

## **Career Counselling Session by Mr. M. Febin Thomas**

On the Morning of Saturday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2017, the Teachers and Students of Class 12 assembled for the fourth Career Counselling Session of the Academic Year. However, with Dr. K. Mallikeswaran, PGT Sanskrit, introducing the Speaker, the Audience did not need much time to understand that this Talk was going to be different from the others they had attended so far.

The Resource Person for the day was Mr. M. Febin Thomas, who passed out of the School in the year 2014, and was the Sports Secretary of his batch. He is currently pursuing his B. Tech Degree in Information Technology (IT) at the Loyola – ICAM College of Engineering and Technology (LICET). His primary Interests include Android Application Development, Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data and Network Security and the Integration of Software into pre-existing Hardware Components that currently power the World.

Mr. Febin Thomas started off on a rather unexpected note for a ‘*Career*’ Counselling Session. He spoke to the Students about how important it was for them to develop a flawless Character first. With allusions like the Roots being more important than the Branches, he effectively drove home his first point – ‘*Character is Destiny.*’

The Alumnus then proceeded to talk about the Challenges that one will face while following one’s Passion. He gave examples from his own life, and spoke about how he was no more the timid boy that he was in School, and that College life had brazen him for addressing any negativity that came his way. As the Audience was seeing a promising senior share his Experiences, Mr. Febin proceeded to openly share his Personal Experiences, including going through a period of Depression, which took the listeners by a surprise. He mentioned that it was just a part of his Journey to do what he loves without falling prey to any vices. He clearly conveyed the message that an Individual decides the kind of person he / she becomes.

*“We’ve all got both light and dark inside us. What matters is the part we choose to act on.”*

*- J. K. Rowling*

The Students’ Interest was further piqued as Mr. Febin played a few Clips from popular Movies. These Scenes were well used as they not only captured the attention of the Audience, but also emphasised the Messages that the Speaker was conveying.

The 20-year old then took the Audience on a tour of his latest Apps developed for Google Play Store and Amazon App Store. The Eponymous Apps – *Febulous* and *FebuWeather* – got Mr. Febin an invitation from Google India to attend an App Excellence Summit for Android Application Developers. As he described his single handed efforts behind the now successful Products and his learning from unsuccessful Ones with friends, the Audience got a glimpse of the Passion that powered the young Speaker. After concluding his talk, Mr. Febin addressed Questions from Members of the Audience and gave them specific Career-based

Guidance. The Audience also received an interesting collection of the Speaker's Quotes, Thoughts and Wordings.

As his handout reads - *'The one test you need to pass in life is that of life itself.'*

Convincing around 250 Teenagers about this is not an easy task, but Mr. Febin Thomas achieved it by employing compelling Narratives and providing relatable Inspiration. The rapturous applause that resounded in the Prayer Hall as Mr. Thomas said *'Thank You'* was proof enough of how effective the Session had been. It was indeed a *'Febulous'* start to the day.

Amruta Varshini, XII – C

## **Student Feedback**

Many Career Counsellors help People gain awareness about the various Courses, Colleges and Entrance Exams. But Mr. Thomas shared his own Life Experiences and emphasized that we should develop a good Character. Most of the Students were following his speech closely as he drew the attention by showing philosophical Movie dialogues. The points that the speaker mentioned reached us well and he made us contemplate about it.

Jailakshmi. K, XII – D

This Career Counselling Session was a very different one when compared to the rest of the Sessions I have seen till now. Mr. Febin's talk inspired me to go forward no matter what and do things even when there are going to be people to pull me down. I was touched by the way he mentioned that Parents are the People who deserve paramount Importance and respect in each of our lives. I thank him for giving me so much inspiration.

Aaliyah Banu, XII – E

Mr. M. Febin Thomas's Career Counselling was quite Informative. While it is certainly important for us to choose right and dream big, it is all the more important for us to work towards it. While listening to him, I got a whole new outlook on how to deal with my Problems. What he said was also very relatable as he studied in this very School and not long ago either. As he spoke about his long list of Achievements, it gave us the hope that we too can scale such Heights. Humility and Sincerity were clearly his keys to Success. His take on Patriotism truly gave us a lot to think about. Overall, his Talk was not only motivating but also exactly what we need at this juncture of our life.

L.Nithyasri, XII – F