

Society of St. Ursula of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Name of the Secretary: **Sr. Jyoti Almeida**

1. Introduction

- Name of the Society : Society of St. Ursula of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Year of Establishment: 1606
- Brief background of the Society

Mother Anne de Xainctonge The Foundress of the Society Of St. Ursula of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Venerable Anne de Xainctonge was born on 21 November 1567 in Dijon, France as the eldest child of Jean de Xainctonge, a politician, and his wife, Lady Marguerite Collard, both members of the nobility. Her father saw to it that she had a good education. Her upbringing was also very practical.

On 16 June 1606, Anne opened the first convent in Dole, France of what would later become the *Society of Saint Ursula of the Blessed Virgin*. The society spread rapidly in the east of France and in Switzerland. In addition to the original school, seven more were established by Mother Anne de Xainctonge during her lifetime. After her death, the Society spread far and wide. In 1953 a few Swiss Sisters came to India to continue the good work Mother Anne had begun.

Number of Institutions under the Society:

In the state of Karnataka, the Society runs a single institute, viz. St. Theresa Convent School. The school was established in Hidkal Dam in the year 2000. Our Foundress said **"We will not carry big torches, which will throw light far and wide; but we will carry little lamps which will throw some light on the path of women and girls."** This is what we, the Sisters of the Society of St. Ursula, popularly known as Ursuline, are doing with our committed staff, working with selfless dedication to impart education to the children of the area.

The School is affiliated to the Central Board of Education, Chennai Branch. It is not a grant-in-aid school. The school has two divisions of classes from Nursery to Std 10. Every year the school is growing through the intercession of St. Theresa, its motto being **"LOVE, TRUTH and UNITY."** The medium of instruction is English. It is a co-ed school.

2. Vision and Mission

St. Theresa School aims to be the Center of Excellence in Education using the art of creativity, innovation and technology, where the seeds of the all-round development of the children are sown at an early age. The school desires to create a dynamic environment to bring out the best in every student with learning focused on the complete development of a child. The mission of the school is to achieve the holistic development of students through an excellent academic and physical environment that is conducive to learning, developing creativity and exploration to create healthy, strong, disciplined, bold, and competent citizens who will work for the betterment of the nation. The total strength of the school from Nursery to Std 10 is 1029 with 584 boys and 445 girls for the academic year 2025 – 2026.

3. Society Activity Report:

At St. Theresa Convent School we believe in the holistic development of every child. Along with academic excellence, we place strong emphasis on co-curricular and extra-curricular activities to nurture creativity, confidence, leadership, and teamwork. During the academic year 2025-26, a wide range of activities were organized to ensure the all-round growth of our students.

1. Quiz Competitions: Inter-house and inter-class quizzes were conducted monthly to enhance general knowledge, reasoning skills and healthy competitive spirit.
 2. Debates & Elocution: English and Hindi debates were held on contemporary topics to develop critical thinking, articulation and public speaking skills.
 3. Poster Making & Art Competitions: Students expressed their creativity on themes like Environment, National Festivals and Social Awareness through posters, collages and paintings.
 4. Speech Competitions: Students participated in speech events on occasions like Independence Day, Gandhi Jayanthi and Teacher's Day to build confidence and stage presence.
- Cultural Activities**

1. Dance & Music: Classical, folk and contemporary dance performances were organized during the Annual Day, festivals and special assemblies to promote cultural appreciation.
2. Fancy Dress Competition: Primary section students showcased their creativity and confidence by dressing up as national leaders, community helpers and characters from literature.

Sports & Physical Development

1. Annual Sports Meet: Track and field events, team games like football, kho - kho and basketball were conducted to inculcate sportsmanship and fitness.
2. Regular PT & Yoga: Daily morning assembly included yoga and exercises to ensure physical and mental well-being.

Assemblies & Subject Enrichment

1. Monthly Class Assemblies: Each class conducted themed assemblies with skits, news reading, thought of the day and presentations to develop leadership and teamwork.
2. Subject Workshops: Interactive workshops in Science, Mathematics, Social Studies and Languages were held to promote experiential learning beyond textbooks.
3. Orientation Programs: Sessions for teachers, students and parents were organized at the beginning of the session to familiarize them with school policies, curriculum and evaluation patterns.

These activities helped students to develop communication and presentation skills through debates, speeches and assemblies. It also helped them to enhance creativity and imagination via poster making, fancy dress and dance. Students were able to build physical stamina, discipline and team spirit through sports and gain subject clarity and practical knowledge through workshops. As a result they were able to grow in confidence, leadership and social responsibility.

The year 2025-26 was marked by active student participation and enthusiasm in all spheres, especially as the School celebrated the Silver Jubilee of its existence here. Such activities have played a vital role in shaping confident, creative and well-rounded individuals. We remain committed to providing more such opportunities in the coming session for the continued growth of our students.

