome. It was

always the best part of the day coming to the GBB-hostel, helping with the studies, playing football, watching TV, having nice conversations, or in general just spending time there. Each and every boy has his own qualities and getting to know them better during the five months was the most interesting. I am sure they all will turn out to be great in life, as this great opportunity is offered to them by their parents, godparents and the Jesuits.

My best memory about the time in the hostel is the smaller boys wishing us a good night when Corina and I were passing their windows every night to get to our room. "Good night dear boys" was our last bit of interaction with them each and every night. This impression became a symbol for my time in India for me. Thank you dear boys for making my stay a wonderful one.

-Helen Bruggmann



My time in the hostel

My name is Corina and I am from Germany. I am 19 years old, and last year in September I came to India for the very first time. My friend Helen and I stayed in Belgaum for 5 months helping in St. Paul's Primary Section and the GBB hostel.

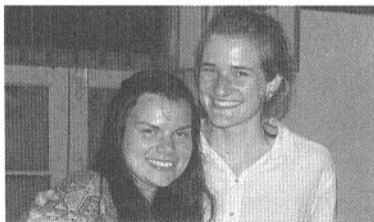
Before coming to India I was a little afraid to come, but my fears turned out to be redundant. We spent a great time in Belgaum, and looking back now, I think it was a very good idea.

The time spent in the hostel with the boys made my stay in India so very special. In the beginning we all felt a little shy towards each other, since we did not know each other yet, and it is not very common for foreign girls to spend time in the hostel. But after some days of getting to know each other, we slowly became a part of the GBB family and got attached to the boys. Since then, we tried to spend as much time in the hostel as possible, helping the smaller boys with their studies, playing with them or

simply having fun and laughing.

All the boys are very talented when it comes to singing, dancing and acting. I will never forget all the programmes they put up, especially for my 19th birthday, which I spent in Belgaum and the times we practiced German songs or dances with them. I especially enjoyed the Christmas time, during which everyone joined forces to decorate the hostel and create a contemplative atmosphere. All too soon we had to leave the hostel and India to go back to Germany. The boys prepared a nice farewell, and though I was sad to leave, I also feel happy that I was given this fantastic chance in my life. Boys, I wish you all the best for your future, may God bless you.

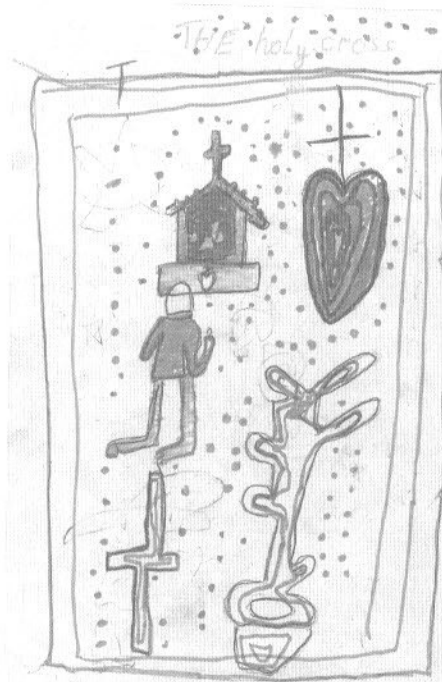
-Corina Kajor





Thank You God

One day after my school, I was going back to my sweet home. On the way, I saw a family with the parents and a small child walking in the market. The boy left his mother's hand and went to see the balloons. The boy said, "Wow, look at the balloons, they are so colourful and wonderful". While he



was busy staring at the balloons, he walked onto the main road and a speeding car hit him and he was badly struck. His parents were screaming for help. I wanted to but was too small to help them. At that moment I thanked the Lord for the gift of life.

Moral: Saying prayers are not the only way to get close to God but helping other people and caring for them also can help you come closer to God.

-Xavier Souz (8th)



Showing Love to Animals

One fine day, a man was walking in the forest where he saw a puppy. It was shivering with cold and was most probably dying of hunger. The man felt that he should take it home and did so. The pup thanked the man for his generosity. The pup became best friends with the man.

One day the man fell terribly sick and was not able to move out of his bed. He pleaded the pup to help him out but before it could be of any help, the man died of his sickness. The pup was sorry for not being able to be of

help to the man and apologized to him.

Years passed and the pup grew big. The dog would faithfully take flowers to the man's grave everyday and say sorry, asking for forgiveness.

Moral: If you are kind and loving to animals, then animals will be loving and kind to you, just like the puppy in the story.

-Christian Lobo (6th)





Never be Late

Once upon a time, a boy named Ganpat lived in a village. He was very lazy and his parents used to tell him to never be late but he always used to be late in most of his activities.

One day he was to go to his Granny's place and the train going to that place was very rare. He had an exam that day so his mother told him to hurry soon after his exam and go to his Granny's place without much delay. But as usual,

he was late again. Only after he realized that he was late, he began running but alas he missed the train and lost the opportunity to visit his granny. Had he come on time, he would have got the chance to meet his granny and enjoy her tasty and delicious food.

Moral: Never be late, always try to be punctual.

-Prajwal Souz (6th)





The Crocodile and the Monkey

Once there lived a monkey on a tree which had very sweet mangoes. The tree was on the banks of the river. A crocodile would always roam under this tree and wait for ripe mangoes to fall down and would gladly eat them. After some days the monkey would throw some of these sweet mangoes below the tree for the crocodile to eat and they soon became the best of friends.

One day, the crocodile decided to share some of these sweet mangoes with his wife. The wife of the crocodile liked the mangoes so much. On finding out that the monkey had given these fruits to her husband she told her husband, "The mangoes are so sweet, the monkey's heart may be sweeter. I want to eat his heart". The crocodile was very sad on hearing this. His wife did not speak to him for some days and so he decided to get his wife the heart of that monkey.

The next day, the crocodile told the monkey that his wife liked

the mangoes very much and has called him for a party to their house. The monkey was overjoyed by the invitation and said yes at once. The monkey sat on the crocodile's back and when they reached halfway, the crocodile told the monkey the real reason he was taking him home.

The monkey froze in shock but quickly replied, "Mr Crocodile, you should have told me this earlier. We monkeys do not roam everywhere with our hearts. I have left mine on that mango tree. Let's go back and fetch it and give it to your wife".

When the crocodile was nearing the shore, the monkey swiftly jumped off the back of the crocodile and climbed the mango tree. He teased the foolish crocodile for falling for his trick. Their friendship, once which was very strong was now broken.

Moral: Never lose friends on the advice of fools.

-Kevin Montero (6th)



My Journey in this Beautiful Place

I began my journey in this GBB hostel with tears in my eyes. I clearly remember my first day in this hostel which was a sorrowful one because I felt as though my parents were taken away from me. I cried the full day until I was tired. As days passed by in this hostel, I felt the warmth of my parents given to me by the brothers and the fathers and the people serving at GBB. I, as a new child to this big family of GBB did not even know to tie the laces of my shoes or hold a pencil in my hand. But whenever I attempted to do so, someone was always there to help me and guide me.

Those wonderful days at sunbeam were really amazing. Today I wish I could go back and experience the same joyful days again of playing in the sand pit with other boys. As a member of the GBB family I have grown in number of virtues. The games time was the one of my best time during the day. During this time we played, fought, yelled, screamed and to a certain extent even stop talking with each other. But for how long can a brother stop speaking with his

brother? In no time we would get along with each other and laugh and crack jokes of the incidents.

I also enjoyed my school day at St. Paul's. The most exciting classes were the PE and the computer classes. I excelled a lot in sports and also in my studies too. I made number of friends who were always there to help me out in my needs. The most memorable day in my 10th STD was the day was the day when I was the anchor of the 'KRONOS' inaugural ceremony. A number of responsibilities were given to me and I managed to live up to the expectation of the others.

Now, as I complete my 12 years in the GBB hostel, I feel that I have grown a lot physically, mentally and emotionally. I will always treasure these memories.

My small message to my juniors is, "Life is like an Echo. What you send out, you get back; what you give, you receive. So remember, when you bring out the best in others, you bring out the best in yourself"

-Sebastian Mascarenhas (10th)





I Will Never Forget My Hostel Life

My other companions must have stayed in the hostel for 10 or 12 years, but my experiences in this hostel are only of 4 years. In these 4 years, I receive an enriching experience. I entered the hostel in 2011 in the 7th standard. During my first year, Br Solon was my prefect of the hostel. He was very kind and helpful to me especially during my first days in the hostel. He helped me in my studies and guided me in my trouble.

In my 9th standard when Br Sebastian was the prefect, we had the opportunity of meeting two Germans, Tom and Friedrich, who



came to help out in the hostel. We had a wonderful time with them and we enjoyed their company. This year we were fortunate to have Br Anderson as the prefect. He brought many changes in the hostel right from discipline to cleanliness.

These four years have passed very quickly in this hostel. I feel that I had come yesterday and I am leaving today. The 4 years in GBB has helped me a lot and brought out the best in me. I will never forget these memorable years even after leaving this hostel.



-Harsh Redekar (10 th)



12 Good Years...Thank you!

After 12 long years that I have spent in this hostel, it's time to say good bye. I have been so much a part of this hostel, that now it's difficult to depart. Life in the hostel has been very exciting and enriching. Not everyone gets this opportunity of being in a prestigious school like St. Paul's and not everyone is fortunate to be a part of GBB.

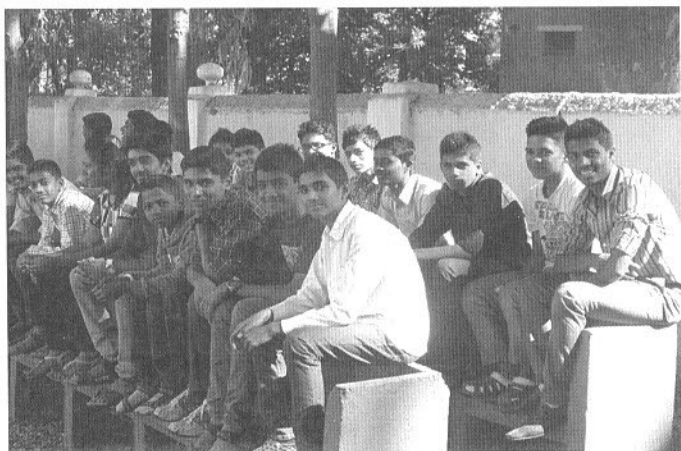
What I enjoyed the most in his hostel was the company of my friends. We had our studies, games, meals and other activities together which strengthened our bond together. All my companions were very helpful and volunteered to

help me in time of my need. I especially felt this when I was in L.K.G.

Throughout these long years, I have achieved a lot, be it academically, or in the field of sports.

I would like to thank the fathers who sincerely gave me opportunity to fulfill the dreams of my life. At the same time I would like to thank the brothers for moulding me, throwing challenges at me, thus helping me become the person who I am today.

-Juze Lobo (10th)





Hostel Ministers— Our Body.

Brain is our President;
 Head is our Education Minister;
 Nose is the Health Minister;
 Tongue is the Minister for
 Information and Broadcasting;
 While our ears handle the post of
 Communication Minister;
 Eyes are the minister of Law;
 Heart is the Caring Minister;
 Hands do the work of Labour
 Minister;
 Teeth take the work of Industry
 Minister;
 Stomach works as the food and
 Agricultural Minister;
 While the skin does the job of
 Defiance Minister;
 And the legs the post of Transport
 Minister.

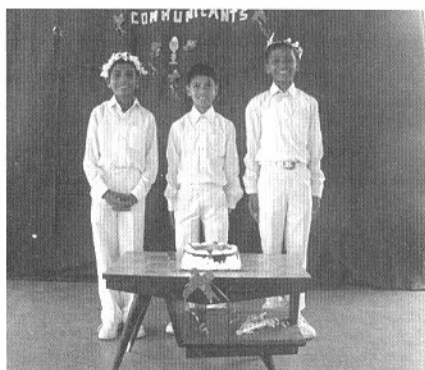
**“Telling the truth and making
 some cry is better than telling a
 lie and making someone smile”.**

-Kevin Pinto (7th)



First Holy Communion

Desmond, Santosh and I
 received Jesus for the very first
 time on February 15th. It was a
 great moment in my life. Before our
 first Holy Communion, we
 confessed our sins. We learnt new



hymns and action songs during our
 preparation for Communion. We
 celebrated the day with a small
 party and with very good food. We
 played many games and clicked
 many photos with our loved ones.
 Our parents gave us gifts and toys
 and their blessings. Our parents
 were very happy to see us in our
 communion clothes. I am very
 happy to receive Jesus in my heart.

-Ronald Fernandes (4th)



Enjoyment at Sports

I like sports because it helps me to be healthy and physically strong. It teaches me to be disciplined, punctual, respect and many other things. I love most of the sports and I know to play them. But the most beautiful and outstanding sport according to me is Football. Football helps me to work hard and sweat till you succeed. It teaches me to work hard. It says try, try till you succeed and never give up.

I love to practice football daily in the evening from 4.00 to 6.15 and many Paulites come for this practice to enjoy. The game of football teaches us Paulites to pass, move, help, guide and encourage. This helps to build up a good relationship. During practices we



play a match with the Ex- Paulites to improve our game daily. Our coach Sir Agnelo Rego is a good Footballer. He teaches football for the school team and encourages everyone to take part in the game.

I have played for my school team and won many tournaments, the high moment came when I played at the National and Divisional level for Karnataka.

I'd like to end by sharing a few inspiring words shared to us by our German friend Thomas Rensmann. He said, "Patience in attack and patience in defence". Never quit is what I learnt from sports.



-Austin Pais (10th)





*Dear Benefactors,
Collaborators & Well-Wishers.*

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the support and encouragement you have rendered to us. If these G.B.B. tender buds bloom into beautiful flowers and spread their fragrance into the world, it is only because of you and your love and care. It is my kind privilege to express my deepest gratitude on behalf of the G.B.B. Family. Thank you one and all & God Bless You.

Contact:

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