



St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)

(Recognized as "College with Potential for Excellence" by UGC & Accredited at A⁺⁺ grade with CGPA of 3.66/4 in IV Cycle by NAAC)

Palayamkottai – 627 002

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

XAVIER HOSTEL

Freshers Day and Mass of the Holy Spirit:

Fresher's Day at XAHO is a custom to welcome new arrivals to the XAHO family. On July 6th, 2023, we organized a Fresher's Day event "Vaanga Rasa ithu Namma XAHO" at our hostel, brimming with excitement and joy. This event was a heartfelt gesture to warmly welcome the incoming students who have recently joined our hostel community. It is just not a fresher's day party but it is arranged in such a way that the seniors and new comers bond is established and a good platform for friendship is provided.

A community worship was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Henry Jerome S.J., and the entire hostel together as a well - knit family together prayed for the forthcoming year to be a fruitful year. The seniors arranged all the entire events remarkably well.

A special talk by the counselor:

On July 20, 2023, a special event was organized at XAHO for its students, focusing on the crucial topic of "Managing emotions and feelings". Fr Joseph, who served as the resource person for the session highlighted the importance of handling emotions intelligently. The focus of the talk was not only to educate but also to inspire and guide the students in the complex realm of emotions. The session was designed to be highly interactive and engaging, incorporating a wide range of activities that were not only informative but also enjoyable. These activities served as a means for the students to delve deeper into their own thoughts and feelings, prompting them to contemplate their long-term aspirations and goals.

A special talk by Fr. Thamburaj:

On August 30, 2023, a thought-provoking discussion on “Cultivating a habit Ecosystem” was arranged for the students of XAHO. The speaker for this event was Rev. Fr Francis Thamburaj S.J., who shared his wisdom and insights and the methodology to cultivate habits and the advantages of building a healthy habit systems. The content and the presentation were very creative and insightful.

Throughout the session, Fr. Thamburaj emphasized the importance of nurturing a holistic habit ecosystem. He not only explored methods for personal improvement but also delved into the significance of self-discipline and self-reliance. His guidance extended to various avenues and opportunities for enhancing one's overall well - being and becoming more self-confident.

A special talk by Murugan:

On September 7th, 2023, an enlightening journey of “Self-exploration in the realm of human sexuality” was organized for the students of XAHO. Dr. Murugan, a Senior Consultant in HIV and Sexual Medicine, graced the occasion as the resource person, providing invaluable insights and guidance to help students navigate this important aspect of their lives. The session was meticulously designed to be interactive, encouraging students to actively participate and raise questions. The speaker emphasized the importance of maintaining proper understanding of Sex, sexual health, sexual myth, safety measures and hygienic behaviour. Throughout the session, Dr. Murugan shed light on various aspects of sexual well-being. Beyond the basics of sexual health, the resource person also touched upon avenues and opportunities for personal growth and self-improvement.

A special talk by Mr. Mathivanan:

On December 7th, 2023, a special talk on Ecological Concerns was organized to enable students to be sensitive towards the mother earth. Mr. Mathivanan was the resource person for the event.

XaHo Enviro Club:

We at XAHO have this program called “XaHo Enviro Club” in our hostel campus where the students take part during their leisure hours by planting trees and saplings. This year we have

planted over 280 coconut plants, around 140 drumstick plants and over 70 other plants such as lemon and mango plants. The objective of this group is to foster an understanding of nature's interconnectedness and create awareness among students about the importance of environmental conservation, sustainability, and the impact of human activities on the planet. This activity has instilled responsibility and pride as students nurture saplings, creating lasting environmental connections. This year we have planted around 500 saplings and our students take care of them periodically.

XAHO Share and Care:

This year, we carried on with our group initiative known as 'XAHO Share and Care' in Palayamkottai town, focusing on aiding destitute and abandoned individuals. Students volunteered to contribute and raise funds from their peers for a noble cause: providing blankets to impoverished pavement dwellers. We distributed food packets to those in need during night times with the help of students and volunteers within the town. This action vividly reflects the Jesuit Education motto, which emphasizes nurturing individuals for the betterment of others, as exemplified by the students of Xavier Hostel.

During the tragic flood, The Share and Care group, demonstrated unwavering commitment and selflessness in aiding flood - affected communities. From 19.12.2023 to 23.12.2023, they distributed thousands of food packets, water bottles, blankets, clothes, and other essentials to various affected areas, collaborating with various organizations. The efforts, driven by compassion and supported by generous contributions, exhibited a commendable display of solidarity and generosity. We own our sincere thanks to our senior brothers of Xavier Hostel and the members of Share and Care groups from Salem and Trichy for their significant support. At times of great agony and anxiety, through Share and Care group, we have distributed above over 50,000 food packets, water bottles and other essential items to alleviate the distress of those affected by the floods.

XAHO Christmas:

The Nativity Celebration at XAHO was exceptionally vibrant this year. Every hostel block shimmered with stars and lights, symbolizing the arrival of Jesus. The festivities included a variety of cultural performances, from dances to songs. Rev. Fr. Stalin delivered his Christmas

message, and Fr. Rector blessed the assembly, announcing the winners of the crib competition. He also commended the students who generously contributed to XAHO's Share and Care initiative. The joyous atmosphere at XAHO echoed the heavenly bliss of Christ's birth.

Pongal Celebration

The 'Thai Pongal' celebration at XAHO exemplifies the vibrant spirit of the institution. The campus was adorned in traditional fashion, with coconut leaves and sugarcane lending a festive air. Pongal preparation was a central focus, with shouts of "Pongal O Pongal" resonating throughout the day. Dr. V. Rilbrt Janarthan Assistant Professor of St. Xavier's College, graced the event as chief guest, enlightening students about the significance of Tamil culture and the importance of Pongal in Tamil life. He exhorted the young minds to uphold the values inherent in Tamil culture. The festivities included lively folk dance performances and Pongal games, igniting our enthusiasm twofold.

XAHO INIGO BOYS

We also have regular spiritual activities like praying the rosary in the hostel chapel everyday and holy mass is celebrated to help the students grow in spirituality and to connect with their inner selves and higher power.

Jesuit Educational Support

Providing financial support is one great significance of our Xavier Hostel. In order to ease the financial burden of well performing students, Jesuit Educational Support JES scholarship is provided for the really deserving students to pay their college and hostel fees. This year a total of 120 XAHO students received JES scholarship to the tune of Rs. 3,84,000/-.

XAHO BLITZ'24

The annual day celebrations at the hostel, known as XAHO Blitz'24, are a time to honor and appreciate the diverse talents of our students. Throughout the year, a variety of arts, literary, sports, and cultural competitions were organized and held. Students were divided into four teams. Competitions were held among these groups to encourage the development and nurturing of their talents. Events included English and Tamil Essay Writing, Elocution in Both Languages,

Dance Performances, Ad-Zap Contests, Dumb Charades, and Solo as well as Group Singing Competitions. Additionally, Sports Competitions such as Basketball, Volleyball, Cricket, and Badminton were conducted. These activities not only kept the spirit of camaraderie alive but also fostered friendships among the students.

Conclusion

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Jesuit Management of St. Xavier's College, Palayamkottai, for their unwavering support and dedication to the holistic growth of our students. Furthermore, we express gratitude to our students for their continuous support and valuable feedback, which enables us to live together as a family.

As we reflect on the past year, we are gratified by the sense of purpose, passion, and progress that has characterized our journey. Let us continue to strengthen the bonds of friendship and camaraderie as we embark on the path ahead. Thanks for all that has been.... Yes to all that shall be.....