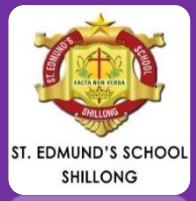




*Blessed is the season which engages the whole world
in a conspiracy of Love ~ Hamilton Wright Mabie*



ST. EDMUND'S SCHOOL
SHILLONG

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Dear Teachers, Parents, Guardians and Boys,

*It has been an unusual year. But, **WE** saw it through. It is Christmas season. A season which engages our lives in a conspiracy of love. Is it easy to see God being with us during this pandemic? Is it easy to believe this conspiracy of love being manifested in our lives when we have been separated from our loved ones; when we have lost our jobs; when our finances have been hard hit; when our family lives have been strained; when our children have struggled to cope with the demands of remote teaching; when parents had to juggle with the professional and home life; when being confined within our homes was taking a toll and life in general was getting monotonous and dreary?*

***Christmas is a season of Hope.** I believe, God is in this mess we are in right now. God came to dwell among us. God is with us.*

***How do I know?** I looked at our **Parents** who had to make painful adjustments and umpteen sacrifices just to ensure that their children were not missing out on classes and were up to date in their assignments. Thank you dear **Parents**.*

*I looked at our **Children** who were amazing at adapting to the sweeping changes that confronted them. Adjusting to the new, uncomfortable, testing, cumbersome and weary modes of studying was not easy. Being separated from their dear friends; being deprived of games, social interaction, friends hang out sessions, trip to the movie halls & eating joints etc. robbed them of the joys of childhood. Yet, our **Children** were heroic in facing adversities without complaints. Thank you **Children!***

*I looked at our **Teachers** who were suddenly thrown into the abyss of the unknown where technological hazards had to be dealt with. They took this*

mighty challenge in their stride and overcame their fears. They soon learned the art of finding their way through the confusing maze of computerised programs and digital signposts. Our **teachers** learned to adapt to the changing times. Well done **Teachers!**

I would also like to thank our three wonderful **Coordinators, Mrs. C. Ashkenazy, Mr. S. Sehdave & Mrs. Y. Kabir**, for working so hard in planning and executing the curriculum and activities. They were selfless in their efforts to ensure children were engaged and teachers were on the right track. Thank you dear Coordinators for your wonderful presence and steadfast support.

Our **Office Staff Ms. Ana Lyngdoh, Ms. Mil Kharchandy, Sir. Alister Nongkynrih, Sir Lambert Lyngdoh and Mr. Krishna Thapa**, have been working tirelessly to ensure the administration system runs smoothly and without any major breakdowns. They are a dedicated and efficient lot always putting others before themselves. I thank them for their immense contribution to our school.

A big Thank You deservedly goes to our wonderful and enterprising **School Captains** who kept us enthralled and motivated with the publications of those interesting and highly readable newsletters. The Creation Week that was so well organised deserves a special mention. I am so proud of their amazing capability an*

d organizational skills. Thank you dear **CAPTAINS!** Well done!

Our school would not be functioning smoothly if it was not for the consistent commitment of our **Support Staff, the Kongs & the Bahs**, who ensure the campus is clean and tidy right throughout the year. Amazing people and so humble and respectful! Thank you very much!

Dear Parents, please do note the following bits of important information:

- 1. School reopens for Classes 5 – 10 on February 15th, 2021.**
- 2. School reopens for Classes 2 – 4 on February 18th, 2021.**
- 3. School reopens for Class 1 on February 22nd, 2021.**

We are not sure of what the situation is going to be then but we will have Virtual classes – attendance will be taken on the first day and the subsequent days as well.

- *If you have cousins, brothers, friends etc. who could pass on their text books to you, please go ahead. It is not necessary that you get new books. Try to cut down on your expenses.*
- *If at all I need to communicate with you regarding any changes, I will send you a circular or notice.*
- *The Digital Report Cards will come to you in a day or two as the uploading and activation is taking time. Thank you for your patience.*
- *The 2019 School Magazine is almost there. Just the printing is left. We will give you the magazine.*
- *The Special Issue of the 2020 School Magazine is also underway!*

Finally, dear Parents, Teachers, and Boys, thank you for the year that was quite a challenge for each one of us. We are still courageously trying to cope with challenges thrown at us by this pandemic. You have been a huge source of encouragement and support to all of us here in school. We have learned that School Education is a collaborative venture between Parents, Teachers and Management. Thank you Parents and I take this opportunity to wish you all:

A Very Happy Christmas & A Happy New Year!

God bless all



Br. Solomon Morris