November 2025

THE COTTONIAN POST

Edition no.14

A HAT-TRICK OF EXCELLENCE: BISHOP COTTON BOYS' SCHOOL RANKED NO. 1 IN INDIA



Adding to this distinguished honour, the school also secured the Parents' Choice Award – Top Boys' Day Cum Boarding School, with an impressive 958 votes, reflecting the trust and admiration of the parent community. Further, Bishop Cotton Boys' School was recognised as the Most Respected Education Brand – Bengaluru at the India's Prestigious School Jury Awards 2025, reinforcing its legacy of integrity, leadership, and educational distinction.

These accolades were presented during the India School Merit Awards Ceremony 2025–26, held on 5th December 2025, where Principal Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese received the honours on behalf of the Cottonian community.



Bishop Cotton Boys' School has once again affirmed its place among the nation's finest institutions, being ranked the No. 1 Boys' Day-cum-Boarding School in Bengaluru, Karnataka, and India by Education Today. This remarkable achievement marks the school's third consecutive year of national leadership, underscoring its unwavering commitment to excellence in academics, discipline, and holistic development. It stands as a proud reflection of the Cottonian spirit, where tradition meets progress, and every effort is guided by a pursuit of quality, character building, and the all round growth of every student who walks through its iconic gates.





This continued success is a testament to the dedication and collective effort of the Board of Management, faculty, students, parents, and alumni, each playing a vital role in upholding the school's proud heritage and timeless values. As Bishop Cotton Boys' School receives this national honour once again, it reaffirms not only our storied legacy but also our steadfast commitment to nurturing future leaders defined by integrity, courage, and purpose.

NEC DEXTRORSUM, NEC SINISTRORSUM

MIDDLE, SENIOR AND ISC INTER-HOUSE ANNUAL ATHLETIC MEET 2025

Bishop Cotton Boys' School held its 158th Middle, Senior and ISC Annual Inter-House Athletic Meet on November 14, 2025 which brought together the finest athletes from the Middle, Senior, and ISC sections. The magnificent event unfolded under the floodlights of the historic First Eleven Field. The programme commenced with the opening prayer led by Rev. Theodore Williams, invoking God's blessings for a day filled with sportsmanship and excellence. This was followed by the welcoming of the Chief Guest, Col. Lalit Rai, VrC, a decorated Kargil war veteran and proud old cottonian. He was accompanied by the Principal, Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese, and the members of the Board of Management.





The meet commenced with the lighting of the torch and the House march past. The march past, being the flagship event, took the center stage, led by Sports Captain Arun Devakumar, and the platoons commanded by their respective House Captains. The students of Grade Six set an energetic tone with a vibrant welcome drill - The Musical Pompoms. The track events then followed with Inter-school and Inter-house relays, and the 200m races. Each athlete displayed grit, passion, and unwavering determination. A highlight of this year's programme was the spectacular Saber Drill by the sixth graders. Their radiant display lit up the field with colour and precision, enthralling the audience.

Tradition came alive with the Old Cottonians vs. Present Cottonians relay, where the current students secured a spirited victory. The Office Bearers' Relay added to the excitement, and the meet concluded with the electrifying X to H 10×100m relay, featuring top athletes from junior and senior divisions. From the House tents, waves of cheers rolled through the field as students called out the names of their athletes in unison, electrifying every race that took place.

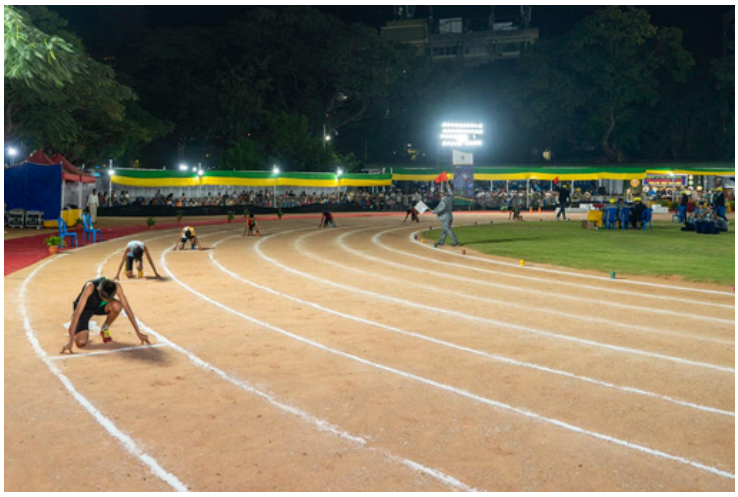


"Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen."

-MICHAEL JORDAN

The day concluded with the Chief Guest's address as Col. Lalit Rai urged students to "challenge the threshold" and remain "happily unsatisfied," inspiring them to push beyond their limits. He also fondly recalled his days at Cottons and the overwhelming support he received during the Kargil War. The events of the day came to a close as the Houses marched in the closing ceremony marchpast, displaying the honours they had earned in the athletic meet.







A few notable achievements of the athletics meet included:
Best Athlete - K Angu Vijay (Pettigrew)
X Division - K Angu Vijay (Pettigrew)
A Division - Ahil Ali (Pettigrew)
B Division - Dheeraj Lionel D (Thomas)
C Division - Praveen Paul S V (Pakenham Walsh)
D Division - Neevan Gladwin Franklin (Pettigrew)
E Division - Viyaan J (Pope)
F Division - Vivian N (Elphick)
Best Marching Platoon- Thomas House
Barrett Cup (Tug of War) - Pope House
Pakenham Walsh House emerged as the overall winner of the Athletics Meet.

The House standings were as follows:
1.Pakenham Walsh House
2.Pettigrew House
3.Pope House
4.Thomas House
5.Elphick House

As the day drew to a close, the Sports Captain and House Captains then led the traditional three cheers, followed by the ceremonial lowering of the school flag, entrusted to the Physical Director, Mr. Anil Dutt, for safe keeping. Abide with Me played solemnly as the curtains fell on yet another memorable event in the Cottonian calendar.

JUNIOR INTER-HOUSE ANNUAL ATHLETIC MEET 2025

The Junior School Sports Day 2025 was celebrated with immense enthusiasm on 13th November 2025 at the Bishop Cotton Boys' School First Eleven Field. Students, parents, and well-wishers gathered in impressive numbers to witness one of the most anticipated events of the academic year. The programme commenced with a solemn prayer by Rev. Rachel Sudarshan, followed by a warm welcome from Principal Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese to the Chief Guest, Ms. Neole Anna Cornelio. Her inspiring address encouraged the young Cottonians to strive for excellence with dedication and integrity. The Annual Athletic Meet 2025–2026 was then declared open, marked by the lighting of the ceremonial cauldron, the unfurling of the school flag, and a splendid march past led by Junior School Sports Captain, Navaneet A. Y.





This year's event featured a delightful and engaging addition in the form of Children's Day-themed mascots representing students from Standards 1 to 5. These vibrant mascots brought an atmosphere of joy, colour, and festive cheer to the field, instantly capturing the attention of students, parents, and guests alike. Following this charming introduction, the cultural drills unfolded as a visual spectacle that showcased the creativity, confidence, and teamwork of the young Cottonians. Standard 1 students opened the segment with The Cottonian Tocas, a lively and cheerful welcome drill performed to the upbeat rhythm of "Toca Toca," earning warm applause from the audience. Standards 2 and 3 continued the excitement with an energetic routine set to Michael Jackson's iconic "Black or White," impressing everyone with their sharp movements, synchronization, and infectious enthusiasm. The cultural segment concluded with Standards 4 and 5 presenting The Twirl-a-Brella, a graceful umbrella drill marked by coordinated formations, rhythmic movements, and impressive teamwork, leaving a lasting impression on all present.











The athletic events drew great excitement as students competed with determination in a variety of track and field events including inter-school relays, the 50-meter dash, and the 200-meter sprint. A fiercely contested tug of war between Elphick House and Pettigrew House saw Elphick emerge victorious, earning loud cheers from supporters. One of the day's major highlights was the Parents' Tug of War, where parents participated with remarkable enthusiasm and sportsmanship. At the conclusion of all events, the House Order for the Junior School Athletic Meet 2025–2026 was announced as follows:

1st – Elphick House
2nd – Pettigrew House
3rd – Thomas House
4th – Pakenham Walsh House
5th – Pope House

The programme concluded with the ceremonial lowering of the school flag, which was respectfully handed over for safekeeping. The School and House captains led the gathering in three resounding cheers, bringing the event to a memorable close. A heartfelt note of appreciation is extended to the Physical Education Department and the faculty of Junior 1 & Junior 2 for their meticulous planning, seamless coordination, and dedicated efforts. The Junior School Sports Day 2025 stood as a proud celebration of teamwork, discipline, and sporting excellence values cherished deeply at Bishop Cotton Boys' School.



WAYMAKER 2025 - PRINCE OF PEACE

Bishop Cotton Boys' School organized the third edition of Waymaker, an Inter-school Gospel Fest, on 15th November 2025. This year's theme, "Prince of Peace," set a spiritually uplifting tone for the event. Over 16 schools, Junior Colleges, and numerous individual participants were present on campus for this grand celebration of faith and talent.



The Fest commenced with the School Song, followed by the Call to Worship and Opening Prayer led by Rev. Christy Gnanadasan. The Bible Reading was delivered by Nitin Joseph, School Captain. Praise and Worship was then led by Reuben and Namedonhi, Chapel Prefect, after which the Music Department presented the theme song. The dignitaries then lit the ceremonial lamp, marking the formal inauguration of the Fest. Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese, Principal of Bishop Cotton Boys' School, extended a warm and heartfelt welcome to the gathering. A graceful choreography titled "Celebrating the Prince of Peace," choreographed by Mrs. Sheeba and Mrs. Hannah, was beautifully presented by the students. This was followed by an inspiring message from the Chief Guest, Rev. Christopher Samuel, who spoke on hope, love, and peace, drawing from Isaiah 9:6. A captivating video presentation, "Christ the Prince of Peace," prepared by Mrs. Phoebe Jones, HOD – Scripture, uplifted the spirit of the audience, along with a vibrant laser show. The Presiding Dignitary, Rt. Rev. Dr. Vincent Vinod Kumar, then offered prayers for the students and officially declared the Fest open.



The distinguished guests in attendance were:

* Rt. Rev. Dr. Vincent Vinod Kumar, Bishop, CSI–KCD & Chairman, Board of Management – Presiding Dignitary
* Rev. Christopher Samuel, Diocesan Secretary, CSI–KCD & Member, Board of Management – Chief Guest
* Rev. Christy Gnanadasan, Vice Chairman, Board of Management
* Dr. Abraham Ebenezer, Convenor, Education Committee & Member, Board of Management
* Mr. Johnson P., Treasurer, Board of Management
* Rev. Rachel Sudarshan, Member, Board of Management





For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.

-ISAIAH 9:6

Following this, Daksh Jain introduced the Event Heads and Co-Event Heads. Sixteen events were conducted seamlessly under the guidance of the Teachers In-Charge, Event Heads, Co-Event Heads, Volunteers, and esteemed Judges.

St. John's High School emerged as Champions, while Bishop Cotton Girls' School secured the Runners-Up position. The Fest concluded with the Vote of Thanks delivered by Daksh Jain, Head of the Organising Committee. Finally, Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese, Principal, encouraged the students to continue shining for God's glory in both academics and character. A special word of gratitude to the Scripture Department, under the able leadership of Mrs. Phoebe Jones and Mrs. Shalini Priya, for their invaluable contribution to the success of Waymaker 2025.





KANNADA RAJYOTSAVA CELEBRATION 2025

On November 18th, our school hosted a vibrant Kannada Rajyotsava assembly, highlighting Karnataka's history, distinct customs, and enduring legacy. The occasion brought students, faculty, and staff together in a show of enthusiasm and kinship, as everyone paid tribute to the state's foundational milestones and diverse traditions. The morning opened with a heartfelt devotional song presented by the Kannada Department teachers, creating an atmosphere of reverence and harmony. Following this, a range of thought provoking speeches were delivered, with each speech first given in Kannada and then interpreted in English for inclusivity, tracing Karnataka's transformation from its roots and the need to embrace and preserve our cultural identity.





These presentations underscored linguistic identity and illuminated the cultural role of Kannada, sparking reflection on the state's heritage and the responsibility of preservation. A highlight of the assembly was the recognition of winners from the Kannada Essay contest. Honourees received awards and generous applause, signifying the school's encouragement in Kannada proficiency. The festivities grew livelier with a captivating classical dance performance by middle and senior students. The dancers' colourful attire and expressive movements, set to beloved Kannada melodies, enchanted all present and gave a visual testament to the artistic richness of Karnataka.

Our Principal, Mr. Alistair R.A. Freese delivered a stirring address on the significance and enduring appeal of Kannada. He spotlighted its role within India's tapestry of languages and motivated students to embrace and propagate its legacy. The gathering concluded with renditions of the state and national anthems, evoking a deep sense of unity and respect for Karnataka. The day's events offered a meaningful opportunity to honour the state's origins, affirm collective pride, and celebrate the values that unite its people.



MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNUAL INTER-HOUSE ELOCUTION

The Inter-House Elocution Competition for Middle School was held on 27th November 2025 at the Bishop Edward Lynch Cotton Auditorium. A total of 30 enthusiastic speakers from Standards VI and VII participated, with each House represented by three speakers from each grade.



Pettigrew House emerged as the overall winner, followed by Thomas House in second place. The third place was shared by Elphick House and Pope House, reflecting the uniformly high standard of competition. Students of standard VI recited poems from the Victorian period, while those from Standard VII presented works from the Romantic era. Their performances showcased clarity, confidence, expressive voice modulation and a strong understanding of the chosen poems.

The judges commended the students' preparation, diction and poetic interpretation. Special gratitude is extended to the Middle School English Department faculty for their dedicated guidance, meticulous preparation and unwavering support in ensuring an exceptional and well-conducted competition.
The winners were as follows:
1st- Pettigrew House
2nd- Thomas House
3rd - Elphick House and Pope House (Tie)

AMAZING FACT

Every human being shares about 99.9% of the same DNA

This means that all the 8 billion people, across every country, culture, language, and background are almost genetically identical. The tiny 0.1% difference is what makes each of us unique in our talents, personalities, and appearance. This remarkable similarity holds true across all populations. Even when comparing people from vastly different regions, the genetic differences are surprisingly small. This genetic similarity is a powerful reminder to all of us that, despite our many differences, we are fundamentally more alike than we are different.

Source: National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)

JUNIOR SCHOOL ANNUAL INTER-HOUSE ELOCUTION

Bishop Cotton Boys' School hosted the Annual Junior School Inter-House Elocution Competition on the 21st November in the school auditorium which was a resounding success. Students from Grades I, II, and III participated with enthusiasm, showcasing confidence, clarity, and commendable enunciation skills. Each grade presented poems themed on love, friendship, and nature, with two participants representing each house. The programme featured musical performances, Bible reading, and prayer, followed by an introduction on the importance of elocution. Esteemed judges Mrs. Judy Meager and Mrs. Caroline from Bishop Cotton Girls' School appreciated the young speakers for their outstanding oratory skills.





The students achieved the following awards:

Standard III: 1st – Rishank Manjunath (Elphick)
2nd – Mohammed Asher (Pakenham Walsh)
3rd – Sankalp Kaushik (Thomas)

Standard II: 1st – Ayan Bagmane (Pakenham Walsh)
2nd – Ayan Pandey (Pakenham Walsh)
3rd – Adrit Saha (Thomas)

Standard I: 1st – Mohammed Ali (Pettigrew)
2nd – Shawn Jeremy (Pakenham Walsh)
3rd – Jason Bennett V (Pettigrew)

Our Principal, Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese, congratulated the winners, and encouraged all students to actively participate in such activities in the future.

ANNUAL INTER-HOUSE KANNADA ELOCUTION

On Tuesday, 18th November, the much anticipated Kannada Elocution Competition was held in the Sesquicentennial Auditorium, honouring the richness of the Kannada language, culture, and the art of expression. The event welcomed Mr. Deepak Xavier and Mrs. Mary Presilla, who joined as the esteemed judges for the occasion. They were accompanied by our Vice Principal, Mr. Anil Dutt.

Students from Standards 1 to 7 represented their respective Houses with remarkable enthusiasm, delivering eloquent monologues that reflected confidence, clarity, and passion.





Each performance captivated the audience, creating an atmosphere charged with cultural pride. A special song was performed by Mrs. Mary Presilla in which she motivated students to excel in their endeavours.

This competition exemplified our school's commitment to celebrating India's linguistic and cultural diversity. It was not merely a platform for eloquence but a vibrant expression of the institution's dedication to preserving and promoting Karnataka's linguistic heritage.

JUNIOR, MIDDLE, SENIOR, AND ISC INTER-HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION

"Music doesn't just fill the air ---it fills the soul."
The Inter House Music Competition for Middle, Senior and ISC took place on the 19th of November, 2025. The judges for the event were Mr Ramesh J, a world-renowned drummer, having played in orchestras of many eminent musicians, such as K.J. Yesudas, K.S. Chithra, and many more. He was accompanied by Mr. Ezekiel James, a keyboardist popularly known as Zac, and Mr Vineesh, a guitarist.
The Event witnessed knee-bending performances by the bands, chilling renditions by instrumentalists, and heart-melting vocals. The songs performed by the teams spanned various genres and songs across time, including "Put Your Head on My Shoulder", "While My Guitar Gently Weeps", "Dream On", "Believer", "Die with a Smile", and many others.





After the final performances were done, the judges were invited on stage to perform a special number for the audience, which culminated with a breathtaking drum solo by Mr Ramesh, which involved him moving around the audience, playing on various objects, earning him a standing ovation.
The event concluded with Pettigrew House emerging victorious, followed closely by Thomas House and Pope House.

The event concluded with the Pettigrew House song and the National Anthem. The Inter-House music competition reminded the audience about the power of music, and that irrespective of the place, time, or medium, music will always carry stories worth living for.

CUBS OVERNIGHT CAMP AT DODDABALLAPUR

The overnight camp for the cubs of classes 4 and 5 at the Dr. Annie Besant Scouts and Guides State Training and Camping Centre, Doddaballapur, offered a valuable outdoor learning experience focused on teamwork, discipline, and scouting skills. On the first day, the cubs settled into their tents, engaged in skill-based activities, and took part in a flag ceremony and campsite inspection. A craft session added a creative touch, and although rain moved the campfire indoors, the cubs adapted with enthusiasm.





The second day began with BP-6 exercises, followed by a nature walk, forest exploration, and a tower climb for a campus view. The cubs also learned knot-tying techniques and demonstrated excellent teamwork. Before dispersal, they cleaned the campsite responsibly. The camp strengthened self-reliance, cooperation, and discipline. We extend our sincere gratitude to Mr. Babu M, Mr. Vikas Paul, Mrs. Sadhana Rajesh, and Ms. Eveline C for their guidance and support.

NXS 2025- COTTONS INTER-SCHOOL MUSIC COMPETITION

On 28th November 2025, Bishop Cotton Boys' School hosted its annual Inter-school Music Fest, NXS, welcoming seven distinguished institutions from across the city. The fest featured four competitive categories including Battle of the Bands, Western Vocal Solo, Western Instrumental Solo, and the newly introduced Indo-Western Fusion Battle of Bands, each offering a vibrant platform for students to showcase their musical talent.



The event was adjudicated by Mr. Ramesh J, Mr. Herbert Paul, and Mr. Ignatius Daniel, whose musical expertise and discerning judgement elevated the competitive spirit of the fest. Following the announcement of results, the audience was treated to a special collaborative performance by all three judges and the Chief Guest, Mr. Jagadeesh M, culminating in a remarkable and energetic drum solo by Mr. Ramesh J, which brought the fest to a memorable close.





The audience was treated to a series of enthralling performances from the Cottonians, whose exceptional artistry led the school to secure First Place in all four categories. Highlights included a soulful Western Vocal Solo by Dhruv Kulkarni, accompanied by Namedonhi, a captivating Western Instrumental Solo by Akhilesh S, a powerful rendition of "Sweet Child O' Mine" by the Cottonian Band for the Battle of the Bands, and an innovative fusion performance of "Urvasi Urvasi" and "Masakali" in the Indo-Western Fusion category.



Bishop Cotton Boys' School proudly claimed the Overall First Prize, along with a cash award of ₹15,000. The Runners-Up, Bethany High, Sarjapur, received a cash prize of ₹10,000 for their impressive performance of "O Humdum Suniyo Re" accompanied by the santoor. Other noteworthy performances included a stirring rendition of "Vande Mataram" by Gopalan International School.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY-HONOURING THE FALLEN

On 9th November 2025, the Bishop Cotton Boys' and Girls' school band participated in the Remembrance Service held at St. Mark's Cathedral, Bengaluru.



The solemn ceremony, observed to honour the brave men and women who laid down their lives in service to the nation, was attended by dignitaries and ex-servicemen. The Bishop Cotton Boys' and Girls' school bands added grace and dignity to the occasion through their disciplined presence and stirring musical tributes.

Their participation reflected the schools' deep respect for the values of sacrifice, courage, and patriotism. It was a proud moment for the Cottonian community as the band played a significant role in upholding the spirit of remembrance and gratitude towards the fallen heroes.

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS AT COTTONS

The Children's Day celebrations at Bishop Cotton Boys' School were a vibrant showcase of excitement, creativity, and youthful enthusiasm. The campus buzzed with energy as students participated in a variety of well curated activities that encouraged imagination, innovation, and joyful expression. The competitions at senior school included Ikebana, Soap Making, Collage and Poster Making, Cooking Without Fire, and Wealth from Waste. Children's Day at our Kindergarten was a delightful celebration filled with laughter, excitement, and wonder. The campus buzzed with cheerful voices as our little stars walked into a day crafted especially for them a day brimming with magic, joy, and memorable moments.





A spellbinding magic show set the tone for the celebration, keeping every child mesmerised as colourful scarves vanished, wands waved, and surprises appeared one after another. Their wide-eyed amazement, bright smiles, and excited applause reflected the pure enchantment of the performance. Heartfelt appreciation goes out to all participants and teachers who contributed to making Children's Day 2025 a memorable and joyous occasion at Bishop Cotton Boys' School. Special gratitude is extended to the Coordinators and Associate Coordinators for their outstanding leadership and meticulous planning that ensured the success of the celebration.

LESSONS IN HUMANITY: COTTONIANS ENGAGE IN SUPW

The Socially Useful Productive Work (SUPW) programme at Bishop Cotton Boys' School continued its tradition of nurturing responsible and empathetic young citizens through visits to various community institutions. This year, the ISC students engaged meaningfully with organisations that serve children, senior citizens, and specially abled learners, allowing them to experience firsthand the impact of compassion, service, and human connection. The programme also helped students understand how community engagement forms an essential part of holistic education, shaping values that extend far beyond the classroom.





As part of the ISC outreach, students of Class 12 visited Angel Orphanage and Old Age Home, Bosco Mane, and the Ashreya Centre for Learning. Across these centres, the boys participated in interactive activities, cultural exchanges, and insightful conversations that deepened their understanding of social responsibility. Their interactions with children, elders, and differently abled learners helped them appreciate the importance of empathy and the transformative power of small acts of kindness.



In the Senior School, the Grade 10 students extended this spirit of service through visits to St. Mary's Orphanage, Angles Orphanage, The Little Sisters of the Poor, Friend in Need Society's Home, Mithralaya Girls' Home, and Christu Seva Samaj & Little Angels Children's Home. Engaging with residents across these institutions through songs, prayer, games, and fellowship enabled students to recognise the value of human dignity and the emotional impact of companionship and care.

These visits served as powerful reminders of the privilege of education and the responsibility that comes with it. For the students, this was an activity that strengthened their characters and broadened their perspectives. The school extends heartfelt gratitude to our Principal, Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese, and to all the class teachers who guided and accompanied the students, ensuring that each visit was meaningful, safe, and deeply enriching.



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

-MAHATMA GANDHI

ANNUAL INTER-HOUSE SPELLING BEE COMPETITION

The Inter-house Spelling Bee Competition is one of the most anticipated events held at Cottons each year. It nurtures in students an appreciation for the English language by building a rich and varied vocabulary, while also highlighting the importance of linguistic mastery. This year, the Junior School Inter-house Spelling Bee, organised by Junior II, was held on November 20, 2025. Our respected Principal, Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese, served as the pronouncer for the competition. He introduced and conducted each round with grace, wit, and charismatic ease.





At the end of 9 thrilling and closely contested rounds which tested accuracy, vocabulary strength, and presence of mind, the following Houses emerged victorious:

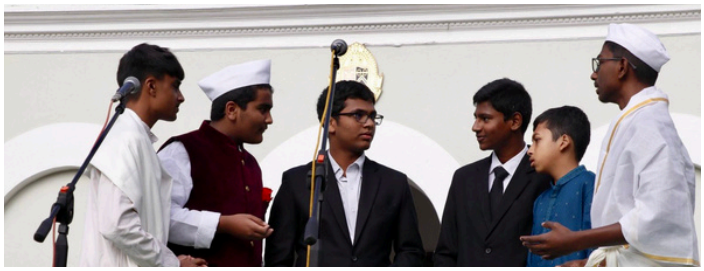
1) First Place – Elphick House
2) Second Place – Pettigrew House
3) Third Place – Thomas House

The programme concluded on a high note with the announcement of the winners, followed by the vote of thanks, the closing prayer, and the singing of the National Anthem.

CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATION 2025

On 26th November, Bishop Cotton Boys' School observed National Constitution Day with a special assembly that transformed the stage into a space of profound historical reflection. Students and teachers from all grades came together to honour the ideals and vision that shaped our nation. The programme began with a prayer and Bible reading, after which our compere, Rishith Roy, smoothly led the proceedings. A soulful musical performance lifted the atmosphere and set an inspiring tone for the event. Daksh Jain, Head of Day Scholars, delivered a powerful speech highlighting the sacrifices of our freedom fighters and the enduring legacy of their struggle for a free and united India. His words offered a meaningful reminder of the values that form the bedrock of our democracy. Our Principal, Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese, then led the gathering in the Preamble oath, rekindling national pride and reaffirming our responsibilities as citizens of this great nation. Students from both the Junior and Senior School presented vibrant dance performances that added colour, enthusiasm, and patriotic spirit to the celebrations.







The highlight of the assembly was a compelling dramatic presentation by the senior school student. Their performance portrayed the hardships endured during the partition, the resilience of our forefathers, and the intense debates that shaped the formation of our Constitution. It powerfully illustrated why the Constitution stands as a pillar of integrity, unity, and identity for India. The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by the Humanities Secretary, Charan C, leaving students with a deeper appreciation of our nation's constitutional heritage and a renewed sense of national spirit.

COTTONIANS PARTICIPATE IN NATURE JOURNALING SESSION



A team of 75 students from Std. IX participated in a Nature Journaling Session on 18th November 2025 in the Sesquicentennial mini auditorium. The programme was organised by WWF in association with the Green Panther Nature Club. It commemorated the birthdays of Dr. Salim Ali, renowned ornithologist, and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and also marked Young Birders Month.



The session began with an introduction to nature journaling, followed by an interactive quiz and a bird-drawing activity. The event was led by Ms. Surabhi Deshpande (WWF), Ms. Shruti J. P. (Green Panther Nature Club), and Mr. Prasad, wildlife artist.

We express our gratitude to Mrs. Elizabeth Angiras and Mrs. Kezi Priscilla Mathew for coordinating the programme.

In all things of nature there is something of the marvellous.
-ARISTOTLE

C FOR CURIOSITY, C FOR COTTONS!

"INTERACTIVE SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM"

On 8th November 2025, thirty students from Classes IX and XI of Bishop Cotton Boys' School attended the Interactive Science Symposium hosted by St. Francis Xavier School, Koramangala. The event featured insightful sessions on sleep patterns, nanoparticles, sustainable chemistry, and the role of imagination in physics. Students also enjoyed exciting live demonstrations, including elephant's toothpaste, liquid nitrogen superconductivity, chemiluminescence, magic writing, and piezoelectricity, along with an animated rendition of Tom Lehrer's Periodic Table Song.





Expert scientists led each session, skillfully linking classroom concepts to real-world applications. The interactive format encouraged active participation, thoughtful questioning, and meaningful discussion, further deepening the students' appreciation of scientific inquiry. Accompanied by Mrs. Elizabeth Angiras, Mrs. Asha Mohan, and Mrs. Sheeba Nancy, the students returned inspired, enriched, and proud to represent Bishop Cotton Boys' School at this dynamic celebration of science and learning.

THE TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING



The Christmas Tree Lighting is a cherished tradition around the world, and this year marks the first time it is being celebrated at Bishop Cotton Boys' School with our resident scholars and staff. Originating centuries ago in Germany, the earliest Christmas trees were lit with candles representing hope, warmth, and the light of Christ entering the world.



Bringing this tradition to Cottons for the very first time creates a moment of unity and joy within our campus. As the tree is illuminated, it symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness and ushers in the spirit of peace, love, and goodwill.

For our resident scholars and staff, this inaugural ceremony is more than an event—it is the beginning of a new tradition that strengthens community life, fosters togetherness, and fills our historic campus with the warmth and joy of Christmas.

"Tradition isn't about looking after the past, but about keeping the present alive." -JEAN JAURES

AWARNESS SESSION BY THE KARNATAKA STATE POLICE





Bishop Cotton Boys' School conducted an awareness session on 1st December 2025 for students of Grades IX and X in collaboration with the Karnataka State Police. Mrs. Mruthul Thomas introduced the Guest Speaker, Mr. Devendrappa K. S., Inspector of Police, Cubbon Park Police Station.

The session focused on traffic safety, cybercrime, women's safety, and the dangers of substance abuse.

Mr. Devendrappa highlighted the department's initiative to reach 2 lakh students across 120 schools, along with key safety measures such as the Safe Connect App, SOS Safety Islands, and 60 Safety Shelters for women across the city.

Students were briefed on traffic management supported by 7,500 surveillance cameras, the rising concerns of online fraud, cybercrime, and the risk of drug peddling near schools. Short, impactful videos enriched the presentation. Daksh Jain, Head of Day Scholars, presented a summary of the session, followed by a vote of thanks delivered by Mrs. Anusha Chaturvedi. This awareness program was indeed the need of the hour, teaching students that more than their own safety, is the safety of the people around them.



MINI-OLYMPICS MEETS COTTONS

On the 7th of November, 2025, Gunin K. Jain of Class 7 D, won the Gold Medal in the Under-44 kg category at the 4th Mini Olympics – Karnataka State Taekwondo Championships.

The tournament, organized by the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, featured participants from across the state and was held exclusively for athletes under 15 years of age.





Gunin's outstanding performance and dedication to the sport have brought great delight and recognition to the school. Bishop Cottons is proud to see him shine.

We congratulate him on this commendable achievement and wish him continued success in his future endeavors, as he pushes towards his Olympic dream, knowing very well that the foundation provided by Bishop Cotton Boys' School will outlast every trial, storm, opponent and combat.

CHIMES AND CAROLS – BOARDING CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The Boarding community at Bishop Cotton Boys' School celebrated Chimes and Carols with a meaningful Chapel Service led by Rev. Theodore Williams, who spoke about cherishing the family the boys have made at school. The Boarding Choir presented a melodious medley of Christmas carols, followed by a cultural programme featuring a choreography and a memorable performance by the boarding band.





Gifts were distributed to all boarders, as well as to the maintenance, security, pantry, and residence staff, reflecting the spirit of gratitude and giving. Boarders also decorated their dormitories as part of the festivities. A delightful Christmas feast brought students and staff together, fostering camaraderie and community. The evening concluded with a joyful bonfire. A special word of gratitude is extended to Mrs. Abigail, Resident Coordinator, Mr. David and Mr. Anthony, Pantry In-charge, as well as the matrons, nursing staff, and all residential staff for their dedicated efforts in making the celebration a resounding success.

CAKE MIXING CEREMONY

The Bishop Cotton Boys' School bakery celebrated the vibrant 17th-century European tradition of cake mixing, often referred to as the "Stirring Ceremony." In preparation for the festive season, they crafted an impressive 1,200 kilograms of Christmas cake mixture. This event marked a joyful start to the Christmas festivities at the school. The atmosphere was filled with laughter and the delightful aroma of the upcoming holiday treats.





The event was honoured by the presence of Principal Mr. Alistair R. A. Freese, Treasurer Mr. P. Johnson, Mrs. Vinisha Nero, and Rev. Rachel Sudharshan- members of the Board of Management. Rev. Rachel commenced the proceedings with a prayer. Additionally, Bakery In-charge Mrs. Mamta and several staff members participated in the ceremony.

COTTONIANS CELEBRATE NATIONAL UNITY DAY



On Thursday, 31st October 2025, Bishop Cotton Boys' School observed National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) to mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.

A team of officers from the Cubbon Park Police Station led the awareness session, interacting with students of Grades IV and V about Sardar Patel's vital role in unifying India after Independence.



The event concluded with an oath-taking ceremony, where students pledged to uphold the unity, integrity, and security of the nation. The program was both inspiring and educational, and the school extends its heartfelt gratitude to the Cubbon Park Police officers for their time and valuable contribution. The event instilled in students, a deep sense of unity, responsibility, and national pride.

"The negligence of a few could easily send a ship to the bottom, but it requires the whole-hearted co-operation of all on board to bring her safely to port."
-SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL

COTTONIAN TALENT SHINES IN TRIBUTE TO SATYAJIT RAY

The Satyajit Ray Matra Productions, Bengaluru, organized a solemn tribute to the legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray on November 1st, 2025, at Satya Sai Samskruta Sadanam, Koramangala. The event, graced by Mr. Sandip Ray and anchor Meer, celebrated the master director's enduring legacy. A select group of fifteen talented artists, chosen through a rigorous audition process, performed on this special occasion. Among the participants was Vikarna Shandilya of Class 6F, Bishop Cotton Boys' School, who represented the school with distinction. The Cottonian community congratulates Vikarna on this remarkable achievement and applauds his outstanding performance at this prestigious cultural event.





ACHIEVEMENTS



Cottonians showcased remarkable talent at the East Parade Tamil Church Sing Song Competition 2025, winning 1st Place in Western Solo, 1st Place in Vernacular Solo, 2nd Place in Vernacular Group, and 3rd Place in Western Group, led by the Music Department team.



ISC students excelled at Cathedral PU College's Intercollegiate Commerce Fest, winning the Best Delegation Award and a ₹20,000 cash prize, with top finishes in events including Best Manager, Business Quiz, Sales, Exhibition, Marketing, Business Pitch, and Pick & Speak.



A 51-member ISC Delegation delivered standout performances at FAPS' Inter-School Fest Expressions on 7th November 2025, winning top positions across cultural, literary, and sports events, along with ₹11,000 in cash prizes, under the guidance of the ISC Cultural Committee.



Students from SAFE, SARS, the Green Brigade, and NSS visited the Dairy Circle Fire Station on 22nd November 2025, gaining hands-on exposure to fire safety, accident prevention, and emergency response under professional guidance.



Ayush Prem (XI B) and Glenn Harel (XI B) won First Place at The Junior Social Scientists (JSS) Competition held in Christ Junior College for their research paper "The Broken Commute," earning a ₹7,000 cash prize.



Our students participated in Wings Baldwin International School's SOAR Cultural Competition, earning praise for their artwork and a special mention in the choreography category

ACTIVITY CORNER

'Ingenious': The Great Cottonian Diamond Hunt

https://roomescapemaker.com/u/dikshub08245/INGENIUM1

How to Begin: Scan the QR Code displayed (or) Click the Game Link provided below the article.

Your Mission: Eight hidden diamonds lie in the virtual game room. Find them, note the key details, and decode the secret password. Write the gem colors and password, with your name, class, and section, on the upper right corner then submit the sheet to reception.

Thought For the Month

"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love"
-Hamilton Wright Mabie

On behalf of the Cottonian Family, we wish each and every one of you a happy and joyous season of love and hope.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

THE TEAM

AYUSH PREM	-11 B
GLENN HAREL	-11 B
SUKRIT SIVAPRASAD	-11 D
SAAYUSH PAL	-11 A
DHRUV KULKARNI	-11 C
ALWIN MATHIAS	-11 A

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