

Purpose

Promotion of the full development of women and girls through its programmes
To develop a membership that is responsive through service to the changing needs of the community in a changing world.

For Private Circulation Only

No. 258 September 2020

Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf? JMT

Well, I am, when he comes in the guise of Covid-19! How merrily we rang in the year of our Lord 2020. We know from experience that all years roll by with some sunshine and some rain - happy times and some sad ones. But none could have guessed how this year would turn out with a pandemic so pernicious, so highly infectious and so expensive of life and livelihood.

How insidiously it attacks whole neighbourhoods leaping from slums to penthouses and from schools to presidential palaces. International travel aids the spread and so does unprotected crowds singing, yelling or perhaps hugging. We long for someone or something on which to lay the blame. Perhaps our leaders could have been quicker to take necessary action regarding awareness and the simple precautions necessary for the public. Eight months on, we ache for the loss of precious lives all over the globe and wonder when those numbers will drop. From the cleverest of epidemiologists to the overworked medical personnel, the ambulance drivers, and even grave diggers all must long for the cases to level off.

However, all of us must continue to pray for relief even as we understand the end is yet a long way off. For school teachers and children, to the care homes of the elderly and the millions out of work, we sympathize and feel our helplessness to speed relief. May world leaders and scientists come up with long term aid programs until that fine day when effective vaccines are able to halt the carnage. Only then we can all march into the great New Normal.

With Archbishop Desmond Tutu we must affirm that "Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."

May God speed that day for all humanity.

The Role of a Teacher Prasanna Benger

The name of my school is St. John's. Jesus is the role model of my school. Just as Jesus who was a great teacher Himself loved little children, I too have learned to love them and care for them. As a teacher I am privileged to nurture students and prepare them to be worthy citizens of tomorrow.

A smiling face, immense patience, a wide-open heart, forgiveness and understanding are required to be a compassionate teacher. We keep a watch on the children always wherever they are. We need to encourage their creativity and provide them with moral support. This, I believe, is who a teacher is.



Of all the children of my age in the world...

I may not be the tallest and strongest girl...

Of all the voices that survive on this earth

Mine might sound the weakest...

But, I can feel. I can touch beyond the galaxy.....like touching the stars

If I tiptoe on my toes...

And that's what makes me feel. I'm free

In my heart, I'm sure it shows.

Independence Day Celebrations

ABH

The National flag was hoisted by Hostel Secretary on 15th August. The programme was attended by new HS Prajakta Dudhe with 6 residents and 1 guest. One resident sang a patriotic song and the programme concluded with a short pledge.

Anugraha

Independence Day was celebrated on 15th August. Kamlesh Prajapati, the hostel Cook hoisted the Flag. A special song "Hum Honge Kamyab Ek Din" was sung by the residents. 12 residents participated in the programme.



DDH

The 74th Independence Day was celebrated on a subdued note. Keeping the pandemic in view, residents of both, Asha Kiran and DDH gathered to hoist the National Flag. Smitha Phatak did the honours. It was a small gathering,

but the spirit of patriotism was high. The National Anthem was sung and a resident choreographed to a patriotic song. It concluded by praying and dedicating the nation into God's caring hands.

LWH

The National Flag was hoisted by our President on 15th August followed by the rendition of the National Anthem. In their speech both the President and a committee member emphasized the need to tackle the pandemic and use the Lockdown period to upgrade oneself and be safe and healthy. The residents, members, staff of LWH and IC attended the programme.



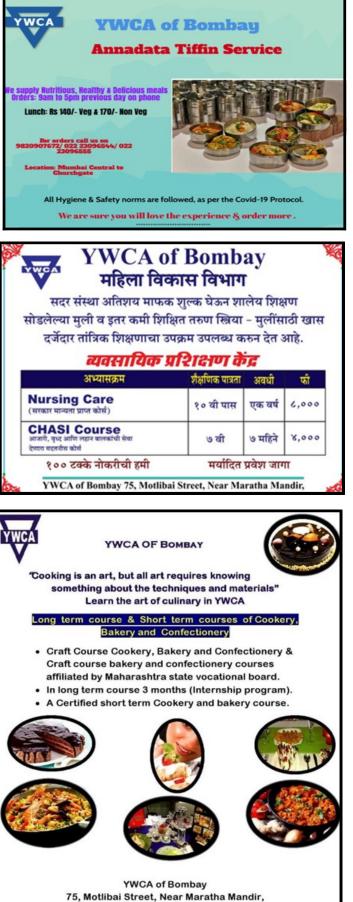
Birthdays in September

1 st September	Jane Gillian Rodrigues	Bandra			
2 nd September	Annie Fernandes	Fort			
2 nd September	Parvathy Venkitacha-	Chembur			
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3 rd September	Esmeralda D'mello	Bandra '			
3 rd September	Maraline Fernandes	Andheri			
4 th September	Deodita Leslie Barretto	Andheri			
5 th September	Hazel Castelino	Fort			
6 th September	Sarah Oommen	Belapur			
6 th September	Yvonne Alphonso	Bandra			
6 th September	Sheetal S. Bandekar	Andheri			
7 th September	Priyadarsini John	Belapur			
8 th September	Smita Pathak	Andheri			
10 th September	Meena D'souza	Andheri			
14 th September	Josephine Fernandes	Bandra			
20 th September	Nancy Gibbs	Bandra			
23 rd September	Pavana Anchees	Belapur			
24 th September	Dr. Ratna Bhattacharya	Fort			
26 th September	Cynthia Selvanayagam	Byculla			
May you receive even more blessings than you ask for, and may all good things continue to come youn way.					

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, We love you!!!



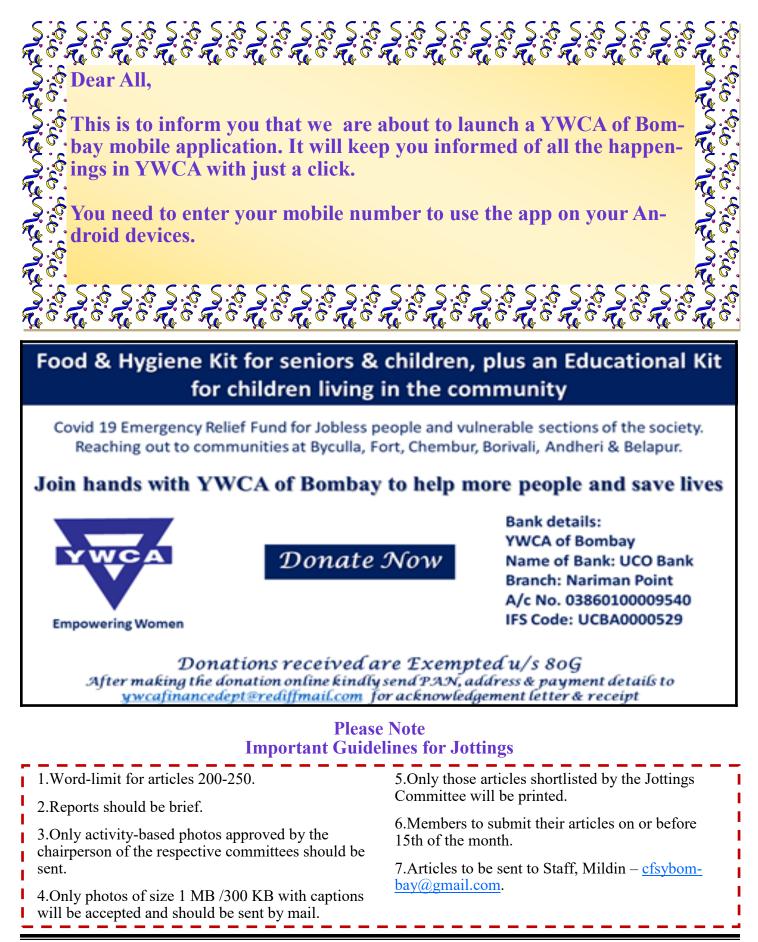
Announcements



Mumbai - 400008

Website: ywcabombay.co.in

Announcements





Sweet Notings Sharon Pires

Distance does not matter when the roots of your relationship are strong enough.

Today we are practising 'Social Distancing' to stay safe and protect others and ourselves from the Corona Virus. It is not easy for us as human beings to stay apart but it is the best we can do in the circumstances.... However physical distance does not need to limit us.... We can still stay connected with each other if we have the will and desire to do so....strong bonding is the result of strong relationships built and nurtured over the years, just like a tree whose roots have grown deep into the ground and hold firm even in the storm.



When fishermen cannot go to sea, they repair their nets.... Are you repairing yourself during

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this lockdown?

Fishermen ensure their nets are strong to haul in a large catch, and mend their nets after their return from a fishing trip so that the next time they are out at sea, no fish can slip away. We too need to keep ourselves abreast of the latest happenings, unlearn what is outdated and learn new skills to help us cope with the changing times so that we are sufficiently equipped to face the challenges that are thrown at us. In normal times we are so busy with our daily chores and we find that time is not on our side, but now is the chance we should not miss.... As they say, 'Never let a crisis go to waste.... Let's seize the opportunity to repair and rejuvenate ourselves... learning new skills, connecting and collaborating during this lockdown.



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Membership

'Tambola Nite' programme was held on 8th August on members logged in from their homes on zoom and Zoom for the first time in the YWCA. A **Virtual** enjoyed every bit of the games and prizes. **Tambola** was conducted by Aneesha Reuben. 55

Spiritual Emphasis

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine." Isaiah 43:1

To be known, to be seen, and to belong are basic human needs met only fully in Christ. When human endeavours fail and are fickle, an **'Encounter with Christ'** transforms and positions us into a safe secure place. His indwelling Holy Spirit within us now opens the floodgates of our hearts to love generously. And in light of eternity we learn to live generously. This was the theme for our SE Retreat on 24th July. As Area Representatives– Shoba Bhalla, Alice Paniker, Gissy Jacob, Agnes Monteiro, Emema Christy, Annie George and Hilda Pinto prayed Spirit-filled for YWCA as well as for their respective areas.

'Celebrating Freedom' was the theme of the SE Retreat on 14th August. How is freedom defined? Is it limited to the broad idea of freedom of a nation, or rather the freedom of each individual that makes the nation? The evening peeled the layers deeper one by one to rest on Christ. A dynamically-charged, well-spent time as we got on board the immediate line of Presidents to present their insights along with a brief background about themselves and what makes them the leaders God has called them to be. They spoke based on the 'essence' of the following quotes to allow for a deeper and wider scope of understanding of the word 'freedom' and what we are really celebrating. Do read up on the writers too from reliable unbiased sources to know what made them write these lines.

"Freedom is the open window through which pours the sunlight of the human spirit and human dignity."~ Herbert Hoover<u>https://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/herbert-hoover</u>

"Freedom means the opportunity to be what we never thought we would be."~ Daniel J Boorstin<u>https://www.britannica.com/biography/Daniel-J-Boorstin</u>

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."~ Nelson Mandela <u>https://www.britannica.com/</u> biography/Nelson-Mandela

"Freedom in Christ. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."~ John8:36<u>https://www.biblegateway.com/</u> versions/English-Standard-Version-ESV-Bible/

What a powerful and Spirit-filled time with our Presidents past and present! It was evident that the hand of God is on each of their lives. Being agents of influence for His glory and not their own are the YWCA Presidents –Vimala Raichur, Shama Chatterjee, Priyadarsini John, Lalitha Fernandes and Sharon Pires. Priyadarsini John led the Praise and Worship from Panchgani, bringing us together into the courts of God. A special thanks to each member who participated that evening on the occasion of Independence Day. A special thanks to our SE Team who with oneness of heart brought together the programme led by the Holy Spirit.

Outreach during Quarantine

 YWCA in collaboration with Helping Hand Charitable Trust distributed 200 ration kits for widows, domestic voilence victims, single women, physically & mentally-challenged



ASHA KIRAN : 53, J. P. Road, Andheri West, Mumbai-400 058 e-mail: ywcaandheri@rediffmail.com poor & needy during lockdown for survival at Nallasopara.

On 21st July YWCA in collaboration with Shivsena distributed ration kits to 50 families at Worli.



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Women's Development Unit

- Received Rs 30,000/- help from Health Promotion Trust for Shelter Homes, to purchase daily necessities for the girls.
- Posters on awareness of Covid-19 were displayed at Fort community. These posters were received from BMC A Ward by the Fort youth group.
- On 13th August 47 youth members from different community centres attended the Career Guidance programme organised by Don Bosco, Kurla.
- On 8th July Sulbha Gopne helped one physicallychallenged person from Mankhurd community to get a ration kit from BMC.
- On 7th July organised an awareness session on understanding **Child Abuse and Prevention**, conducted by Aarpan Organisation .

Special Event: Maya Manohar's Retirement honours ceremony was organised on 11th July on Zoom with the President, GS, WDU CP, Committee members and staff in attendance. This was a unique event in the history of the organization as it was an online celebration.



Study Center

Sponsorship student– Chanda Pimpalkar appeared for 12thStd, Commerce and scored 53.33%.

Last Year's Study Centre Report:-

9 students from last year (4 from boys' group and 5 study centre) appeared for March 2020 exam and all passed.

SSC Results were declared on 29th July. Total 17 students appeared. This year we got 98% result.

The President, CP, GS, members Rekha Joshi, Sarasa Isaac and Asst. Co-ordinator spoke about Maya and her unique contributions to the WDU. Maya was overwhelmed by this function which ended with the National Anthem.

Information

Maharashtra State Board of Vocational Education Examination has changed their name and is now referred to as **Maharashtra State Board of Skill Development Examination. (MSBSDE)**

On 14th July 3 women from Jagruti Mahila Bachat Gat, Wadala community received a sewing machine each, from the BMC M Ward.

Success stories

Our Para Social Workers provided employment to seven youth of the Kalachowki and Mankhurd communities in the private and government sectors (for utility jobs) where they earn 10,000/- to 18,000/- per month.

Aasra: videos on how counselling is done during lockdown by understanding the client's problem and providing necessary help. It also showed how to encourage the stressed youth towards gaining a positive attitude.

Nursing Care- Employment Report

Lilavati Hospital - 5 students (salary Rs 15,000/-) BSES Hospital – 2 students (salary Rs 15,200/-) Maternity Home – 1 student (salary Rs 10,000/-) Private duty 12 hours – 1 student (salary Rs 28,000/-)

Asha Kiran

Till date according to the result in our hand the highest score is 91.40% secured by Sravani Shivaji Patil.



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Adv. Nirmala Prabhavalkar

An online lecture on 'Maintenance & Welfare of Senior Citizens' was organized on 5th August by

ICC

Webinar on POSH

An informative webinar on 'Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace (POSH) was conducted by Adv. Aileen Marques on 22nd July, attended by 55 participants.

The PPT presentation covered - What is sexual harassment, Effects of sexual harassment on professional life and personal life, forms of harassment, hostile work environment, employer's duties, malicious/ false complaints, complaints committee, laws related to POSH at workplace, conciliation and other related offences with examples. With the increase in the work-from- home scenario, emphasis was given to

Mumbai DLSA in collaboration with YWCA of Bombay It was conducted by Adv. Nirmala Samant Prabhavalkar (renowned social activist).

The main objective of the webinar was to create awareness among participants regarding the safety and security of senior citizens. Ms. Prabhavalkar said that even if property is transferred to the children's names, it can be transferred back to the parents if they are being harassed by the children. Only senior citizens have this right, but not many are aware of it. The talk also aimed to highlight the fact that senior citizens are among the most vulnerable, and at times, they end up depending on their children or in-laws due to sheer lack of choice.

Do's and Don'ts of Online Workspace-

Appropriate dress code should be made mandatory for all while attending online meetings.

Organisations should lay out clear work- fromhome rules, as houses are the new workplace.

Fixed timing for conducting online meetings and video-calls of women professionals for work.

Ensuring posters with derogatory remarks against women are not displayed in the background.

Passing lewd comments during online meetings should also be considered as harassment at workplace.

Area Reports

All area meetings were conducted on zoom.

Andheri Area: 15 members attended a session conducted by Dr. Neeta from IDF on 'Happiness'.

Bandra Area: 10 members attended a session conducted by Clotilda D'souza on 'Insurance Policy'.

Belapur Area: 7 members attended a meeting on ence Day. 'Enhancing Happiness Quotient'. Various games like Onion Art, Guess What's in the Box, Tambo- Fort Area: 7 members attended meeting in which la, Name Place Animal Thing and Quarantine upcoming programmes were discussed. Party were played. Prizes were Virtual Hugs.

'Making a Will' on 8th August. It was conducted by Adv. Lalitha Fernandes.

Byculla Area: 7 members attended a meeting in which upcoming programmes were discussed.

Chembur Area: 7 members attended a quiz programme organized by Nisha Gopalan on Independ-

Borivali Area: 22 members attended a webinar

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Programmes and	Committee	Meetings for	Sentember 2020
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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Byculla Area 11.00 am	2 Fort Area 4.30 pm Shelter Home Meeting 11.30 am	3 Anugraha Meeting 4.00 pm Andheri Area 03.30 pm	4 Chembur Area 03.30 pm	5 AK & DDH Meeting 2.00 pm Belapur Area 12.00 noon Borivali Area 3.00 pm Bandra Area 3.30 pm
7	8 Spiritual Emphasis 5.00 pm ABH Meeting 4.00 pm WDU Meeting 11.30 am		10	11	12 International Centre 11.00 am PIYA Meeting 1.00 pm
14 LWH Meeting 7.30 pm	15	16 Jottings Meeting 2.30 pm	17 General Hostels 2.30 pm	18 Buildings 11.30 am PASI Meeting 4.00 pm	19 Public Relations 2.00 pm Membership Meeting 12.00 noon Personnel Meeting 2.00 pm
21	22	23 Finance Meeting 2.00 pm	24	25	26 Board Meeting 2.00 pm
27	28	29	30		

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