



# CLUNY SCINTILLA

2024-2025

DECEMBER 2024

SCINTILLA - XXII

**“She laid Him in a manger.” Lk. 2: 11**

**Dear Parents, Teachers and Students,**

As Christmas draws near, its message of hope and love feels more urgent than ever. This year our families, neighbours and friends are facing immense challenges due to the recent cyclone. Villages are under water, homes are damaged, and the most vulnerable among us are struggling to make both ends meet. Yet in the midst of these trials the true spirit of Christmas shines bright. The story of Christmas – “God became flesh”, “**Emmanuel, God with us**” means the brightest light in entering into the darkest world. Jesus' birth in a humble manger teaches us that even in the face of hardships there is hope and purpose.

This Christmas season, the joy of Christmas doubled as we invited the students, management and staff of St. Anne's Government Aided School, for the celebration. We also had the joy of visiting the inmates of Hospice, an old age home, at Laporte Street and shared the Christmas cakes and sweets. The HRP (Handful of Rice Project) of our children was a source of help for the needy during this cyclone. I really thank you parents for making your children **Ambassadors** of compassion and love.

As we approach the end of the year, let us thank God for His bountiful mercy. His protection has saved us from all harm and danger. We are grateful for the good results we have achieved and victories in various competitions. I thank each and every teacher for their dedicated service and commitment. Hats off to you dear teachers!

The year 2025 holds a special significance for our school as we step into the 10<sup>th</sup> year since its inception. This milestone reminds us of the struggles we underwent to build this institution up, and it fills us with pride to see how far we have come, taking each step of the journey; through challenges and triumphs, marked by perseverance, hard work and faith. This “**Decennial**” year invites us to remain united as a community, continuing to strive for excellence and enrich the society.

May this Christmas season inspire us to support those in need and may the New Year bring renewed energy, joy and blessing for all.

**Sr. Jaise John  
Principal**

**Wish you a Merry Christmas &  
A Happy New Year 2025**

*What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to  
what lies within us. – Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## STREAMS OF GRACE



**A Fresh Chapter Unfolds**



**Illuminating Traditions with Diwali Utsav**



**Little Stars Shining Bright on Children's Day**



**Partnering for Success Workshop for Parents**



### Road Map to Excellence - Skill Building Workshops for Students



**Walking with Faith Pilgrimage Grade X & XII**



**Learning Beyond Borders - Field Trip - Grade II, IV, V**



## Cluny Cares - Aravanaippu



## Mindscapes



**J. SRI SHA, I - A**



**M. HASHMITHA, I - B**



**R.V. SINDHUJA, I - B**



**D. MOHIDHA, I - C**

## Beyond the Screen

In the virtual world, we live and breathe  
A reality distorted, where truth is hard to see  
We share our lives, our thoughts, our fears  
But in the silence, we wipe away our tears.

We're a boat in a sea of screens and space  
Connected to all, yet alone in our place  
We share our lives, our thoughts, our fears  
But in the silence, we wipe away our tears.

The likes and loves, they validate our worth  
But in the darkness, we question our health  
We share our lives, our thoughts, our fears  
But in the silence, we wipe away our tears.

We compare our lives, to the highest reel of others  
Feeling inadequate, and filled with anxious covers  
Let's be authentic, and true to ourselves  
And use our platforms, to make positive selves.

The curated profiles, a highlight reel of fame  
But behind the filters, we hide our shame  
We're losing ourselves, in the digital haze  
Forgetting the beauty of real, human ways.

Let's remember that life, is more than just a screen  
That human connection, is what makes our hearts beam.  
Social media is a powerful tool but it's also a curse  
It connects us but also isolates us. - Keshika. J, VIII - C

## RIDDLES

1. I have cities but not houses. I have mountains but no trees. I have coasts but no sand. What am I? - **A Map**
2. I start at red and stop at green. What am I?  
- **Watermelon**
3. The more you take, the more you leave behind.  
What am I? - **Fingerprints**
4. I have a neck but no head. What am I? - **A Bottle**
5. I have branches, but no fruit, trunk or leaves.  
What am I? - **Bank** - Imaya. B, IX - C

## MOTHER

She walked among us, full of grace,  
A shining light, a smile on her face,  
She laughed and loved, with all her might,  
Her spirit free, like a bird in flight.  
She danced with joy and sang with glee,  
A soul so pure, for all to see.  
She held us close, with arms so warm,  
A beacon bright, in every storm. - Manjari Shri. R, VII - D

## A WORLD WITH NO COLOUR

In a realm of shadows, dark and grey  
Where vibrancy is just a faded day  
The skies are dull, the trees are worn  
A world without colour, a heart forlorn

The flowers once bloomed in radiant hue  
Now wilted, lifeless, without a clue  
The sun rises, but its light is cold  
A world without colour, young and old

In this bleak landscape, I search for a spark  
A glimmer of hope, a light in the dark  
But all I find is emptiness and space  
A world without colour, a lonely place

Yet, in this monochrome world, I find  
A beauty in simplicity, a peace of mind  
A chance to rediscover, to see and to feel  
A world without colour, where love is real.

- S. Yohasri, VII - E

## REALISE, DON'T REGRET

You made me feel what pain is - but  
Taught me to heal my pain by myself.  
I grew tough emotionally... and  
I promise you that  
I will never go down at any painful instance.

I don't regret; but I realise...

You made me feel how hard words hurt - but  
Taught me to encourage myself.  
I grew empathetic... and  
I promise you that I will develop the art of  
understanding emotions,

I don't regret; but I realise...

You made me feel tired of shedding tears - but  
Taught me to conceal it with my tender smile.  
I grew rigid... and  
I promise you that I will continue to stand up for  
myself and for the deprived ones.

I don't regret; but I realise....

You made me feel how arduous it is if I am daunted - but  
Taught me to motivate myself to the fullest.  
I grew with courage and self confidence... and  
I promise you that I will continue to shine as a ray of hope  
and inspiration to others.

I don't regret; but I realise...

You made me feel how brutal death is - but  
Taught me to love my life and live my life with self-esteem.  
I grew positively... and  
I promise you that I will learn from the  
past and live the present.

I don't regret; but I realise...

You never told me what truth and purity means - but  
Still I grew, just by learning from my scars and...  
I will continue to love myself and  
achieve the reason of my life. Remember,  
I never regret; but only REALISE.

- M. Mehasri, IX - C

## CHRISTMAS BELL RINGS

Jingling Bells, Happy Hearts  
Christmas magic, never departs  
The bells' bright ringing, a festive sound  
Spreading joy and cheer, all around

In the snowflake's dance, the bell's song is heard  
The boundaries of age, the lines of time and space  
Are bridged by the bell's ringing,  
in a warm and loving place.

Jingling Bells, Happy Hearts  
Christmas magic, never departs  
The bells' bright ringing, a festive sound  
Spreading joy and cheer, all around

- A. Asmi Mariam, VII - D

## IF I WERE A SANTA CLAUS

I would be happy if I were a Santa Claus because children  
love me and eagerly wait for gifts from me. As Santa Claus, I  
would start by visiting children's home to know what kind  
of books they like. Instead of toys, clothes or chocolate as  
their gift, I would give them gifts that would help them  
learn beyond their text books. Christmas is a season of Joy  
and Love. So, I want everyone in the world to be happy.  
I will bring a big bag of gifts from my workshop to bring  
joy to everyone's face.

**Did you Know:** Santa Claus originated from a Greek -  
Christian Bishop of the 4th century named Saint Nicolas. He  
was known for his gentle and kind nature. - G.V. Mantraa, IV - E

## Champions League



**1st Place, Zonal Level  
Badminton Competition**  
Subasree - VIII, Varmikaasree - VIII  
Jaishnavi - IX, Manjari Sri - VII



**Silver Medal**  
**35th South Zone Junior  
Athletics Championships**  
Madhoumidha - XI, Kathrina - X



**2nd Place, Puducherry  
Gymnastics Championship**  
Thivya Sri - VI



**1st Place, Zonal Level  
Carrom Competition**  
Harini - IX, Kavinila - VII



**2nd Place, Zonal Level  
Yoga Competition**



**State School Games  
Weight Lifting Championship**  
Avanthika - VII, Durga - VI,  
Saanvi - IX



**1st Place, State Level  
Yogasana Championship**  
Lithikasree - III



**Pondicherry State  
Chess Association Championship**  
Tharana - V, Thiyana - II



**1st place**  
**State Level Karate Tournament**  
Shashviya - I

## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

"Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life ..." (Steve Jobs). Life is beautiful, our time is precious. Do not try to live with the results of other people's thinking. Most of the time, we tend to think in the way others have made us think. We were all born with a pure heart—without malice or prejudice—but as we grow, various life situations make us suspect people, situations, and all that happens around us. Prejudices are attitudes people have towards a particular group or person. They are usually negative, mostly based on stereotypes (clusters of ideas regarding a specific group's characteristics). Most of the time, prejudice leads to discrimination; we tend to behave less positively towards a particular group or person. Prejudice and discrimination lead to conflicts. Prejudice develops through learning, in-group bias, and self-fulfilling prophecy. How can we handle prejudice? First, we should know the causes and sources. We can minimise opportunities for learning prejudices, change our attitudes, and discourage the tendency toward self-fulfilling prophecy among the victims of prejudice. Increasing contact allows for direct communication, removing mistrust between groups and even discovering positive qualities in the other. Most importantly, we can highlight individual identity rather than group identity. Neither we nor others should become victims of prejudice. By doing this, we can avoid prejudices against a group or person, which will definitely bring peace and harmony.

## GLEAM FLASH

**School Closes for Christmas Holidays on 22.12.2024**  
**School Reopens on 02.01.2025**

*"What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year." – Vern McLellan*

