

## Message from Principal on Teacher's Day



Message follows . . .

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Dear Members of the SMS Family

Heartiest Greetings to all on this Teacher's Day. Given that myself have been a student, a parent and a teacher at different points in time, allow me to share my thoughts with you all separately.

Dear Teachers...

Teacher's Day is celebrated because the society values you and deeply appreciates your commitment to the children of the school. We are all aware that there is indeed no substitute to quality education. This is what transforms lives of thousands of individuals and their families forever. I thank you for your invaluable contribution, and quote Shakespeare to express my innermost feelings for you all – *'I can no other answer make, but, thanks and thanks.'* May God bless you so that you achieve greater personal and professional growth during this year.

I would like to add that this year, the year of this pandemic, Teacher's Day is probably more well deserved than ever before. With families now at the centre of their child's learning at home, the respect for what teachers do everyday is indeed high. You are for me **teacher warriors** – big hearts that shape developing minds. I am impressed by your inventiveness, your resilience, your passion and your resolve which has allowed you to overcome unprecedented challenges over the past five months. You have scaled great heights despite hardships. Your efforts, ingenuity, adaptability and practices during these difficult times are commendable. Hats off to you all.

Going forward, we still have much work to do as we have to continue to provide all the support that our students need. We are building new structures and practices that will last beyond Covid-19, and will benefit St. Mark's students for years to come. It goes without saying...you are the true pillars of students' success, helping them garner knowledge, improve skills, grow confident and choose the right path to success. You truly epitomise...

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Dear Students...

Malala Yousafzai, daughter of a teacher, activist for female education, and youngest Nobel Prize laureate has said – ‘One child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world.’

These words are so very true...since teachers provide a child his/her first formal guiding step in this big world. While growing up, the only person you tend to respect after your parents are your teachers because the greatest lessons are learnt from them. I exhort you all to accord that highest respect to all your teachers which they richly deserve...and to always remain indebted to them for the education and values imparted. Since you cannot physically meet your teachers on this Teacher’s Day to express your gratitude in person, do remember to virtually communicate ‘how amazing they are and how much they mean to you’.

Incidentally, teachers are just not those found within the confines to school premises. They exist in the form of parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, neighbours and others you may be directly or indirectly connected with. So...on this Teacher’s Day, thank anyone or everyone who has contributed in making you what you are today.

Dear Parents...

On this special day, let us gratefully remember the great educationist, and former President of India, Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, who believed that ‘teachers are the best minds in the country’. This day is extremely relevant, since it is the teachers who lay the foundations for creating enlightened citizens for the nation. On this day, I request you to recall three of your teachers who helped you shape your life – may be your parents, school or college teachers, friends or relatives – who gave you a strong value system, were your role models and helped you shape your life with dreams and aims. Please call them and thank them for their blessings and teachings.

Then, as challenging as you may find to educate your own child, remember that teachers CHOOSE to do it day-in and day-out, not for the money and definitely not for the hours, but for the special opportunity to make a difference and move a child towards a successful future. It would mean a lot to them if you acknowledge this and express your gratitude for it.

Lastly, you are your child’s first teacher. Your child will always remember you for that and be eternally grateful. We too acknowledge your contribution as your child’s first educationist and thank you for doing your bit before entrusting him/her to us in St. Mark’s school.

Once again...my best wishes to all of you on this occasion of Teacher’s Day.

Regards...

Principal