

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

At Aspire, we strive to provide our students with a well-rounded education that prepares them for success in both their academic and personal lives. This report showcases the remarkable progress that has been made towards that goal, through the hard work and dedication of everyone in our team.

From our students' academic achievements to the numerous co-curricular activities and community service projects, this report serves as a testament to the unwavering commitment of our school to excellence.

OVERVIEW

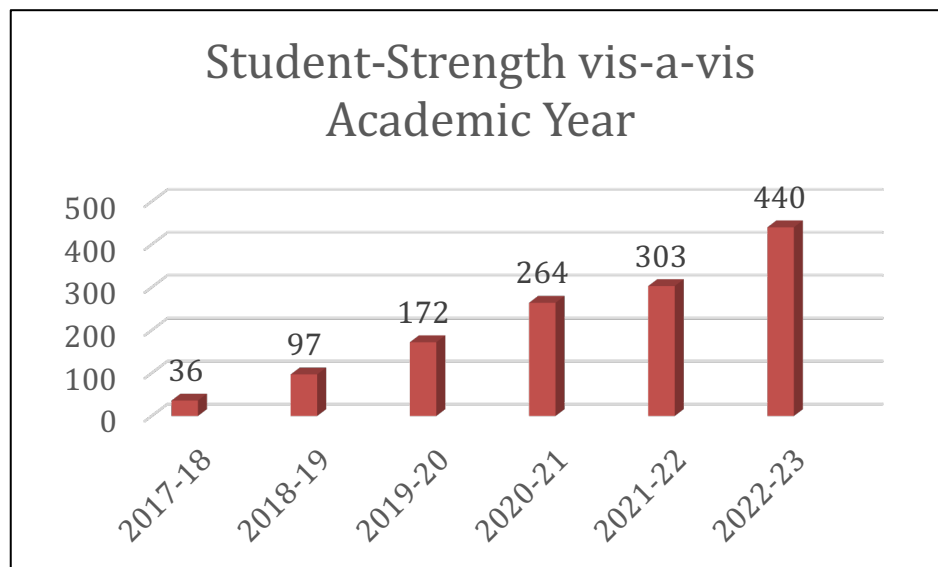
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DETAILED REPORT

Growth

From a humble beginning of only 33 students in 2017, our strength has grown exponentially, to an impressive assemblage of over 440 students in the current academic year of 2022-23.



Achievement of Award

The Ministry of Education, Government of India has instituted the *Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar*, or SVP, to recognise, inspire and celebrate excellence in sanitation and hygiene practices in schools, through assessments of water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure, hygienic practices and COVID-19-

appropriate behaviour. Aspire School has been conferred with the coveted district-level *Swachh Vidyalaya* Award 2021-22 in the sub-category level. This achievement is a testament to our unwavering commitment to upholding the highest standards of sanitation and hygiene practices in our school.

Student Achievements

- **CBSE Metro Kalotsav 2022.** Aspire School participated in the CBSE Metro Kalotsav 2022 held at Sree Sharada Vidyalaya, Kalady from 11th – 13th November 2022. Our team participated in 17 events bagging one first position, one third position, 12 'A' grades and 3 'B' grades. A special mention of the prize-winners:-
 - Jannat T, Gr 8, won the first position in Collage, Category 3. Jannat also qualified to participate in the CBSE State Kalotsav held at Carmel CMI Public School, Vazhakulam from 24th - 27th November 2022; and
 - Mersiha Harris, Gr 7, won the third position in English Elocution, Category 3.
- **Fringes-Retro Futurism 2022 Competition.** Mehreen Arif, KG2B, bagged the third position for the Retro Regalia Event at the Fringes-Retro Futurism 2022 competition held at The Choice School on 27th August 2022, with her on-stage replication of Raja Ravi Varma's famous painting 'Malabar Lady with Veena'.
- **Nakshatra Kids Fest.** Our kindergarten students participated in six events and secured the second runner-up trophy at the Nakshatra Kids Fest, organised by Christava Mahilayalam School, Aluva on 5th Nov 2022. The team secured the second position for English Action-Song. Individual prize-winners were:-
 - Eshal Farheen, KG2C, won the first position for clay modelling;
 - Ayra Mashel, KG2C, won the second position for card-making; and
 - Uthara S Nair, also of KG2C, secured the third position for Show-and-Tell.

- **Balabhumi Varnam Kids' Fest 2022.** Naira Ajas, Gr 2A, won the second position in the Colouring Competition in Balabhumi Varnam Kids' Fest 2022 held at Horizon Public School, Kakkanad.

Infrastructure Developments

Aspire School is committed to providing students with a supportive and enriching learning environment, and the following infrastructure developments are a mark of that commitment:-

- **Expansion of the library**, offering students access to an extensive collection of books and resources to support their academic pursuits;
- **Expansion of the science lab**, being equipped with all the equipment required for providing hands-on practical experience;
- **Installation of interactive whiteboard** for Gr 9 classroom, to enable teachers to use multimedia content to reinforce key concepts and students to engage in interactive learning. (More such interactive whiteboards are planned for junior classes too in a phased-manner.)
- **Commissioning of a new auditorium** that can accommodate a larger audience for events and assemblies;
- **Installation of a lift** up to the third floor of the school building to facilitate students, staff, and parents with physical difficulties.
- **Induction of three new air-conditioned buses** — two 30-seater buses and one 51-seater bus — into the existing fleet.

Extra-Curricular Activities

- **Robotics**: A robotics curriculum for Grades 3 and 4 has been newly introduced to provide students with hands-on experience in designing, building and programming robots. This addition has opened up opportunities for them to develop skills in innovation, problem-solving and critical thinking.

- **Archery**: Another new development is the introduction of archery classes from Gr 3 onwards, which has received a tremendous response from our students. The classes are aimed at developing physical and mental skills, including patience, focus and discipline.
- **Other Activities**: The diverse range of activities on offer, such as skating, physical education classes, yoga, taekwondo, pool time, vocal music and instrumental classes continue to be a source of enjoyment, inspiration and satisfaction.

Interactive Sessions with Eminent Personalities

The school organised interactive sessions with the following personalities towards enriching the intellect and broadening the horizons of students and staff:-

- **Dr. Shashi Tharoor**: Dr. Shashi Tharoor MP, the renowned scholar, politician, and orator, obliged us with an engaging and thought-provoking interactive session on 15th August, 2022. Dr. Tharoor's insights and perspectives on a wide range of topics, including history, politics and culture, left a deep impression on all who were present.
- **Dr. Muralee Thummarukudy**: Dr. Muralee Thummarukudy, Director of the G20-Global Initiative Coordination Office at the UNCCD, a distinguished personality in the field of disaster management and sustainable development, interacted with a large number of students, teachers, and other staff members students on 27th June, 2022 and provided valuable insights.
- **Dr. Anoop Mohamed Iqbal MD**: The parents of Aspire Kindergarten had the unique opportunity to interact with one of the world's top pediatric endocrinologists during an online interactive session with Dr. Anoop Mohamed Iqbal MD, Pediatric Endocrinologist, Department of Pediatrics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA on 23rd July 2022.
- **Ms Zvezdana Žafa**: Students of Aspire interacted with Ms Zvezdana Žafa, a Croatian national, who is our Advisory Board member, and a pioneer in Disability Rehabilitation Services. Ms. Žafa enthusiastically interacted

with the students and teachers of Aspire, inspiring the team to make the world more inclusive and accommodating to the less fortunate people around us. It was a moment of pride for the school when Ms. Žafa opined that Aspire compares at par or better than many good European schools.

- **Captain Rajeev Nair NM:** Captain Rajeev Nair NM, a veteran Indian Navy officer, shared his life experiences with students during an interactive session on 15th December 2022 held as part of the CBSE Veer Gatha 2.0 project. He emphasised the value of truth and pursuing enjoyable and satisfying goals, as well as the significance of regular revision and systematic learning in overcoming exam anxiety.
- **Dr Roy Varghese and Ms Asha Varghese:** Dr Roy Varghese, our honourable trustee member and Ms. Asha Varghese, two illustrious personalities associated with Aspire School, interacted with students and staff on 20th December 2022. Ms. Varghese, President of The Caterpillar Foundation, one among the top 100 fortune companies that helps build resilient communities, shared her insights and encouraged students to have a clear goal in life and become tomorrow's unstoppable change-makers.

Community Outreach Programmes

- **Wealth Out of Waste Exhibition:** A 'Wealth out of Waste' Exhibition was held in the school auditorium on 26th November 2022 to spread awareness about the current environmental issues and raise the understanding of sustainability among the students. Students exhibited hand-made items created out of waste materials such as paper, coconut shells, used bottles, discarded CDs, plastic straws, etc., applying the concept of 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'. The items were put up for sale as a part of fundraising for charity purposes.
- **Visit to Special School:** As a part of the SEWA (Social Empowerment through Work, education and Action) activity, 14 students of Grade 9 and two teachers visited Musthafa Sahib Memorial MES Edathala, a special school for differently-abled individuals, on 14th February 2023. The students donated an amount of approximately Rs 8000/-, which had been raised in the afore-mentioned Wealth Out of Waste exhibition, to the institution. This visit was an opportunity for our students to make a

positive impact on the lives of those in need and we are proud of their efforts in contributing to the betterment of society. Such visits not only promote the values of empathy and social responsibility in students but also broaden their perspectives and help them appreciate the diversity of society.

Innovative Practices and Learning Experiences

- **STEAM Classes:** STEAM is an innovative educational approach to learning, which uses Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics for kindling the spark of inquiry and critical thinking. STEAM sessions are organised right from Gr 1. Science-projects were undertaken using readily-available materials, aiming to promote critical thinking, divergent thinking and problem-solving skills, towards fostering next generation innovators.
- **Super-Learning Days:** Another multi-disciplinary approach to learning, Super-Learning Days are special days on which children are given deeper learning opportunities with a view to motivating them to learn and participate in varied tasks over and above their immediate curricula. All the activities were undertaken by linking together subjects as such as English, Hindi, Math, EVS, Social Studies and ICT.
- **DEAR - Drop Everything And Read:** Reading is so important and truly gives us superpowers. DEAR is conducted across the grades to encourage students to read more books and newspapers. These sessions are dedicatedly earmarked for reading only. This is followed as an ongoing activity across the grades.
- **Kindness Award:** 'Caught Being Kind' awards are given to students who go above and beyond to demonstrate the attributes of the Aspire Learner Profile in being caring, compassionate and kind to all beings. Students who were nominated for the award were felicitated by the Principal and Teachers.
- **Pottery Workshop:** A Pottery Workshop was held on 12th November 2022. The one-day workshop was led by renowned artist JVK Jayan and his team from Terra Craft in Kochi. Students of all ages were given the opportunity to work on the artist's pottery wheel alongside him.

Inter-School Events

At Aspire, we encourage and provide opportunities for students to participate in inter-school events, as this can contribute significantly to their holistic development, through interaction with children outside their usual social circles. Team Aspire participated in the following events:-

- **Inter-School Fest, VISTA**: Organised by Rajagiri School, Kalamassery, our students participated in three events: Colouring Competition for Gr 1-2, Individual Folk Dance Competition for Gr 3-5 and Painting Competition based on a still model for Gr 6-8.
- **CBSE State Kalotsav**: Held at Carmel CMI Public School, Vazhakulam from 24th – 27th November 2022, two of our students qualified to participate in this prestigious event.
- **Inter-School Football Match**: Held at MGM Public School, Kandanad on 15th and 16th November 2022, Aspire girls' football team participated in this inter-school football match.
- **Inter-School Athletic Meet**: A team of eight students participated in Mar Athanasius School Athletic Championship, Kothamangalam held on 17th November 2022 in the Sub-Junior and Junior categories.
- **Inter-School Fest, Anokha 22**: Held at Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Tripunithura on 3rd December 2022, Aspire-students participated in two events: Abeille-Spell Bee (team represented by Aiben Sunil and Zuha Eshaal Sabeer from Gr 5) and La Terre-Earth Care Quiz (team represented by Mehreen Siddique and Haripriya Reghu from Gr 8).

Inter-House Events

To foster healthy competition and team-spirit, each student has been assigned to one of the two 'houses', namely, Daffodils and Tulips. Various inter-house competitions were organised, such as:-

- **Environment Day Quiz**: Conducted as a part of the environment day celebrations in the month of June 2022.

- **Science and Math Quiz**: Conducted on the 28th October 2022. Tulips House emerged as the winners.
- **General Knowledge Quiz**: Conducted on 11th January 2023 for the students of Grades 5 to 9. Daffodils House were the winners.
- **Reading Competition**: Conducted on 24th November 2022 for Grade 2

Excursions and Field-Trips

Aspire believes in providing ample opportunities for learning beyond the school walls, towards which the following excursions and field-trips were organised:-

- **Kindergarten**: Sparky's Funtura at Lulu Mall and Busy Bee, Thrikkakkara, on 13th December 2022.
- **Grades 1-5**: Kureekad Farm Sanctuary, on 10th January 2023. 204 students and 16 staff members participated.
- **Grades 6 – 9**: Wonderla water theme park, on 1st December 2022. 57 students and six teachers participated.

Celebration of Festivals

- **Eid Celebrations**: Eid Al Adha was celebrated on 8th July 2022 with the auspicious message of the occasion being brought out in a special assembly in the auditorium. A dance programme by the students and a Mehendi counter put up by senior students were the other highlights.
- **Onam Celebrations**: The students and staff celebrated Onam on 2nd September 2022 with pomp and joy, dressed in traditional attire, having organised games like Pulikali, Uriyadi Vallamkali, Thiruvathira, Harvest Dance, Onam songs, a fashion show and tug-of-war.
- **Christmas Celebrations**: The students celebrated Christmas on the last working day of the year 2022. Dressed in Christmas colours, they

performed a variety of programmes such as tableau, dances, and Christmas carols and also exchanged gifts.

Celebration of Special Days

To increase general awareness and instill a sense of responsibility and pride from a national as well as global perspective, certain special days were celebrated:-

- **Environment Day:** World Environment Day was celebrated under the banner, 'Only One Earth', pledging to plant more, recycle more and live more sustainably. Students planted saplings in the campus and spread the message of the importance of conserving nature and avoiding excessive use of plastic.
- **Father's Day:** All students made Father's Day cards while at school, to be gifted to their fathers later at home.
- **National Reading Day:** Aspire's innovative DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) sessions were conducted across the grades.
- **International Yoga Day:** On 21 June 2022, the students celebrated International Yoga Day under the theme, 'Yoga for Humanity.' Teachers and students pledged to make yoga an integral part of their lives and students from Grades 5-9 led a special yoga session.
- **World Music Day:** On 24th June 2022, various stage-programmes were put up by students as well as teachers. A talent show titled, 'Voice of Aspire', for students of Grades 6-9 and an inter-house Antakshari Competition were also conducted.
- **Nature Conservation Day:** On 28th July 2022, students planted saplings and **an on-campus vegetable garden was inaugurated.** The vegetable garden has provided an excellent opportunity for students to learn about agriculture, ecology, and sustainability, while also reaping the benefits of fresh produce. Inter-House Poster Making Competition on the theme, 'Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature,' was held. A musical drama on the theme of nature conservation was enacted by the students of Gr 4A as a part of the special assembly, in which the adverse effects of deforestation was highlighted.

- **Independence Day Celebration:** Week-long celebrations at Aspire marked the 76th Independence Day at Aspire. Special Assemblies were held to portray the contributions of our freedom fighters, the importance of the national flag, the significance of Azadi Ki Amrit Mahotsav and Har Ghar Tiranga campaigns undertaken by the Govt. of India.
- **National Sports Day:** National Sports Day or *Rashtriya Khel Divas* was celebrated on 29th August 2022. Children performed a fusion-aerobics display integrating yoga and physical exercises to promote the value of sports and physical fitness.
- **Hindi Diwas:** On 14th September 2022, the assembly was conducted in Hindi and various competitions were conducted across the grades such as Hindi rhyme competition for Grades 1-3, Hindi recitation for Grades 4 and 5, Hindi slogan-writing for Grades 6 and 7 and Hindi essay-writing for Grades 8 and 9.
- **National Unity Day:** National Unity Day or *Ekta Diwas* was observed on 31 October 2022, commemorating the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. A digital exhibition titled, 'Sardar Patel: The Architect of Unification' was screened in the auditorium for students of Grades 1 to 9. The students also took the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge.
- **Kerala Piravi:** The 66th anniversary of Kerala Piravi was celebrated on 1st November 2022. Students in traditional Kerala attire put up a colourful display of cultural extravaganza that included semi-classical dance, Mohiniyattam, Kathakali, etc.
- **Children's Day:** On 14th November 2022, the teachers planned a memorable day for the students with music, dance and fun activities. Students were dressed as their favourite characters from movies, plays and books. Students and teachers competed in a friendly handball game.
- **Constitutional Day:** On 25th November 2022, students read the Preamble of the Indian Constitution. A discussion on the importance of upholding the guiding values given in The Constitution was also organised.
- **Republic Day Celebrations:** Republic Day was celebrated in advance on January 25th with a special assembly in the school hall. Students put up

various cultural programs to showcase the rich culture and diversity of our nation. The Principal addressed the gathering and wished everyone a very happy Republic Day, while Ms. Sajitha delivered the Republic Day message.

- **National Science Day**: The school celebrated National Science Day with an aim to create awareness among students about the significance of science in our daily life. Senior students set up different learning stations and demonstrated simple and interesting experiments, while lower-grade students had the opportunity to observe and learn at each station. The event was a great success, leaving students with a newfound appreciation for the wonders of science.
- **Mother Tongue Day**: International Mother Language Day was celebrated with an aim to promote linguistic and cultural diversity, and multilingualism. Led by the Malayalam Department, a special assembly highlighted the importance of preserving and developing our tangible and intangible heritage through language. The event encouraged the students to appreciate linguistic and cultural traditions worldwide.

Other Major Events

- **Investiture Ceremony**: The Investiture Ceremony, wherein the newly-elected members of the school's senate are officially vested with their powers and positions, was held on 30th August 2022. The function was presided over by the Chairman of the school, Hon. Justice C.K. Abdul Rehim, and the chief guest was Shri Benny Behanan, Honourable MP.
- **Annual Sports Day**: The Annual Sports Day was conducted 8th December 2022 in the school ground. Padma Shree P R Sreejesh, goalkeeper and former captain of Indian Hockey Team, who is rightly described as The Great Wall of Indian Hockey Team, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Honorary Chairman of the Trust, Honorable Justice C. K. Abdul Rehim presided over the function as the Guest of Honour. The Sports Day, themed, 'Game on! Aspire to Win' saw more than 400 students taking part in various activities and events like march past, drills, displays, yoga, taekwondo, races and relays with the true spirit of sportsmanship.
- **Celebration of FIFA World Cup**: FIFA World Cup 2022 was celebrated on 12th December, 2022, with all the students and teachers from

Kindergarten to Grade 9 wearing their favourite team's jerseys and a team-wise shootout match followed by a friendly football match between students, teachers and other school staff.

- **Talent Hunt:** Conducted for Grades 1-9 in the months of January and February 2023, students participated enthusiastically in various competitions, such as, Spell Bee, light music, dance, storytelling in English, recitations and elocutions in English, Malayalam and Hindi.
- **Vision Screening Camp:** A camp was conducted in the campus by a team from Dr. Tony Fernandez Eye Hospital, Aluva as a step to identify potential vision problems and eye disorders in students on 21st and 22nd February 2023.
- **CBSE Capacity-Building Programme on Ethics and Integrity:** A two-day Capacity-Building Programme organised by CoE Trivandrum was hosted by Aspire Residential Public School on 16th and 17th December 2022. A total of 26 participants attended the session from 21 schools in and around Ernakulam.
- **Faculty-Enrichment Programmes:** To enhance and elevate the professional abilities of our staff, Faculty-Enrichment Programmes were conducted on Life Skills, Creative Question Papers and Innovative Teaching Strategies in Science. A training session on the new paradigm of teaching and learning was conducted by Ms. Kaustubha N Pillai, Creative Founder, The Learner, for the benefit of Primary and Kindergarten teachers. Various CBSE Capacity-Building Programmes (CBP) were attended by the Principal, KG Head and teachers, across the course of the academic year.

Media Presence

Aspire school has received a fair amount of media coverage with numerous articles on our innovative practices being published in the Times of India student edition. As we continue to make strides in education, we look forward to sharing our accomplishments with the world and inspiring other institutions to follow our lead.

THE WAY AHEAD

As we complete another year, we continue to build upon and follow our vision for Aspire Residential Public School, with plans already in place to ensure that our growth continues. An overview of our targets for the near-future:-

- Installation of digital interactive white board in junior classes in a phased-manner.
- Annexure building that can accommodate new room for the Administration team, more classrooms, separate laboratories for Physics, Chemistry and Biology in accordance with the CBSE guidelines for Grades 11 and 12.
- Improved facility for skating classes.

CONCLUSION

Aspire Residential Public School is gaining prominence as a rising star in providing high-quality education and a safe and supportive environment for students. The school continues to grow from strength to strength because of efforts of a closely-knit, cohesive team of teaching-, administrative- and support staff, driven by a strong management with a clear vision. Over and above that, a major portion of our success comes from the parents of our students, who have been highly cooperative and supportive. The valuable suggestions and feedback given guide us in our perpetual quest for excellence.

Thank you for your continued support of our school and for your commitment to the education of our students. I am confident that, together, we will continue to provide the best possible education for the next generation of leaders.