St. Joseph's School (CBSE)
Attinkarai, Manavalakurichy
Run by DMI Sisters & MMI Fathers, Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi-(1930682)

Newsletter

AUGUST **MANAVALAKURICHI** **2025**

OUR VISION

OUR VISION IS TO ENABLE YOUNG MINDS WITH PROFOUND KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY TO BE GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE BY CREATING SKILLED AND BLISSFUL COMMUNITY

OUR MISSION

- TO IMPART KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS IN YOUNG MINDS WITH GLOBAL STANDARDS
- TO IGNITE ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY
- TO INDOCTRINATE RIGHT VALUES AND UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD
- TO INCORPORATE STUDENT-CENTRIC AND JOYFUL LEARNING

From the Rector's Desk …..

Dear Parents, Staff, and Beloved Students,

As we reflect on the month of August, my heart is filled with profound gratitude and immense hope. This newsletter is a testament to the vibrant, holistic, and forward-thinking education we strive to provide at St. Joseph's. It beautifully captures our core mission: to nurture not only academically proficient students but also compassionate, innovative, and responsible citizens of tomorrow.

This month, we witnessed our institution flourishing on multiple fronts. I was particularly inspired by the dual focus on **heritage and horizon**. While our students honored our nation's rich history and freedom struggle with deep reverence on Independence Day, they also fearlessly embraced the future through pioneering AI training sessions. This balance between respecting our past and innovating for our future is the very cornerstone of a St. Joseph's education.

The extraordinary project by our students, Ryan Editraj and Sharvin Hariharan, is a shining example of this ethos. Their AI-powered detection system goes beyond technical brilliance; it embodies a deep sense of social responsibility and a desire to contribute to the safety of their community. Similarly, the conceptualization of **MediBot** reflects a beautiful synergy of cutting-edge technology and heartfelt human compassion, aiming to serve and protect the most vulnerable among us. These projects are not just school assignments; they are the first steps our students are taking towards solving real-world problems.

Furthermore, the strong collaboration between our dedicated teachers and supportive parents fills me with great joy. The successful parent training sessions and the initiative to build a "Happy Classroom" for our youngest learners underscore our shared commitment to fostering a nurturing and joyful environment for every child.

As we look forward to September, with its celebrations, examinations, and new learning opportunities, let us carry forward this momentum of growth, partnership, and innovation.

Let us continue to work together to light the fire of curiosity, compassion, and knowledge in every student entrusted to our care.

With prayers and best wishes,

Rev. Fr. Mento MMI
The Rector
St. Joseph's School, Manavalakurichi

From the Principal's Desk …..

"We want education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded and by which one can stand on one's own feet." - **Swami Vivekanand**

Every child is unique; we appreciate a child's individuality and try to nurture his/her strength. The aim of education is all about helping the child to realize and explore his/her potential and latent talents. Future of our world depends on our present children.

I strongly feel that education is a blend of academic excellence and creativity. St. Joseph's School encourages and empowers our students to grow as strong, reflective and humble individuals with discerning minds, prepared to make a mark in all spheres of life.

The month of August augured great achievements both in academics and co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Besides the academic acumen, our students participated in the CBSE's annual sporting events – Cluster Meets for the first time and our students gave a tough competition to the best of the teams. Our Taekwondo teams brought laurels at the district level competitions and the girls' team was declared the runner-up overall champions.

B. Edwin Joel of Class VI won a Bronze medal in the sub-junior Boys Under 34 Kg category at the 5th Sub-junior Tamil Nadu Taekwondo Championship at SRM University, Chennai on 17th August 2025.

Special appreciation to the 120 strong contingent of our school which won the overall championship at the South Zone inter-school DFT Talent Harmony 2025 held at St. Joseph Global School, Yagapuram, Trichy on 30th August 2025. I wish all the prize winners to participate more enthusiastically in the finals which will be held in Chennai in the month of September.

Various initiatives that were taken up during this year such as reading task, handwriting, spell bee, grammar capsule, listening assessment, club activities, CCA, mental maths etc. have started bearing fruits and I am extremely happy to see the improvements in the students.

September is going to be more hectic month with both academics and non-academic activities. I wish all the students to continue to focus on all the activities of the school and balance their time so that each of our students emerges as allrounders and thus great potential leaders for the world beyond the school.

I extend my best wishes to all the students, staff and parents to have a more fun-filled and learning period ahead.

With Best Wishes

P. Eskalin Gonsalves
Principal

A Strong Start: Teacher Development

The month began with a strong focus on enhancing our teaching methodologies. Our Vice Principal and KG Coordinator held a productive meeting with the Kindergarten teachers to plan and refine daily activities for our youngest learners. Furthermore, our Principal conducted an insightful grammar class for the teaching staff, empowering them with new strategies for the classroom.

Extra Curricular Activities

Students from classes I to VIII enthusiastically participated in an ECA (Extra-Curricular Activity) events on Wednesdays, finetuning their talents beyond academics.

Grammar Capsule & Parent Partnership

We successfully launched the first phase of our **Grammar Capsule** programme – a Grammar Olympiad - designed to strengthen foundational language skills. Complementing this, we held a very informative **Parent Training Session**, fostering a strong partnership between home and school to support our students' learning journeys.

Club Activities in Full Swing

Various club activities were conducted on alternate Saturdays providing students with a platform to explore their interests, collaborate with peers, and develop new hobbies in a fun and engaging environment.

Embracing the Future: AI Training

To instill a deep sense of patriotism and historical awareness, students watched a **powerful biographical movie on Mahatma Gandhi**. An **AI Training Orientation Session** was conducted, introducing students and teachers to the future of technology and learning.

Celebrating Independence with Pride

In preparation for Independence Day, students watched a patriotic movie on Mahatma Gandhi, learning about the values of our freedom struggle. The celebrations culminated on **August 14th** with a grand and solemn Independence Day ceremony. The campus was filled with patriotism as students paid tribute to the nation through speeches, songs, and flag hoisting.

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79th INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
15th August 2025

AI Training & Parents Training Programme

St. Joseph's is committed to preparing students for the future! We held an **AI Training Orientation Session** to introduce our community to the world of Artificial Intelligence. This was followed by a dedicated **AI Training session for students of classes XI & XII**, equipping them with knowledge for the tech-driven world ahead. A parallel session was also organized for parents to keep them informed and engaged. A concurrent **Parent Training Session** was organized to keep our community informed and involved in this important area of learning.

Creative Competitions Galore

The creative spirit continued with a beautiful Colouring Competition for our younger students and a dynamic Tamil and English Elocution Competition, where students demonstrated impressive oratory skills and confidence.

Happy Classroom & Happy Kids

Our KG teachers participated in a special session focused on creating a **"Happy Classroom"** environment. The workshop provided innovative strategies and joyful learning techniques designed to nurture **"Happy Kids."** This initiative aims to foster a positive, engaging, and supportive atmosphere where our youngest learners can thrive emotionally and academically.

Achievements

🎉 **A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to M. JOBIN BERDINAND!** 🥇
We are thrilled to announce his incredible achievement at the prestigious **4th National Level Open Karate Championship 2025** in Salem. He has won the **GOLD MEDAL (1ˢᵗ Place)** in the **Kata** event and **BRONZE MEDAL(3ʳᵈ Place)** in the **Kumite** for the **Under-10** category!

🎉 **HUGE CONGRATULATIONS** 🥉
To our champion Edwin Joel! We are bursting with pride! He won the **BRONZE MEDAL** in the Under 35kg category at the 5th Sub-Junior Tamil Nadu Taekwondo Championship held at SRM University, Chennai.

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Kanyakumari Disrtict
1st Taekwondo Championship

We are proud to announce that our talented students have excelled at the Kanyakumari District 1st Taekwondo Championship! With unmatched skill, discipline, and determination, they have earned:

Congratulations

Our Students won 🏆 **Overall Championship Title**
🎖️ **Certificates of Merit**

🔥 **Keep Fighting,**   **Keep Winning!** 🔥

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Warmest congratulations to you, Sir, on being honored with the prestigious Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan National Principals Award 2025. This esteemed recognition is a true testament to your visionary leadership and your innovative approach to grooming young learners and empowering the staff with essential skills for life. The entire St. Joseph's School family joins together in celebrating this magnificent achievement.

Congratulations to the SJS sports team for winning the Overall Championship at the DFT Inter-School Sports Competition (Southern Region) at Trichy. Our gratitude to the Rector, Principal, Sisters, Physical Education teachers, accompanying staff, and all our wonderful students for this achievement.

THE CHAMPION

DFT TALENT HARMONY 2025

CONGRATULATIONS...

STUDENTS' Creative Corner

My name is **Ryan Editraj**, and I am in Class 11 at St. Joseph's CBSE School. Along with my classmate **Sharvin Hariharan**, we developed an AI system that can identify two of India's most common road offences:

- **Riding without a helmet**
- **Triple riding** (three or more people on a bike)

Use Case:

Anyone with a mobile phone can stream their camera to the police server (For now this is being done on a third party app called IP Camera, but the development for our own android app is on the way), The police server then detects triples and no-helmet. This data is then sent to a dashboard which will make it easy for the police to access the offenders information.

Our Journey

Initially, we had different plans when the competition date was announced a couple weeks back. However, we wanted to challenge ourselves and create something we had never made before — an **AI model from scratch**.

Roles in Development

Sharvin handled **image gathering** and **annotating**. I worked on **algorithms**, **model training, building the code for the model to run on, and the police dashboard**. For detecting helmets, we trained the AI on hundreds of annotated images of riders in different angles, lighting, and backgrounds. For triple riding, we couldn't train a straight "triples" detector since every situation appears unique. Therefore, we trained two detectors:

- **One for motorcycles**
- **One for people**

Then, our algorithm calculates the distance between people and the motorcycle and takes information about the number of people as well. With this information our algorithm accurately detects

Challenges Faced

Training the AI model was not simple. However, within **3 days**, we had an operational system that records infractions in real-time and forwards them to a dashboard for examination.

A bit more In-Depth information

We used a dual model architecture:

- **YOLOv8** for helmet detection
- **YOLOv5** for triples (detects people and motorcycles separately, calculates the distance using an in-house built algorithm, and determines if it is triples or not)
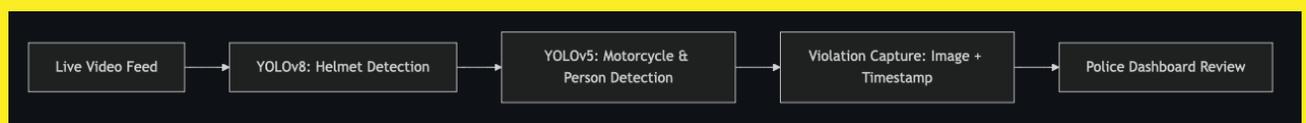
We utilized:

- **FLASK** for powering the backend for the police dashboard
- **HTML, CSS, BOOTSTRAP** for the UI/UX of the police dashboard

Our Largest Obstacle

We needed to prepare a lot of data to ensure the AI model is refined and competition-ready. We used tools like **LabelImg** to annotate the images. These models were trained using **Google Colab** (a cloud notebook platform for training AI models, as training large models on our computers would be too burdensome and time-consuming).

System Workflow:

| Live Video Feed | → | YOLOv8: Helmet Detection | → | YOLOv5: Motorcycle & Person Detection | → | Violation Capture: Image + Timestamp | → | Police Dashboard Review |

Further improvements:

We want to add a pothole detection feature that detects potholes, assigned them to their respective GPS co-ordinates and adds them to a map, By using that map people can follow routes with lesser potholes. As of now you need to have a third party application for the video to be streamed to the server, but our own android application in under development and will soon be ready.

MediBot: A Smart Companion for Health and Care

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become one of the most influential forces of modern innovation, with applications reaching into education, business, and healthcare. Among these, the concept of a health-monitoring companion robot stands out as an exciting vision of how technology can safeguard lives while providing comfort. One such concept is MediBot — a smart robotic assistant designed to analyze health conditions, provide first-aid support, and serve as a friendly companion, especially for elderly individuals.

The design of MediBot is intentionally calm and approachable, steering away from humanoid complexity to instead present a sleek, compact, and futuristic style. Equipped with a range of sensors, it continuously monitors key vital signs such as heart rate, blood pressure, oxygen saturation, and body temperature. These inputs are processed by an AI system capable of identifying irregularities and issuing timely alerts. For example, if blood pressure readings rise above normal, MediBot could remind the user to take prescribed medication or alert a caregiver. In urgent cases, it could provide first-aid guidance while automatically contacting emergency services.

What makes MediBot particularly innovative is its dual role: beyond healthcare, it also functions as a social companion. Elderly users often face loneliness, and MediBot addresses this by engaging in meaningful interactions. With voice recognition and text-to-speech capabilities, it can hold conversations, remind users about medication schedules, encourage hydration, and even share uplifting messages. Its LED indicators, expressive digital "eyes," and gentle movements create an impression of empathy, making it feel less like a machine and more like a trusted partner.

MediBot: A Smart Companion for Health and Care

The construction of MediBot involves an integration of both hardware and software. The hardware components include: - Processing Unit: Raspberry Pi 5 for AI computations and device control. - Sensors: ECG/heart rate monitors, pulse oximeters, blood pressure modules, temperature sensors, and motion detectors. - Interaction Modules: Microphone array for voice input, speakers for responses, RGB LED indicators, and a display screen for visual interaction. - Actuators: Servo motors for minor expressive movements. - Power Supply: Rechargeable battery system for portability and continuous use.

On the software side, Python serves as the primary coding language, powering both AI analysis and hardware interaction. Libraries such as TensorFlow and PyTorch allow for machine learning tasks, while Python GPIO libraries manage sensor inputs and actuator outputs. For microcontroller-based sensor subsystems, C/C++ may be employed, particularly when integrating with Arduino boards. Additionally, optional user interfaces could be developed using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript for web dashboards, or Python frameworks like Tkinter for local touchscreens.

A distinguishing feature of MediBot is its data privacy model. Unlike many smart devices that rely on cloud computing, MediBot stores and processes information locally on secure drives. This ensures the confidentiality of sensitive medical information while making the device fully functional in areas with limited internet access.

In essence, MediBot exemplifies how technology can balance functionality and humanity. By combining advanced health monitoring, first-aid readiness, and companionship, it represents not only a tool of convenience but also a guardian of well-being. It envisions a future where robots are not distant machines, but caring companions that stand by our side in times of need.

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A RARE DELIGHT

Not from childhood days, but forged in time,
A connection deep, a love that's prime.

Like family,
No secrets kept, no hidden tales,
A trust so strong, it never fails.

In classrooms, we did create our own sphere,
A world of laughter, joy, and cheer,
Toppers of the class, a trio so fine,
Together we did shine, a bond divine.

We did celebrate each other's wins with glee,
A true friendship, rare and carefree.

In their company, your heart feels light,
A sense of happiness always bright

Through life's ups and downs, you have been true,
A support system, through and through,
More than friends, a family tie,
A bond that's strong, a love that won't die.

Cherish it well, and hold it tight,
A bond like this, is a rare delight.🩷

- Lathika

Looking Ahead with Gratitude & Excitement

As we bring another eventful month to a close, our hearts are filled with immense pride and gratitude for our incredible school community. August witnessed our students embracing the future with AI training, expressing themselves with creativity through elocution and art, and honoring our nation's history with profound patriotism. The unwavering partnership from our parents in training sessions and the joyful learning within our KG classrooms have made this a month of holistic growth and celebration. We carry this momentum forward with great excitement for all that September will bring.

September 2025 Highlights to Anticipate

Celebrations & Events:
Teachers' Day: A special assembly to honour and celebrate the dedication of our beloved teachers.
Miladi Nabi & Onam: Cultural observances and festivities to mark these auspicious occasions.
Educational Tour: An exciting and educational trip for students of Classes IX to XII.
Academic Focus:
Term Examinations:
  Term - I Exams for all classes
  Term - II Exams for Classes X & XII
DISTO - 1: The first installment of DFT's Olympiad Exam for Classes I to VIII
Competition Prep: Preparation intensifies for various inter-school competitions and Olympiads.
Spell Bee: A school-wide competition to enhance vocabulary and spelling skills.
Skill & Career Development:
Skill Development: Continuation of our popular ECA sessions, focusing on new creative, sports, and club activities.
Professional Courses: NEET & JEE online coaching at an affordable price, along with Tally training for senior students.
KG Specials:
Healthy Food & Vegetable Carving: A fun and interactive activity to teach our little ones about nutrition and creativity.
Black Day Celebration: A unique day focused on graft work and exploring nature with real objects.
Experiential Learning: Hands-on activities including Tamil language learning and creating art by tracing coins.

Stay Involved:

For real-time updates:

📱 Follow us on Facebook **St. Joseph's School, Manavalakurichy**

📧 Email queries to mvk@dmifoundations.org

📞 Call us at **9363367283** during school hours

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." - William Butler Yeats

With warm wishes for a successful September

Principal & Management
St. Joseph's School
"Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders Today"