

St. Xavier's School

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Dear Parents,

We are pleased to welcome old and new students and their families this school year 2021-22. This year I pen down my welcome letter with much greater resolve to bring our children back to school, and minimize their learning loss. As the effects of pandemic still linger, our challenges have become more complex and the learning loss exponential. It is estimated 24 million children of dropping out from regular studies. Educational disruption could be seen as the shadow pandemic, which might show its long-term effects on the entire generation.

It's time we must act to mitigate the effects of pandemic and with determination adopt a resolution of "learning never stops" for which, the school would introduce the following measures in 2021-22 academic year.

- **Introduction of VIVA VOCE evaluations:** It was observed last year in spite of using the best available technology and using other authentic evaluation processes, we did struggle in building up a vigorous assessment system, therefore from 2021-22 Academic year VIVA-VOCE would be integral part of valuation process. The VIVA-VOCE exam would be for classes V to XII. The details will be shared by respective teachers.
- **To bring a more cohesive collaboration** among teachers, connectivity and students, by encouraging children from fully vaccinated homes to come for in person clarifications of doubts.
- **Attempt to bring back in person learning:** We must as parents, educators realise that how long can we sustain the remote learning approach, including learning achievements, social and mental well-being, therefore we appeal to all our parents and family members to vaccinate, so we can ensure a safe environment for children and start a slow process of bringing back to in person learning and soft opening of school. We pride ourselves in having more than 90% of our staff vaccinated.

Pandemic has shocked the educational system into comatose, and the only way to recuperate the system is to form a collaborative platform of teachers and parents. I must say that the parents have been very cooperative and active in their child's education like always and the teachers have shown extraordinary resilience, enthusiasm in learning and teaching on an altogether new platform, spending hours preparing to make learning joyful.

My words are inadequate to express my admiration for all the stakeholders. I am certain that with our collective approach we will tide over the lag in education and reopen schools soon. Let's continue to give our best to our children no matter what the cost.

Keep safe, keep healthy!

Yours Sincerely,

Fr. Cidloy Furtado
Principal

