



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)
PALAYAMKOTTAI - 627 002
(Recognized as "College with Potential for Excellence" by UGC &
Accredited by NAAC at A++ Grade with a CGPA of 3.66 out of 4)



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023
SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

XAVIER HOSTEL ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

The 86th academic year of Xavier hostel began on 18.07.2022 with the arrival of 301 students of whom are 77 first-years, 77 second-years, 91 third-year UG students, and 56 PG students housed at Nehru, Gandhi, Loyola, and Xavier Blocks respectively.

This year the members of the staff are the following.

Rev. Fr. V. Lawrence Benedict S.J., - Director

Sch. Prasanth S.J., - Assistant Director, Xavier Block

Sch. Donic S.J., - Assistant Director, Loyola Block

Mr. Balagangatharan - Assistant Director, Nehru Block

Mr. Caroll Xavier - Assistant Director, Gandhi Block

The inmates of St. Xavier's hostel commenced the new academic year with new dreams and hopes with the COVID wave and its repercussions subsiding slowly.

Blessing of the Renovated Blocks

All the blocks at XAHO and the dining hall were given a new look this year by laying tiles to the tune of Rs. 25 lakhs. In addition, all the ground floor rooms of NehruBlock, GandhiBlock, and Loyola Block were refurnished and well-painted to ensure good living conditions for the boys. In the presence of the Jesuits of St.Xavier's Community, Fr. Rector, Fr. Treasurer, and others, blessed the renovated blocks and the well illuminated dining hall on 19th July 2022. To conserve energy consumption, this year we have replaced the power mongering lights with LED lights all around the campus. To ensure surveillance, this year 18 new CCTV cameras were installed.

Freshers Day and Mass of the Holy Spirit

Fresher's day at XAHO is a custom to welcome the new arrivals to the XAHO family. "Vaanga Rasa ithuNamma XAHO" was the welcoming sentiments revibrated by our senior

students to welcome the juniors. Followed by this was the Mass of the Holy Spirit celebrated by Fr. Leoline SJ, the Campus Minister, on 04.08.2022 who invoked the spirit of God on all of us, as we officially commenced this academic year.

Professional English Course

A professional English course was organized from 12.08.2022 for 60 students of first year of Xavier hostel. Sch. Prasant, Assistant Director, Xavier Block designed and executed the 60 hours course. This course aimed at helping the freshers enhance their English language skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The classes were held from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m at Mother Theresa Auditorium. An interactive method of teaching was employed and tests were conducted to review the performance of the students. XAHO places a sincere thanks and appreciation to Sch. Johnson Maria Francis, SJ Sch. PrasanthSJ and Sch. Donic SJ for being the resource persons in imparting the language skills to the students for all the 60 hrs.

Talk by Transgenders

To instill social consciousness among our students, an awareness talk on the theme “Perspectives of Society on Transgender community” was organized on 20th September 2022. Three Transgenders from Narasingapuram came as resource persons to share with the students their personal experiences and the struggle they go through as transgenders. The sharing by the Transgenders evoked and stirred the souls of the youngsters leading to a profound transformation in the way they perceive and understand the much maligned transgender community. The empathizing students of St. Xavier’s Hostel raised many questions and sought clarifications on some of the myths. They also developed an intense need to respect and recognize transgenders as normal human beings.

Career guidance talk by Mr. Anbuwanan

A talk on motivation cum Career guidance was organized for the XAHO students on 06th October 2022. Mr. Anbuwanan, Educationalist was the resource person to animate and orient the students. The session was interactive with a lot of inputs and fun-filled activities which helped the students to ponder over their long-term goals. The resource person highlighted the various avenues and opportunities that are available for jobs, competitive examinations and for higher studies. The students felt benefitted from the course, which was visible through their healthy interactions and spontaneous appreciation.

Deepavali Celebration

The celebration of the festival of lights was a remarkable event at XAHO. Prof. Dr. R. Antony Raj, the special invitee of the day enlightened the minds of the students with his Deepavali message and encouraged all to know the real meaning of Deepavali. XAHO was lit with the light splashes of crackers and fireworks. Laughter, joy, special dinner and DJ nights echoed the light of Deepavali celebrations.

Crib Competition

The Christmas celebration at XAHO commenced with an inter-block crib competition. The students of their respective blocks were encouraged to recreate the birth of Jesus through Christmas Cribs. The enticing creativity, engaging hard work and enlivening presentation was a praiseworthy initiative where students from different faiths took an active part in the entire event. Rev. Fr. Vijay SJ and Fr. Stephen Athiko, SJ were the judges to evaluate the cribs.

Christmas Celebration

The Celebration of Nativity at XAHO was very colorful this year. Each block of the hostel was well-lit with stars and lights reflecting the coming of Jesus. The day of celebration was marked with many cultural displays such as dance and singing. Rev. Fr. Francis Thamburaj gave his Christmas message, while Fr. Rector blessed the gathering and declared the prize winners of the crib competition. He also placed his special appreciation for the students who volunteered to donate money for the Share and Care initiative of XAHO. The merry-filled hearts of XAHO gave a foretaste of heavenly joy at the birth of Christ.

Pongal Celebration

Thai Pongal celebration at XAHO is yet another display of XAHO Spirit. XAHO had its traditional appearance, with the stage and campus decorated with Coconut leaves and Sugarcane. Pongal preparation was an important part of the celebration and shouting Pongal O Pongal added meaning to the day. Dr. Francis Xavier, Vice Principal, St. Xavier's College was the chief guest. He communicated, the significance of Tamil Culture and the importance of Pongal in the life of Tamils. Rev. Fr. Paul Mike, the Guest of Honor ignited the young minds on the need for upholding the values enshrined in Tamil Culture. Folk dance performances and Pongal games doubled our enthusiasm.

Blanket and Food Distribution

To reach out to the destitute and abandoned humanity in and around Palayamkottai town, a group called 'XAHO Share and Care was initiated this year. Students volunteered to donate as

well as collect money from their friends for this noble cause of providing blankets to poor pavement dwellers. A sum of Rs. 40000 was collected and a batch of 30 students went around the nook and corner of the Town, and covered the poor with blankets of love and care. Also provided them with food packets. The Motto of Jesuit Education to create Men and Women for OTHERS was very much visible in this humane act of Xavier hostel Students.

Visiting Orphanage

Another novel initiative of the XAHO Share and Care team this year was to visit an Orphanage of children, infected and affected by AIDS. The XAHO team brought new clothes for the 35 inmates at Irudhaya Jyothi ashram and shared with the children, the joy of Christmas. A great salute to the entire share and care team for thinking and embracing the most disadvantageous and neglected innocent children.

XAHO ENVIRO CLUB

The XAHO ENVIRO CLUB was formed with the aim of promoting environmental awareness among students and taking action to protect the environment. We organized tree planting activity, where students were encouraged to plant trees and the importance of trees in the ecosystem. This year we planted 60 coconut saplings, 250 banana plants, and cultivated Chili and turmeric plants. This club organized a Clean-up Drive in the hostel premises and its surroundings to raise awareness about the importance of keeping the environment clean and green. The Enviro club cleaned the entire stretch of the wayside of the hostel and removed the bushes and collected the trash. Through these clubs, the students became aware of environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, waste reduction etc.

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.

Xaho Blitz'23 Events

The Hostel's annual day celebrations XAHO Blitz'23 is a time to celebrate and cherish the various talents of our students. Several arts, literary, sports, and cultural competitions were scheduled and conducted throughout the year. Our students were shuffled into four teams namely YazhiAndiran, Voice of Victory, Hapbee Chaos, and Lions of Mercy, and competitions were conducted among the groups to cultivate and improve their talents. Some of the events included English and Tamil Essay writing, Elocution in English and Tamil, Dance, Ad Zap,

Dumb Charade, and Solo and Group singing. Games such as Basketball, Volleyball, Cricket, Badminton, and football were also conducted. This kept the spirit alive and fostered friendship among the students.



Conclusion

Xavier Hostel, the abode of Happiness and Cordiality is committed to providing quality accommodation and services to its students, creating a positive living experience that contributes to their academic and personal growth. We are constantly working to improve our services and facilities to ensure that our students have a safe, decent and comfortable living environment. We whole heartedly thank the Jesuit Management of St. Xavier's College, Palayamkottai for giving utmost care to the students and their overall growth. We also place our sincere gratitude to our students for their continued support and constructive suggestions. It has been a fruitful year imbued with a sense of purpose, passion, and progress. Let the journey of bonding buddies go on and on...