



MRS. CHITRALEKHA DEBAKSHI

SENIOR SECONDARY COORDINATOR

1. This academic year Modern High School for Girls hosted several fests and events in specific aspects like Grooves and Buydown, and also some which were all encompassing like Ubuntu and Treffpunkt. Do you think this was possible only because of the online platform?

Mrs. Debakshi: *"It definitely helped but offline is absolutely something different. This is where you get to meet people physically, you get to meet new people. Doing things together is completely different. So online was good because you get to bring people from outside, like outside Calcutta, but nothing like having a physical fest."*



2. Since the pandemic the requirements for admission in higher studies courses have changed and are not solely textual anymore. Do you think the teaching method has changed to fit into the new requirements to help students?

Mrs. Debakshi: *"Change is a part of life and we will never go back to the known world; we will need to change and we are changing and if you look at the new National Education Policy (NEP), you will understand that it is skill-based and it is more skill-oriented and it is designed keeping the employability aspect in mind. Hence, we are also looking at that and therefore we have the application based questions, the open-ended questions where the students' views matter but whatever it is, you have to justify. The main thing that is needed for our nation is that we need to listen, we need to learn to compromise, we need consensus building; that should be the main thrust in respect to education and skills."*





3. How do you help your students with uncertainty with regards to the previous class 10 batch not appearing for the Board Examinations and the current class 10 batch having two exams in a completely new format?

Mrs. Debakshi: *"Nothing in life should be daunting. You should not be cowed down by any kind of situation. You should try to come up. So, when the class 10s did not have the examination, we accepted it and realised there were other ways students can be assessed. We granted them internal marks fairly and our school was ready with the marks. The administration along with the teachers stayed up nights to consolidate the real picture. When the new batch came in and it was announced that there were two exams, we thought they would get prepared. The semester wise examination meant there was less to study with more concentration on certain topics. At the end of the day it comes down to how you adjust in life. The teachers have to be there for their students. We are there to hold our students' hands and not be against them in any way."*

4: How have you connected with the current class 9s in the online mode as you have never met them in person? Previously, in the offline mode, it was easy to do so by conducting assemblies and meetings.

Mrs. Debakshi: *"Let me share an anecdote. That day after we reopened for offline classes, a Class 9 student winked at me and said that her examinations went very well. I did not say anything because I knew she was trying to connect. From Class 7 to 9 is a huge jump, they are now in senior school and they still don't know and they are learning and I am also learning and I am getting to know them gradually. It will take time but I will get there. Generally, my office is filled with students, but I am sure they will start coming in slowly."*

