

## International Day Against Drug Abuse Observed with Great Enthusiasm at Carmel School, Kotekar

Carmel English Medium Higher Primary School (CBSE), Kotekar, observed the International Day Against Drug Abuse on 27th June 2026, with great zeal and commitment to spreading awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse. The programme was graced by Ms. Clara D’Cunha, Social Worker and Founder & Managing Trustee of TeLoCa (Tender Loving Care) Mangalore Charitable Trust, as the Chief Guest. School Administrator Sr. Julie Ann A.C. and Coordinator Sr. Premal A.C. also graced the occasion with their esteemed presence.

The programme commenced with a prayer song, invoking God’s blessings, followed by a graceful welcome dance. Students presented a thought-provoking speech highlighting the importance of making healthy and responsible life choices. A meaningful skit, an expressive poem recitation, and a powerful mime performance effectively portrayed the devastating impact of drug addiction on individuals, families, and society.

A special highlight of the programme was the inspiring presentation by the students of Class X-B, who staged a powerful awareness programme based on the theme “Say Yes to Life, Not to Drugs.” Their impactful performance conveyed a strong message against substance abuse and encouraged everyone to embrace a healthy and meaningful lifestyle. The programme was beautifully presented under the able guidance of Tr. Vanisha.

The students also took the Drug-Free Pledge, reaffirming their commitment to staying away from drugs and motivating others to make wise and responsible choices. Energetic slogan chanting, a motivational song, and a vibrant dance performance carrying the message of hope, courage, and freedom from addiction further enriched the celebration.

Addressing the gathering, Ms. Clara D’Cunha encouraged students to remain focused on their goals, cultivate positive friendships, and develop healthy habits. She emphasized that awareness, self-discipline, and strong moral values are the greatest safeguards against substance abuse and urged students to become ambassadors of a drug-free society.

The programme concluded with the Prize Distribution Ceremony for the various activities and competitions conducted during the month of June, appreciating the talents and enthusiastic participation of the students. The Vote of Thanks expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Guest, the

Management, School Administrator, Coordinator, teachers, students, and everyone who contributed to the success of the programme.

The observance served as a powerful reminder that every individual has a vital role in building a healthy, responsible, and drug-free society.