

A REPORT ON THE INTERSCHOOL PATWARDHAN DEBATE

“It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it.”

-Joseph Joubert

The school, staff and the students at The Bishop’s School, Camp were all agog for the much anticipated, the 29th edition of the prestigious Inter-school Patwardhan Debate competition commemorated in the honour of S.S.Laxmi Raisaheb Rani of Miraj .The grand event was spread over a period of two days. The first day i.e., 20th of August ,2022 was earmarked for an elimination round in which only six schools out of twelve participating schools could move forward for the Grand Finale that was scheduled on the 21st of August,2022. A panel of eminent judges graced the occasion to choose the finalists amongst twenty-four students from various schools across the city of Pune, Aurangabad, and Mumbai. The notable judges were Mrs. Radhika Bali, Col. Brij Krishen and Mrs. Shumita Mahajan.



After according a floral welcome to the judges, the Chief Guest of the event, our very worthy Principal, Mr. Joel Edwin took over the event preceded by a short prayer in the honour of The Lord, Almighty. The topic was already given to the students and hence began the most engaging debate that kept the audience hooked till the very end. Our students of class XII Tarang Rathi and Anshuman Patil were the moderators of the event who played their role to the tee. After the proposition speaker of a said school spoke, he /she was presented a question, which served as an apt rebuttal which they had to answer followed by the opposition speaker from the aforementioned school. The session was indeed an intense one where the budding speakers put forth their arguments either in favour or against the motion.

As the session got over, while the cumulative scores were being tallied to decide the finalists, the judges were requested to share a few words on the stage. They shared their thoughts on the same and spoke highly about the participants who had enthralled one and all with their command over the said topic as all of them spoke with sheer confidence. The finalists were The Bishop’s school, Camp, The Bishop’s school, Kalyaninagar, The Bishop’s school, Undri,

Wisdom World school, Wakad and Christ Church School, Mumbai. The evening ended with a dinner that was hosted for the participating schools and the teachers accompanying them before calling it a day.

The second day of the Inter-school Patwardhan Debate began on a bright sunny Sunday morning that was eagerly waited by the staff and the students alike. The moderator of the event was Mr. Merwin Rodricks who is the middle school co-ordinator at The Bishop's school, Camp. The notable judges for the day were a panel of distinguished personalities who took time out of their busy schedule to grace the occasion. Dr. A.Deshpande, Mr. Abhay Chavan , Tracy Lewis , Grp. Captain Deepanjan Deb and Mrs. Sangita Kadam were a part of the jury. The event progressed in a similar fashion like the previous day and the participants mesmerised the audience with their bold arguments and thought-provoking questions on a pertinent topic that was indeed a burning question which called for attention of the classes and the masses, alike. The winners were the students of Wisdom World school, Wakad who took home the Champions' trophy. Miss Palakpreet Kaur Bhullar and Miss Srimukhi Krishnakumar were the spectacular duo adjudged as the winners of the event. The runner-up trophy was shared by Dishan Oswal and Sanidhya Saraf of The Bishop's School, Camp.



After the event got over, the students dispersed for their respective schools. It was indeed a fruitful Sunday that left a question in the minds of the audience post the debate as well. Such was the impact of the strong arguments presented by the participants who were teeming with zest and confidence while putting forth their view points on the same.



Mrs. Deboshree Jana