

FRANK ANTHONY DEBATE COMPETITION

“You don’t win a debate by suppressing discussion; you win it with a better argument.”



On the misty morning of 10th July 2023, The Bishop’s School and Junior College, Camp, hosted eight participating schools for The Frank Anthony Memorial All-India Inter-school Debate Competition 2023 [Category 1], which was held in the Lorna Roberts Auditorium.

The event began after Bryan Lobo gave a short preface with the rudiments of debate, and introduced Mr Gary Wright as the moderator of the competition.



Mr Wright then introduced Col. Atul Joshi, an alumnus of the Bishop’s School, and his wife, as the Guest of Honour.



The event was evaluated by an esteemed panel of judges - Mrs Pooja Ghosh, Mrs Ferieda Havewala, and Dr. Pramila Dasture. The Principal and Honorary Secretary, Mr Shayne McPherson, welcomed each of them with a token of love and appreciation.



Everyone was then, led into a word of prayer by the Principal. The participants were given the topic for the debate- “Social Media gives no scope for having real peers”, an hour prior to the competition.

Afterwards, Mr Wright gave a brief about the origin of the competition and glossed over the rules and regulations of the debate for the participants.

The debate followed a traditional debating pattern - one speaker of the team spoke for the motion and the other spoke against. With mics set, clear voices, and a slight nervousness, each speaker took to the podium and delivered their stance on the motion. Strong rebuttal questions were shot by opposing teams that were met with carefully curated answers by the speakers.

Each student showed a great strength of eloquence and confidence whilst maintaining a firm stand. Some witty remarks and sharp humour kept the audience entertained as they applauded each of the speakers.



The culmination of the competition resulted in the award ceremony. The Junior College Dean, Ms Madhu Hora, invited the judges and the Guest of Honour to hand over participation certificates and winning prizes to the debaters.

Jaidev Ranade of the St Mary's School was awarded best speaker of the debate competition. The Bishop's Co-Ed School, Kalyaninagar, was awarded the first prize and The Bishop's Co-Ed School, Undri, was declared the runner-up of the competition, thus triumphantly heading over to the next round of the competition.



All in all, the competition celebrated what it had set out to achieve; highlighting the articulacy of the students and the intelligent exchange of words and opinions.

~Ira Bhosale
XII D (Commerce)

