

# The UCPS Chronicles

Vol.03 / No.8 / JANUARY 2024

Newsletter of Union Christian Public School



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Commerce Fest**  
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**The Times of India  
Guest Editor: UCPS**  
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## From The Principal's Desk



I was emotionally moved by the passage for reading comprehension in the West Cluster Sahodaya English Question paper in December for Class XII merely because of the riveting message contained in the piece. It is about a lady who realizes her father's worth after his passing away. It was about a father who touched the lives of many and commiserated with them to make their lives different and the daughter was kept unaware until his death. It melted my heart to read it and felt a pang as I remembered my late father who was of the same nature. My father was a person who kept his family, friends, and relations above all the other matters concerning him. His eyes gleamed when he met them and he would go out of the way to show his love and appreciation. It was a huge loss for many when he

left this world. To my astonishment, people from far and wide, even from out of the country came to pay respects to him at his funeral, with a feeling of despair.

This kept me introspecting about the lives led by us, especially the young generation of today and felt the urge to stimulate them to resort towards a service-oriented and selfless life. I have heard of New Year's resolutions being forgotten instantly by many, but may this be a new resolution of yours: that you will dedicate your time and means to others, and will remodel your lifestyle to empathize and act. And by this, what we accomplish is loads of contentment and jubilation, for having a new purpose in life. If you can make someone happy, heaven's bliss is yours and you are a hero in their hearts and minds.

*Mrs. Nisha Anil John*

## Teacher's note

*"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" Martin Luther King Jr.*



In a world where people are made to focus solely on self-love and satisfying their own needs, what is our focus and priority, as children of God? We should practise the part of giving, and helping others with the resources that God has blessed us with. A study suggests that giving makes one feel happy and releases endorphins which produce a positive feeling, fostering social connections. Generosity is also found to be linked to better health. The Bible encourages us to give without having second thoughts as it is written in II Corinthians 9:7; "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." The Bible clearly explains that we need to consider others' needs above ours,

for God loves a heart that gives and rewards a cheerful giver. Technology has made man's life convenient. Our lives have gotten simpler, more productive, and interconnected because of technological advancements. It has altered the way we connect, but we still feel lonely after all these improvements. We need to spend time with the elders in our families and neighbourhoods as it will make us feel valued. Lending a helping hand teaches us life lessons, and in turn be recipients of shared wisdom. The pandemic taught us to value our relationships, and we must nurture it by practising generosity. Acts of generosity not only makes a difference in the other person's life, but impacts our own lives by leading to our own greater self-esteem, and achieving a sense of purpose. So, give freely what you have received, and make a difference today.

*Mrs. Florence Devanesan  
Academic Coordinator - Primary*

*We wish All the Best to the students of classes X and XII for their Board Exams*

**A New And Revised Edition Of The UCPS Chronicles.**

## MAGNUM OPUS 2K23



*“Now I am become Barbie, in the Barbie world.”*

A cultural extravaganza redolent of explosive pink and glittery grenades. Our school hosted the "Magnum Opus 2023" inter-school competition, organized by grades eleven and twelve. It was one of our school's most lively events, featuring fashion, fun, and food. The theme was based on two recent Warner Brothers hits, "The Barbie Movie" and "Oppenheimer."

There were fourteen events, including "Barbie-que" (cooking without fire), captivating performances by bands in "Atomic Chords," teaser making, spoof/parody creation, English debates, shipwreck, Tamil poetry, jewellery making in "Be-Dazzled," column writing, makeovers, and it all culminated with a stunning fashion show

that would leave Mattel and Warner Brothers in awe. The stalls were filled with delectable snacks and beverages. The second day commenced with a prayer, expressing gratitude towards God, setting the tone for a day filled with exciting events. Notably, the "Dance the Night Away", "Releve: Adaptune", the comical news event, "Ludicrous Headlines," the Mystery Event, a thrilling game of solving a murder and hunting for treasure. It ultimately ended with the showdown, which was a scavenger hunt judged by Mr. Alfred. It all ended with the valedictory function, where the Chief Guest, Mr. Jeffrey Vardon, awarded Don Bosco Mat. Hr. Sec. School the Championship cup, with Mr. Abhiraj from the same school taking home the title of "Mr. Magnum Opus."





The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Union Christian Public School took place on the evening of the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, 2023. The esteemed Chief Guest for the event was Mr. Kumaran Anandan, Chief Technology Officer of TINY MAGIQ Innovations Pvt Ltd. Beginning with the reading of God's word, followed by prayer, the programme continued as the Correspondent, Mrs. Elizabeth George welcomed the gathering. The Annual Report for the academic year 2022-23 was presented by the Principal, Mrs. Nisha Anil John. The Chief Guest then delivered his speech, which was followed by the prize distribution for the various toppers and achievers for the previous academic year. The vote of thanks was rendered by the School Pupil Leader, Johan Biju. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Day was themed "Artificial Intelligence vs. Human Intelligence", and

the cultural programme that ensued highlighted the vivid chasm between AI and human intelligence. With the choir rendering their euphonious melodies, the primary section then walked the audience through a carnival, interspersed with cultural dances from around the globe. This was followed by the spectacular band performance, their music reverberating through the auditorium, sparkling with white lights. Then began the play, a thought-provoking yet comical enactment of AI and its influence on the school system. Right behind them the troop of jugglers unleashed upon the audience a sense of awe as they performed various tricks and acts. They were trained by Mr. Prashant, a Guinness World Record juggler. A scintillating dance performance: A dance-off between the robots and the humans, marked the end of the dazzling evening.



## The Importance of A Growth Mindset

*Look around you, and you might spot some people who, even after being dealt with the harsh realities of life, still continue to crusade through the rollercoaster of life. How do they do it? Can you do it too? Of course, you can!*

*In today's day and age of "always wanting to be right," it seems like there is no room for making mistakes, what if you do make mistakes? You might be ridiculed and made fun of. To err is human. We often lack the essential "growth mindset," a necessity to succeed in today's world. To grow from all the situations that left you crippled on the sidewalk and to regard it as a learning experience is essential.*

*Adopting a growth mindset helps you reward yourself even for the littlest things you do. After all, it is the little things that go a long way. In situations where you fail to achieve the outcome you expected, it is often easy to blame yourself. You become more critical of yourself. Instead, by rewarding yourself for the effort and the experience you had, you will be able to grow from that situation and probably work out a plan that can lead you to perfection.*

*In everyday life, we are faced with numerous challenges. Most of us fear the very idea of trying out new things. Having a growth mindset motivates a person to challenge themselves. You may struggle at first, but having a growth mindset encourages you to believe that with fine-tuning and consistent effort, you can certainly conquer it. Think of it as sharpening a knife. You can do everything by setting your best foot forward and meticulously working towards the goal.*

*Never fear failure. Don't hesitate to try out new things and think outside the box. Have a positive outlook on life, and you are guaranteed to reach greater heights.*

*"The one who falls and gets up is stronger than the one who never tried. Do not fear failure but rather fear not trying."*

*Kevin Thomas George - XI A*

## Editorial

The Editorial section is a space in newspapers where various citizens express their views and opinions on various matters ranging from government policies to community issues. Inculcating good skills to express what one wants to convey, is integral. Conveying what one feels to the public is equally vital in the functioning of a properly democratic society, where its citizens are educated

and their own opinions are challenged and probed to produce the best opinion that brings common good to all.

UCPS Chronicles opens up this new "Editorial Section" where various students can express their thoughts through articulate pieces of writing. Readers can send their articles to the email: [ucpschronicles@gmail.com](mailto:ucpschronicles@gmail.com).

### The Issue of Child labour in the Food Industry

Maggi, KitKat, Nescafe, Munch, Milkmaid; what do these all have in common? These are popular food brands owned by Nestlé. But did you know that the cocoa from your KitKat is produced with child labour? Despite it being highly illegal, they use child labour due to it being highly exploitable and profitable.

They also hired women to dress up as nurses and distribute free samples of baby formula to mothers, which was more than enough to stop breast milk production from the mother, which forced them to buy more of the baby formula that would cause the baby severe malnutrition problems.

Another scandal was their schemes in rural Pakistan, where they would bottle water from local ponds and lakes, and resell it to the locals for exorbitant prices (around 5-7 USD) that they were unable to afford.

While you don't necessarily have to boycott Nestlé, it's important to be empathetic towards others. Today's world is growing more inclined to gain success and profit, that one would fail to consider the brutal and inhumane situations he/she could put another innocent person in.

*Arvind Joshua IX B*

### India Vs. Australia: A Critical Analysis of India's Not-So-Graceful Loss

The match started with the Australians being lucky by winning the toss and deciding to bowl first on a very tricky Ahmedabad pitch which was used before during the India vs Pakistan match. Coming to bat, Indian captain Rohit Sharma continued his brilliant form and batted the way he had right from the beginning of the tournament. The dismissal of Shubman Gill did not stop Rohit Sharma from smashing the Australian bowlers, but in the end, his over-aggressive approach resulted in the fall of his wicket. The very next over Shreyas Iyer was back to the pavilion. Losing 3 wickets in the first 10 overs, Virat Kohli and KL Rahul believed that they could stitch a partnership and put India in a comfortable position, but they were not able to score a single boundary for the next 97 deliveries. Virat Kohli who completed a well-controlled half century was back in the pavilion too. After his dismissal, India started losing wickets. A slow but exceptional innings

from KL Rahul helped India score 240 runs. The Australians, happy with their effort, had come to bat, ready to chase 241 runs in their 50 overs. Luck favoured the Australian team right from the beginning. David Warner was dropped on the very first ball but Indian speedster Mohammed Shami managed to dismiss him in the very next over, followed by 2 more dismissals in the first 5 overs. Right when India had thought they could make a comeback, Travis Head and Marnus Labuschagne played brilliantly and made sure that the 6th ICC World Cup Trophy was theirs. The defensive batting approach and field sets in the final match cost India a game that could have got them a 2nd World Cup. In the end, India did not look like the team that had won 10 games in a row because they did not play fearlessly as they did before this match.

19th November, 2023 turned out to be one of the most woeful days for any Indian.

*Aryan S. Kumar, XI B*

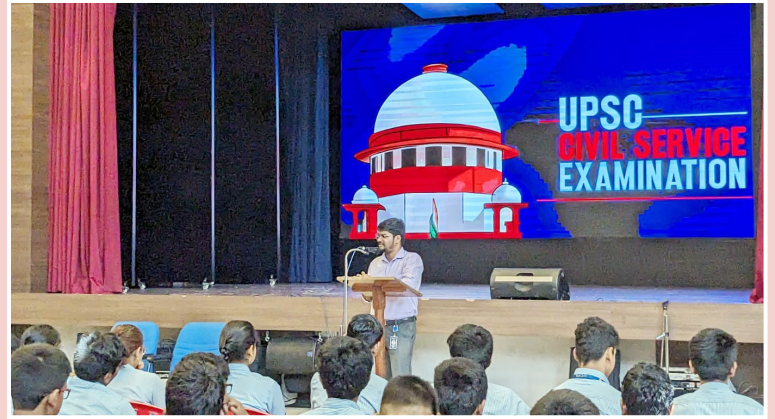
## GENDER SENSITIVITY

Our school conducted a gender sensitivity program for classes 9-12. Ms. Murzhitha, the school counsellor, shared the importance of an open mind to the identity of an individual, and the sensitivity we ought to have towards the opposite gender. She also shared with us the hostility of the world of stereotypes and gender discrimination. It was an enlightening speech that motivated students to bond with each other regardless of boundaries.



## IAS CAREER COUNSELLING

On the 11th of November 2023, an IAS career counselling session was held in the school auditorium. Mr. Adarsh Jacob Joshua, Coordinator of the MCC IAS academy, enlightened us on the Civil Services, not just as a career option, but as a mechanism to make a change in society and impact the lives of millions.



## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

World Mental Health Day is observed on the 10th of October every year. Commemorating the day, the teachers and students of the psychology department decorated two boards with vivid and vibrant colours, posters, and charts, highlighting positive self-affirmations that every student needs to remind themselves of. They also distributed posters displaying quotes of self-affirmation to each classroom. Students showed their support by making colourful palm prints on charts and writing gratitude notes.



## A Renaissance of Creativity

The Art Fest VIBGYOR'23 held on December 16, 2023, was a momentous occasion, inaugurated with grace and enthusiasm by Mr. Rama Suresh. Serving as the chief guest, Mr. Suresh delivered an inspiring speech that sparked a day filled with creativity and artistic expression.

The exhibits left both parents and the chief guest amazed. The variety of works presented by the students reflected a spectrum of artistic talents, showcasing their creativity, skills, and unique perspectives. The diverse range of art forms, from paintings to crafts demonstrated the depth of the students' engagement with their chosen mediums. The event was a celebration of creativity and artistic prowess.



## Show me the money!

The Department of Commerce celebrated “Commerce Fest” on 6th November 2023, titled “Feast, Fun and Fete”. The theme of the event was to augment management skills among future business persons. The students exhibited different products and services, which were exclusively owned, and manufactured by them. The products included food varieties and artistic works, services included Mehandi and interesting games for kids. The Chief Guest for the day was Mr. Abhay. S. Mehta, Managing Director of Mehta Jewellery. He recounted his own experiences on becoming a successful businessman. Competitions like cartoon strip making, and slogan writing were conducted for the students.

The event was a resounding success, promoting a holistic approach to commerce education by combining academic excellence, practical knowledge, and cultural enrichment.

We asked a few students of the Commerce stream and Ms. Sreedevi, the Head of the Commerce Department, about their experience planning and conducting this extravaganza of stalls and fun.

We initially planned on conducting competitions but we thought we'd make it different and try out food stalls. The most valuable lesson I learnt from this experience, is the beauty of your hard work coming to fruition. The efforts were not for naught. We learnt how to manage a business and cook some good food.

**Rhea Mary, XI B**

We tried to find out what stalls would be best for the students so they could enjoy the fest. We had to choose the best options for the stalls, according to each of our capability and what each one of us was good at handling during the fest.

**Ethan Isaiah Baldrey, XI B**

Something I learnt from this fest was the vitality of a business contract detailing the terms and conditions, and the mutual agreement between both parties on the contract, prior to the occurrence of the event. We also learned the practical applications of lessons learnt inside the classroom.

**Neetesh Advani, XI B**

Children of Classes XI and XII were interested in participating in Feast, Fun, and Fete, all the products displayed were exclusively made by them. The students learnt to manufacture a product on the spot, fix up the prices of the product, market products or services, etc. which is a part of their curriculum in their subjects. Children did that with utmost interest and they received an overwhelming response from the Management, Principal, Teachers, and students.

**Ms. Sreedevi, HOD - Commerce Dept.**



## The Smile Revolution

As part of the curriculum, the KG department of UCPS organized a Personal Hygiene and Dental Awareness Program on the 20th of November, 2023. Dr Esther defined personal hygiene and elucidated the same through a digital presentation. Dr Gemmimaa spoke on the importance of oral hygiene and demonstrated the right way to brush using puppets. Following this, a dental check-up was organized. It was indeed an educational experience for the kindergarteners.



## JINGLE BELLS AND JOYFUL YELLS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The UCPS Christmas Program held on 2nd December 2023 was a festive and joyous evening that brought together one and all to celebrate the holiday season. The program featured a diverse array of performances, including musical numbers and dance routines. In a harmonious fusion of creativity, students embarked on a unique and inspiring journey by composing an original song "Mannil Pirandha Engal Maanidarae" with the guidance of our music master Mr. Jeffrey Louis. The mellifluous voices of UCA's choir captivated everyone's heart. The band set the stage on fire with their electrifying performance. The students of UC Matric presented an adaptation of a timeless tale - the 'Christmas Carol'. Students of UCPS brought the dance floor to life with a medley of seasonal tunes. The event ended with the soothing voices of UC's staff choir.



## GLORIA 2023

The melodious Union Christian Association (UCA) School Choir got the ball rolling for the 6th rendition of Gloria - a Christmas Carol Concert, held on 10th December at UCA Auditorium.



## INDUSTRIAL VISIT TO INFONET

An industrial visit was organized for the students to visit INFONET, Skill Development Centre, SIDCO Industrial Estate, Thirumazhisai, a prominent company in the telecom sector. During the visit, the students observed the intricate production processes involved in network services. Students witnessed state-of-the-art machinery and technology, showcasing the company's commitment to staying ahead in the competitive market. The visit was instrumental in enhancing the students' understanding of the practical aspects of the telecom sector.



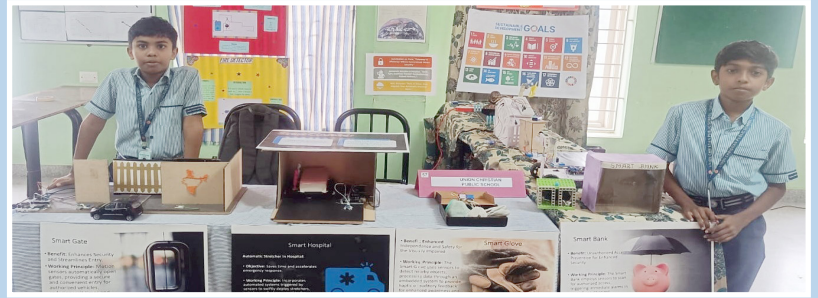
## AND THE WINNER IS...

Union Christian Public School was Ranked No.1 in Co-Curricular Education by the Education Today magazine. The Principal, Ms. Nisha Anil John and Correspondent, Ms. Elizabeth George were honoured with the award in Bangalore.



## LITTLE EINSTEINS OF UCPS

The CBSE National Science Exhibition took place on the 21st of December, 2023, in which 71 schools participated. 6 judges shortlisted 48 schools and UCPS was one among them. A total of 5 themes were given and only one winner was declared from each theme. The winner for the theme 'Lifestyle for environment' were the students of UCPS, L. Abhilash & Jotham Paul. P of class VI, and they are now selected for the National level competition which will be held in New Delhi.



## UNSUNG HEROES: THANK YOU!

The KG department of UCPS celebrated Community Helpers Day on the 16th of October, 2023.

Children interacted with different community helpers like firefighters, doctors, vendors, garbage collectors, etc and expressed their gratitude by presenting them with small gifts and flowers.

The school helpers were gathered and the children showed their gratitude through a song and a recital of a Tamil poem. They also felicitated them with handmade bracelets and refreshments.



## BE OUR GUEST – TIMES OF INDIA'S GUEST EDITOR: UCPS

Receiving an e-mail from the Times of India that we have been selected to guest edit for an edition of one of the most esteemed and widely-read newspapers was an honour achieved only through divine providence. We immediately began gathering content from our immensely gifted students and started compiling and editing the articles owing to the experience we have had from working for our very own tri-annual newsletter the UCPS Chronicles.

This once-in-a-lifetime invitation to be a part of the editing at the Times of India headquarters is an opportunity one could only dream of. As we drove to the head office, we were thrumming with curiosity, and the avid expectation to experience journalism in a professional setting. We were ushered into the meeting room where we set to work.

Under the guidance of expert journalists, we commenced the task of proofreading to enhance the clarity of the draft. This environment helped us delve deeper into the realm of content creation and it attuned our minds to attend to the finer details of creative writing.

We learned that journalism is not just surface-level edits and rectifications, but a vital tool to reach beyond plain paper into the minds of our young audience with enriching content. We stepped into the office as amateurs with eager minds, but we marched out as proficient editors equipped with the skilfull art, that is journalism. We also visited the popular radio station: Mirchi FM, which was situated on the next floor of the headquarters.

The Guest Editor Edition that we compiled was applauded by the staff of Times of India, saying it was 'the most organized and well-written draft we have ever received.' The students of UCPS had nothing but wonderful things to say about the edition:

I appreciate our Editorial team who designed the paper. Overall, I really liked the newspaper.

*T. Laya – VII A*

The newspaper was meticulously crafted and planned with precision. The colour schemes and the vocabulary were

unmatched. The efforts taken by the editorial team must be appreciated. It showcases the talents of our students in the fields of arts, sports, academics, etc.

*Rhea Mary – XI B*

This was an amazing opportunity for our school. Our school's teachers and students of the editorial team have really outdone themselves. I hope that our school gets more opportunities to shine bright.

*R-Janet Andrea – VII B*

It makes me feel joyful that our school has given countless opportunities letting students acquire many achievements. I am thrilled to see our faces printed on a newspaper, and I have to say that this is why UCPS is the 'Best school'.

*Selena Jacob – VI A*

"Heart does matter!" by our principal, Ms. Nisha Anil John was an inspiring article detailing the relationship between the teachers and Gen Z students. "How to remove excess salt from vegetable dishes," by Ms. Elizabeth mam, my class teacher gave a quick three-step guide for a healthy life with enhanced taste. Ramya Ma'am's article about our I-Zone classes, on how we make STEAM projects and DIY activities, highlighted teamwork, and collaborative efforts.

*Alan Joel. P – VI A*





## SPORTS

### WARRIORS DOMINATE CELTICS

In a high-stakes clash against the Boston Celtics on the 20th of December, the Golden State Warriors secured a thrilling overtime victory with the spotlight shone on the incomparable Stephen Curry. The game reached its pinnacle as “Clutch Curry” lived up to his moniker, sinking crucial three-pointers. Curry scored 20 points in the fourth quarter and overtime to propel the Warriors to a 132-126 victory. He not only orchestrated the offense with finesse, but also earned high praise from the NBA legend Shaquille O’Neal. Shaq believes that Steph is way better than him and wonders if it is time to start putting him in the “greatest players of all time” discussions.

His remarkable performance not only contributed to the win but also solidified his position as the leader in clutch points this season. Steph Curry’s stellar performance against the Celtics further solidified his reputation as a Celtics’ tormentor, consistently delivering standout plays. The dynamic guard’s ability to control the tempo and execute precision shooting has led to the Warriors establishing a commanding presence against Boston in recent encounters. As Curry continues to redefine the game, his impact on the court remains a force to be reckoned with, leaving fans eagerly anticipating future matchups against formidable opponents.

*Rhea Isabel Joseph XI A*



## MUSIC

### UCPS BAND

The UCPS Band was started in the year 2019, under the leadership of Mr John Knox. Since then, there has been no turning back. The band has participated in numerous interschool competitions and has been victorious. The band consists of divinely talented musicians, sweetly raising praises to the Lord. Every year, the annual day and Christmas programme is an event the school looks forward to. Every event of the school is bedazzled by the extraordinary performance rendered by the amazing school band. The school band, now led by Ms. Cathrine Ebenesar, never fails to entertain the audience. The band firmly believes that passion is all that you need to shine forth for the glory of Christ.

*Kevin Thomas George, XI A, Vocalist*

### BEHIND THE SCENES: THE UCPS BAND

*“Art is how we decorate space; music is how we decorate time.” -Jean Michel Basquiat*

The band is one of the most exciting displays of music. The riffs on the guitar, the smooth skill on the keys, and the beat of the drums brings everyone on their feet. To us, the band is a safe space. We celebrate music in different ways to unwind and relax from our hectic school days. Music speaks to each member of the band differently, and we are given the freedom to express it.

Our hours of practice are filled with discipline and hard work. We practice our songs with diligence, being sure to correct them all the way down to precision. With a perfectionist like Catherine ma’am, we aim for the same level of precision. However, the moments of fun and relaxation are unmatched. The group takes time to rest and recuperate without ever letting the chemistry and synergy in the room die down.

*Rachael Gabriella Amarnath, Vocalist*



## IN CONVERSATION WITH

The librarian is not just someone who can tell you where the newly released Colleen Hoover book is, but is someone who can recommend companions in the form of books with whom you can traverse adventures and thrills.

With this in mind, we interviewed Ms. Sapna Mary Mathew, our school librarian, in which she shares her journey and experience through the years.

***You have been the librarian for this school ever since its conception. What are some of the milestones you have seen the library mark?***

The UCPS library has undergone many changes. The increase in the number of books, the improvement in the reading capabilities of children, and activities like the book fair by Kids Today, library week, and scholastic book sales through pamphlets, have brought excitement to the students' lives.

***Has readership among children increased over the years? What are some genres students are avidly interested in? Why do you think those genres are most attractive to students?***

I can divide the reading habits of children into before COVID-19 and after COVID-19. It was when I saw a lot of changes in my own reading habits. The primary kids, especially the average readers, now read anything from fairy tales to small mystery books. The middle school children are more interested in books with illustrations, like Geronimo Stilton and Tom Gates. The teenagers, who used to read normal novels before, started asking for self-help books, mythological books, and biographies.

This drastic change was interesting to see. The main reason for this change, I think, is due to the new book-to-movie adaptations that have seen a sharp increase in recent years, and children, as a result, are eager to read these stories that they see on screen.

***What is your favourite aspect of being a librarian, and how has this experience been?***

My experience as a librarian so far has been a challenging task, since UCPS is a growing school. However, it is a rewarding one. Nothing is more exciting than when children come and tell me, proudly, that they have read a certain book, sharing with me its pros and cons. It is always a wonderful feeling when the students who have graduated visit, and fill me in on their achievements in the outside world as pure professionals.

***You not only serve the role of a librarian, but also a close mentor for numerous students, both past and present.***

***How have students transformed into who they are now by using the library?***

As a librarian for classes 1 to 12, I would call myself privileged to see my students come into UCPS as a child of 6 years and leave school as mature young adults, ready to tackle the challenges of the world, while being equipped with the weapon of knowledge that the library has provided them with. Students come into the library to have a peaceful place to sit and read or even at times to talk their hearts out so that they can get their thoughts straight, which I believe plays a vital role in shaping the type of people they want to be. The library is a place free of judgement, and you can share your thoughts and opinions, and listen to those of others.'

***Going back to your roots, where and what did you study in college? What was the moment you decided you wanted to be a librarian?***

I did my master's in Home Science from Kerala University. At that time, I had the opportunity to do my research work in the university library. It was huge with long halls filled with rows and rows of books on strong wooden shelves. What fascinated me the most was the sheer number of books that looked down upon us from those shelves, the number of researchers who sat in the library and read on, and the silence they maintained religiously, immersed in their books. That was when the thought of being a librarian got cemented in my mind, after which there was no turning back, and the rest is history.

***Lastly, what are some of the things that you would recommend students do to take full advantage of the library?***

The library is a place, peaceful and quiet and most suitable for reading books with full concentration. Children should remember that not only story books but magazines with different topics are available in the library. Question papers, question banks, and guides are all helpful and readily available for you to ace your exams, and act as an aid to guide you into a bright future.

*Ms. Sapna Mary Mathew has been the librarian for the Union Christian Public School Library ever since its conception in 2015. She has worked as a teacher in the UCA institution of schools for the past 15 years. She grew up reading all the Enid Blyton, Nancy Drew, and the Hardy Boys books like any other person of her age at that time, and she devours an Agatha Christie novel at any place, day, or time. An enthusiastic storyteller, a dear companion, and a wise mentor, she is an adored teacher by all the students.*



## TOPPER TALK



As the exam season approaches, students enter a period of intense practice and study. Essential for effective practice is gaining insight into what lies ahead. We conducted an interview with our school's highest achiever, Rinnah Evangeline, who provides valuable advice on the dos and don'ts while dealing with stress.

***Were you ever distracted while studying? How did you stay motivated to work hard?***

Yes, indeed. I would want to watch a movie, or start a series, or read a book only when I open my textbook. And most of the time I gave in to temptation. But wanting to see an A+ on my report card was my motivation.

***What are some studying techniques you used to learn subjects like social science, maths, and science?***

Science and maths were moderately easy because all I had to do was understand the concept and apply it. But social science? No matter how many times the teacher tells you to write down the key points, there are always going to be plenty of dates and places that you have to memorise. And it was difficult. But I got the hang of it after writing a couple of cycle tests.

***Since you self-studied, what are some study materials and resources that you used?***

I didn't use many aids in 10th grade. I only watched a couple of videos for chemistry and physics of Khan Academy.

They simplify it for you so that you can grasp it quickly. I used 'RD Sharma' guides for Math, and it was extremely helpful.

***What would you say was the most important thing you did that helped you study and score well?***

I was thorough with the NCERT textbook. And I only started doing past question papers in the last few months, say from January. What really helped me was all the revision questions done in class. Solving sample question papers prepares you for the boards. The SQPs are tougher than the actual board exam question paper. So, if you're able to do them quite easily, then you're good to go.

***Looking back at times of preparation and studying, what are some things you've learnt from the experience?***

I learnt that I shouldn't procrastinate. I started studying a week before any test and sometimes I'd start the day before. I would suggest you revise every day's portions regularly. And if I'm studying, I try my best to focus. Parental pressure was something every one of us faced, but don't let it get to you. Just relax, the preparation for the exam might be difficult, with a lot of sleepless nights. But the board exams? They aren't as scary as you think. Just have your mind cleared of stress and calm through the chaos, and you're pretty much all prepared!

*Rinnah Evangeline stood first as the school topper during the year 2023-24 for the All-India Secondary School Examination conducted by CBSE. She scored a whopping 484/500 and held the position for being the topper in English. Having chosen the PCB + Mathematics group, she aims to become a doctor and is currently undergoing NEET coaching.*

## TEACHERS' DAY

The students of class 11 organized a spectacular Teacher's Day programme, in commemoration of all the hard work and sacrifice teachers undergo, and the impact they have on children around the globe. The programme consisted of events and competitions for teachers both inside and outside the auditorium like throwball, dumb-charades, AdapTune, etc. The teachers were gifted a sapling, a symbolic representation of the mighty trees, that is students, they plant in society.



## CHILDREN'S DAY

The Children's Day celebration was a lively event filled with joy and enthusiasm. The teachers showcased exceptional performances. The highlight was the teachers' dance, which left the audience in splits. Following the festivities, we returned to our classrooms for more fun activities, creating a memorable and enjoyable day for everyone. Overall, it was a successful celebration, fostering a positive and vibrant school spirit.



## MATHEMATICAL MERRIMENT: FESTIVE FUSION OF SHAPES AND PATTERNS

In the radiant embrace of the holiday season, the creative spirits of students from classes 1 and 2 awakened to the joyous rhythm of Christmas. Under the theme "Festive Fusion: Unwrapping Creativity through Christmas Shapes and Patterns," the classrooms became vibrant canvases for the celebration of

unity, and the enchantment of Christmas. Children eagerly participated by bringing handmade decorations for their respective classes. Students also showcased their culinary artistry. Creative snacks, crafted to incorporate the theme of shapes and patterns, were shared among friends.



## Barbenheimer Crossword Puzzle

