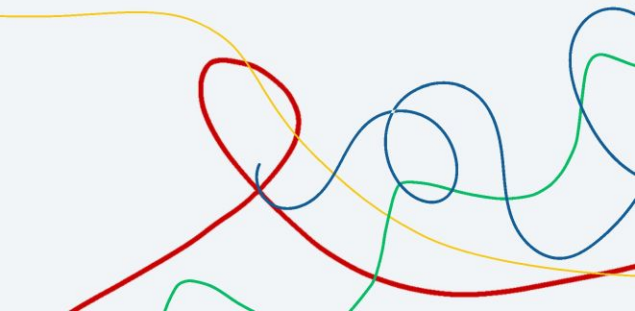




Y E A R B O O K ' 2 5

CHROMATICA:

A symphony of colours





in THIS YEARBOOK :

2025

1. MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL
2. WHAT'S INSIDE
3. DEPARTMENTS
4. MUGSHOTS
5. SOCIETIES
6. COLORS OF STEPHEN'S
7. ATHLETES IN THE MAKING
8. CREDITS



MESSAGE from THE PRINCIPAL

My dear Junior members,

It is that time of the year when we have to bid a short goodbye. I deliberately say a “short goodbye” because I look forward to having you all back in College either soon, or a little later.

Through this little message, I send each one of you my good wishes for the future. Your three years here have been, to each one of you, significant in so many ways. For me, as your Principal, it is yet another time of mixed emotions- Happiness that many of you will take wing and prepare to soar, sadness because I will miss your friendly faces in college. Nevertheless, this is how life progresses, and so, while you pack your belongings, I am also sure you will pack along with them some very happy memories of your time in College. May your time in college and your experiences provide you with happiness, resilience to face the future and success in every good venture that you set your heart on.

Sometimes, the most unexpected and pleasant results occur, from difficult situations. That has been the case with the manner in which the Students Union Society has gone about their work. The team was elected late and had less than the usual time to carry out their responsibilities. This year they notched up the benchmark for all students union activities henceforth, because of the professional manner in which they went about their work and carried out their responsibilities. As if this was not enough, the SUS spearheaded a couple of unique initiatives, which will go down in College history as landmark events: the first of which is the mentoring program, and the second is the active involvement, at both concept and implementation levels, for the Deenbandhu Andrews Samvaad. Congratulations to every member of the team and for keeping College first, all the time.

Go on soar to greater heights so that in each of your lives you will fulfill what College stands for - Ad Dei Gloriam.

PROF. JOHN VARGHESE



MESSAGE from

THE STAFF ADVISOR

It gives me immense pleasure to write for this year's edition of the College Yearbook which is an important annual document of the college, carefully drafted and compiled by students to showcase memories, special moments, experiences, thoughts, and creativity to reflect the collective academic, personal and cultural life that defines this institution. This compilation is not merely a collection of a few pages, but captures the essence of the vibrant spirit, diversity, values and traditions of the college. The theme of this year "Chromatica: Colours of College", pictures the diversity, as it is unified, in the college is thus very apt and meaningful in the above context.

Through articles contributed by students, faculty members, departmental write-ups, photographs, society activities and creative expressions, Chromatica brings together the voices, visions and intellectual competence which make the college community so rich, dynamic and a place of growth and belonging.

A significant chapter in this edition is dedicated to the Third-Year batch under the National Education Policy (NEP). These students are the first ones to join this new academic framework, a policy shift, which promised them flexibility, interdisciplinary learning, innovation, critical thinking and holistic development. Before that, they had experienced the online era of online classes due to COVID, which makes their experience unique and challenging. Your journey, therefore, symbolises both the strength and acceptance of our traditions and the promise of the evolving academic vision. As you are now at the threshold of your course and about to enter into the wider world, may the knowledge you have gained, ideas you have discovered, and skills you have learnt guide you with confidence and clarity in your future endeavours.

I wish to thank all the students and faculty members who have contributed to this compilation. I wish to congratulate the entire Yearbook team on their effort in documenting a year of college life.

DR. HARISH KUMAR YADAV



MESSAGE from

THE PRESIDENT

In the aftermath of the pandemic, the campus had changed—physically, socially, and culturally. Traditions had faded, student engagement had fragmented, and a general sense of detachment had set in. Much had been lost, and even more forgotten. The vibrant Stephanian culture we had once heard about seemed to exist only in memory and in the air. Our primary objective this year was to rebuild those connections—to revive what made our campus unique. Bringing back the yearbook was part of that effort: a way to preserve our batch's journey and leave behind a record that links us to those who came before and those still to come. We stepped in to change. This year came with its challenges. Due to a High Court stay on the DUSU polls, Union elections were delayed, leaving us just four active months. Still, we worked with passion and delivered more than expected. None of it would've been possible without the support and trust of those around us. This year witnessed the best harmony on campus in the past fifteen years. We successfully organized first Deenabandhu Andrews Samvaad (DAS) and outdid the combined sponsorship achievements of the last five unions. Improvements included installing night lights around campus, reopening the convenience store, creating a brand-new SUS room, and equipping all residence blocks with fire extinguishers and hand-wash dispensers, most significant manifesto promise—introducing UPI payments in the Café—became a reality, alongside the installation of ramps and railings in both the JCR and the Café, stars and moon. In an unusual turn during the final semester, our classrooms were temporarily relocated to the Principal's office and to the Accounts office. Our cabinet was a tapestry woven from many threads—ideologies, languages, regions—each a different colour, woven together by a singular goal. Our Yearbook theme, Chromatica: Symphony of Colours, is a reflection of what we stood for and preached. In the words of Malay Sir, "Let the hundred flowers bloom." May our college always remain a place where ideas are supported and differences respected. College isn't just about excelling in academics or being active in societies—it's about how you grow through both. Every now and then, it's worth asking yourself: why did you choose St. Stephen's in the first place? The answer says a lot. Ad Dei Gloriam Our cabinet was 'tapestry woven from many threads'-ideologies, languages, regions-each different colour, woven together by a singular goal. Our YearBook theme, Chromatica: Symphony of Colours, is reflection of what we stood and preached for.

D. ADITHYA RAHUL



MESSAGE from

THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

"A ship in the harbour is safe, but that is not what ships are built for"

My first task after joining SUS was to begin work on the yearbook that had come under its purview earlier this year. It began as a project mired with doubts, ushering in quite a bit of scepticism from our fellow batch-mates too, given the paucity of time. What would usually take 8 months, we had to accomplish in almost 3. That is how Ann, Riya, Vidushi and I began our work in February, unsure but determined to get this off the ground and show something for our three years in college. Stephen's has given it's students the gift of curiosity and a passion to learn. From spontaneous discussions under the trees to late-night deadlines, from spirited society meetings to quiet moments of reflection, we've learned that learning here isn't limited to syllabi, it's stems from a child-like wonder to know more. That is what we have aimed to capture here, under the banner of Chromatica.

Piece by piece, page by page we built the yearbook, a testament to the grit and perseverance shown by the NEP batch who braved hurdles and uncertainties thrown their way. To be a student in 2025 is a daunting and frightening time on all accounts. But it is in the strength of our friendships, of our security in our professors and mentors, that we may procure some peace. As this batch leaves in search of newer opportunities, leaving this home in place of another or continues into the great unknown that is the fourth year, one can always turn the pages of this yearbook to relive moments of laughter, tears and bitter sweet musings.

This is our thank you, to the batch that gave us stories worth telling, and to the tenacity that gave them colour.

ANNA DIVYA BENJAMIN



MESSAGE from

THE EDITOR

I feel uniquely privileged to have gotten the opportunity to work on this final, wonderful project with my peers and juniors before we all part ways. The challenge of putting together a comprehensive project in a short duration of time is no easy feat, but it was made infinitely smoother with the best team one could've asked for, my personal Avengers. Aduvet, Ishita, Krishna, Neha, Pakhi, Samiha, Saumadip, Sheeza, Srijan, Sumaerra, and Udit, all brought their own interpretations to this year's theme; and I was genuinely stunned at how much creativity flowed in their writing.

They made the yearbook what it is: a thing of beauty. Anna, Ann, and Riya are superhuman, and I thank fate for giving us the chance to work together. Chromatica was envisioned as our attempt to bring out the best of sentiments that have been loved for generations, colour by colour.

We brought this theme to life by scrutinising small, unacknowledged parts of the Stephanian experience that seem to miss the eye, but at last, make up fond memories for us all to look back on. I sincerely hope we have done your own Stephanian experience justice through our collaborative effort.

I also hope that years later, you can flip through this yearbook with just as much as giddiness and excitement that you felt on your first day at St. Stephen's. Through words we brought our magic, and through experiences you brought yours. And yes, I did name this year's theme after a Lady Gaga album.



MESSAGE from

THE LOGISTICS HEAD

What began as a seemingly chaotic endeavor transformed into one of the most fulfilling journeys of my life. With just two months to conceptualize and bring the yearbook to life, I found myself alongside the most dedicated, creative, and spirited team I've ever had the pleasure of working with and mentoring.

As the Logistics team, we were always on our toes, ensuring every piece fits perfectly, every deadline was met, and every word found its rightful place. Behind each page turned lies the silent hustle of a group that poured their hearts into this project. While the wheels never stopped turning, we strived to make everything appear effortless.

This year's theme, Chromatica – A Symphony of Colors, encapsulates the myriad stories each hue narrates. Every shade represents a unique emotion, a distinct memory, and a different chapter in our collective journey. To my incredible team: thank you for your unwavering dedication and passion.

Together, we've crafted more than just a yearbook; we've created a vibrant tapestry of memories that will resonate for years to come.

RIYA THOMAS



MESSAGE from

DESIGN HEAD

Looking back, this journey of creating the yearbook has been nothing short of an emotional whirlwind. There were moments of chaos, countless revisions, technical glitches, and yes—many sleepless nights. But today, as I flip through these pages, every bit of it feels absolutely worth it. The stress, the deadlines, the late-night calls—they all make sense when I see this final creation come to life.

This work will always hold a special place in my heart—not just because of the memories we've captured, but because through it, I discovered something deeply personal: *my love for designing.* Every layout, every color choice, every little detail reminded me why I enjoy this so much.

A heartfelt thank you to Anna, Vidushi, and Riya—you were with me through every tiny issue, every last-minute panic, and every long discussion. I couldn't have done this without your constant support.

To my incredible design team—you've turned every page into a work of art. Your creativity, patience, and enthusiasm brought this vision to life in the most beautiful way.

A special shoutout to *Honshooja*—your energy was infectious and your readiness to help, even if it meant pulling an all-nighter, was truly inspiring. You reminded us that teamwork isn't just about dividing tasks—it's about lifting each other up.

This yearbook is more than just a book. It's a memory, a celebration, and a piece of all of us. Thank you, everyone, for being a part of it.

ANN SUSAN ABRAHAM

The Chosen Crumbs



Through my rocky relationship with food I have come to realize that food at Stephen's isn't just about sustenance. It is about the memories that cling to each meal, about the stories that unfold over chai and Maggi, about the people who make even the most questionable mess food taste like home.

Food is never just food. It is memory, emotion, routine, and, sometimes, a mystery waiting to be solved. Every college student in this city has their own map, not just of classes and libraries but of meals and moments. Some call it tradition; others, survival. But all of us find solace in the taste of a conversation left unfinished, the warmth of a hand you no longer hold, the bite of regret, or the quiet comfort of routine. Food is how we chart our friendships, our loneliness, our growth and hence food is not just sustenance; it is nostalgia plated up in kulhads of Sudeha, momos, Chole Bhature and butter-soaked parathas.

At first, the café could be a bit intimidating, one of those places I would rarely step into. It was loud, crowded, and seemed designed for people who actually cared about what they were eating. But slowly, almost imperceptibly, the café became less of a place and more of a feeling. It became the space where laughter echoed over (mostly) terrible coffee, where friendships deepened over shared momos, and where silence between friends was just as comfortable as conversation. The food? A supporting character, sometimes wonderful, often forgettable, but always present in the background of these small moments like the road you take everyday.

There is an art to eating at Stephen's, and it isn't about gourmet taste—it is about strategy. If you have spent enough time here, you will know that food is not just about feeding yourself; it is about the choices, the effort, and sometimes, the sheer luck involved in getting a decent meal. The mess, for instance, is an exercise in acceptance. On some days, it is tolerable. On others, it is an existential crisis on a plate. There is a certain rhythm to the mess menu—repetitive, predictable, occasionally ambushing you with something suspiciously edible. For some, it is a battleground where resistance against karela is waged with dramatic flair. For others, it is a place of deep philosophical discussions, where the taste of dal is debated with the same passion as Foucault.

The Science Dhaba, in stark contrast, is a haven for these tired minds and wandering souls. Evening snacks here are accompanied by profound (or not so profound) discussions about life, punctuated by the occasional crisis about an impending deadline. The chai is warm, the conversation warmer, and the ever-smiling Ramesh Ji makes it feel like a place where you can pause, if only for a moment, before the world demands you move again. The menu in the café is a mix of the predictable and the peculiar, with items that have gained near-mythical status over the years. The Double Trouble Burger, for instance, is not just a burger—it is a loaded weapon. A chicken patty, cheese, and a half-fried egg create a structural hazard so severe that innocent bystanders at the table have been known to suffer from splash damage.

WHEELS inside?



The Overloaded Maggi is what happens when someone decides that Maggi is simply not chaotic enough on its own and proceeds to stuff it with cheese, a mince cutlet, and two shredded kebabs. The Alumnus Green Chutney, however, remains an unsolved mystery. A special homemade chutney, whispered about in hushed tones, served only to alumni, never to current students. No one knows why. No one questions it. It is simply one of the many unsolved riddles of college life. And Of course, the real prize of the café menu is the Classic Bread Roll, a delicacy so elusive it could be classified as a mythological creature. Available only in the evenings, only sometimes, and only if JP Ji—the café's ever-watchful guardian—deems you worthy. One does not simply walk into the café and order a Classic Bread Roll. One must first engage in the sacred ritual of “checking with JP Ji.” If he nods, you have a chance. If he shakes his head, you accept your fate and walk away, defeated.

For all our conversations about food, it is easy to forget the people who make it all happen. The mess staff, for instance, have witnessed generations of students pass through these halls, each with their own quirks and complaints. They have seen it all—the dramatic refusals to eat bhindi, the stealthy attempts to sneak food out in tissue paper, the heated debates over whether today's dal was better than last week's. On the other hand, JP Ji, the café's enigmatic ruler, watches over the café with a quiet authority. He is the keeper of secrets, the final judge of whether you are worthy of an exclusive order. His presence is both reassuring and mildly terrifying. Then there is Ramesh Ji at Science Dhaba, who serves tea with a side of life advice. He has probably seen more emotional breakdowns over a single cup of chai than anyone else on campus.

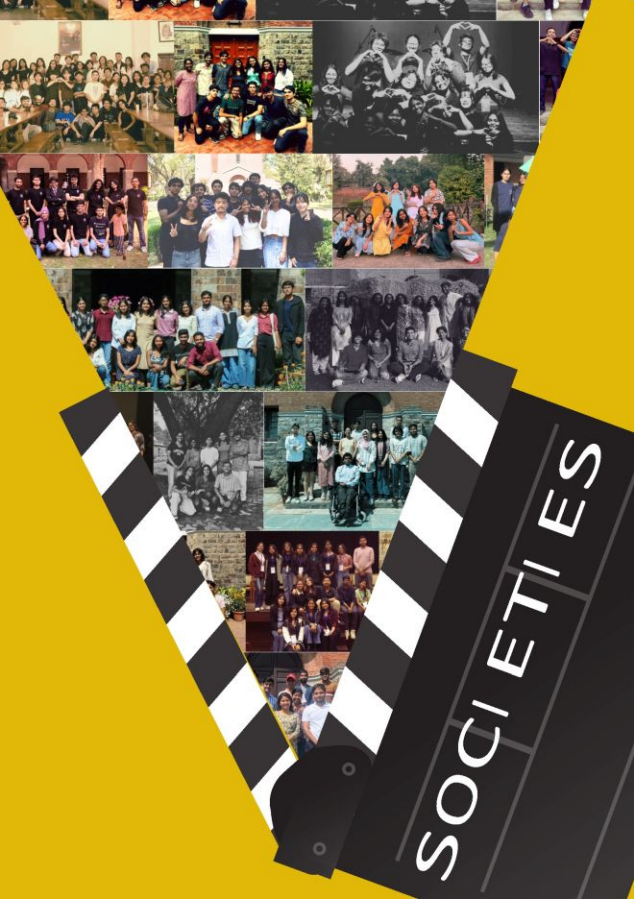
One day (pretty soon), we will leave this place. The café will still be there, serving up its inconsistent coffee and its legendary burgers. The mess will continue to be a source of both comfort and (mostly) distress. The Science Dhaba will still be a refuge for weary students looking for a break. But we, the ones who sat at these tables, who laughed over French toast, who shared tea over chai, who built friendships over plates of undercooked Maggi—we will move on.

But we will carry these places with us. We will remember the meals, not for their taste, but for the company. We will talk about the time we tried to eat the crazy combinations and failed spectacularly. We will recall the comfort of dal chawal after a long, exhausting day. We will smile at the memory of debating the mess food while secretly planning our next Kamla Nagar escape. Because when you talk about food, you talk about life. You talk about the friendships it forged, the love stories it witnessed, the heartbreaks it consoled. You talk about the time you wished you had thrown coffee at someone, and the time you wished you had asked someone out for coffee instead.

Food and I may not have started out as close companions, but as I look back, I realize that food was never just about eating. It was about the memories, the people, the stories. And maybe, just maybe, one day I will return as an alumnus and finally—finally—get to taste that elusive green chutney.

-Saumadip Das





SOCIETIES

THE STUDENTS' UNION



When Professor Sanjay Rao Ayde remarked that the Students' Union Society is "the mother of all societies," we giggled a little, giddy with the pride of being awarded the responsibility of upholding the Stephanian, an essence often reiterated but never quite tasted, and the blanket of newly held power, knowing full well we were mimicking the American democratic prototype we had long left behind in our Political Science classrooms.

After taking the oath with the President in front of the first-year students and shaking hands with the Principal, we walked out and Googled our grand titles. Soon, these titles turned into deadlines, which culminated in seeing our efforts materialise and hearing "wow, good job" from fellow students and professors. Those moments made all doubts and criticisms which we had grown accustomed to seem pale.

Apolitical Stephen engaged in its Stephanian politika through the SUS Whatsapp Group. What begins as a discussion and soon morphs into an "admins-only" decision in the SUS group, one that gathers 400+ voices in the form of likes, hearts, and the occasional upside-down thumb.

Harmony, the litmus test for any SUS cabinet, was a sore spot for us in the first 2 months of our tenure. Adithya's steady motivation and planning are what kept our hopes afloat and our hearts determined even in the face of bad weather in the days following the fest. The skies broke open with a thunderstorm, reminding us once again that Delhi is not for the weak. Gowhar and Chetan perhaps spent more time arranging the banners than they did enjoying the fest. The devil works hard, but the décor team had him in awe. From the illustrious qawwali night, where the crowd levitated in awe, to the prom night paired with the Rafkhowa concert, every single detail felt indelible in the grand scheme of things. After every successful day, one could spot the exhausted members trying to put on a smile for Anna and her social media team, phones flying all around.

Harmony became an experience to remember and cherish forever.

After every milestone achieved, Ashok and Likhith's messages would promptly shift our focus to our next task, and Sneha and Mhanka would get ready to organise us all into groups.ashless, and Sanath doing checks on all the blocks, and the sports office and Kavya paying a visit to her second home, the accounts office.

SOCIETY

DAS, true to its name, was an amalgam of different worlds, a mix that sparked hours of discussions, debates, and deliberations. A new Stephanian tradition was born, that took its inspiration from the values espoused by C.F. Andrews. Questions were posed, discussions were held, and dinner was diabolically delicious.

Now, as we plan the Annual Prize Distribution and the Union Dinner, say goodbye to friends and seniors, we will remember these few months, however short, but they were full of good times, learnings, and bonds that will last forever and a fiery loyalty to the institution and its people.

Lao Tzu said, "To lead the people, walk behind them," and so we did, serving humbly and leading with heart. As we now prepare to hand over the reins, we do so not with a sigh, but with a spark, daring the next cabinet to burn brighter, laugh louder, and make this place shine even more.



Of course, these are just guesses made by the average college goer who has not a single clue of what actually goes in other disciplines apart from their own. Nonetheless, most of them do hold true for the major part.

But St. Stephen's does not subscribe to the typical standards and this exclusiveness is carried on by the students. A *Pride and Prejudice* in an Economics student's bag and a *Principles of Macroeconomics* in an English major's bag is a circadian phenomenon. It seems English has now decided to extend its outreach and has started to permeate other disciplines as well. Case in point: mathematics people carrying around good old novels (Source: Riya Thomas, Third Year Mathematics).

Of course, in every backpack, you'll find some universal staples: a water bottle, a pair of earbuds or headphones for that walk from the metro to the class, a charger for the phone that's always on the brink of extinction (much like the student on the night of assignments' deadline), a stash of random receipts and crumpled papers and the little treasures that accumulate over time. Technically, everything in this list is quite replaceable but what we have in the end is a snapshot of the chaos and creativity of student life.



On questioning Manya on the theme of build-up of oddities, she says "I do a deep clean every 3-4 weeks which is just long enough for strange and memorable artifacts to accumulate. The weirdest thing I've found is a perfectly sharpened pencil. The funny part? I don't own one notebook, since I take all my notes digitally. It's as if the universe is subtly nudging me toward old-school writing (or mocking my hyper-digital lifestyle), haha!"

In essence, what's in your backpack is more than just a collection of objects. Whether it's the digital age gadgets or the beloved paper notebooks, the contents of a backpack are a mix of memories, priorities, and stories that make up the unique student experience. And when the weight of assignments, deadlines, and stress grows too heavy, sometimes, it's just the little treasures in your bag that remind you of the joy and creativity still tucked away amidst it all.

By Ishita Gupta





No One Should Say Macbeth



Putting up a major stage production is one of the most colourful times of the year. It's a concoction of chaos, commotion and colour. When somehow, there just never are enough hands on deck to handle everything, and yet, it feels like every single person seems to be an unnecessary addition to the confusion. Like a beautiful tapestry painstakingly woven, the front is an elegant performance, but as with any tapestry, the back of it is strewn with knots, crosses, and snipped threads. The incessant running around, technical glitches, and screams of "centre spotlight on!" -- the behind the scenes is a veritable bedlam.

And then there's the star of the show -- our dear dog Rosa, who will never pass up on an opportunity to step on the stage mid-performance. You'll see her lurking around the backstage doors, watching in rapt attention for the moment you leave the doors open.

You'll see her lurking around the backstage doors, watching in rapt attention for the moment you leave the doors open. And if she finds that moment, then it's up to the musicians or actors or dancers -- yelp and ruin your performance, or with a little bit of improv, make your audience believe she was an essential part of your props.

Somewhere away from the college hall, your seniors will pull you aside in the midst of sessions of rubber chicken or projection exercises and tell you a secret -- the secret to a successful production. It is to never name the Scottish play, because it brings bad luck upon the production. They'll tell you all the mishaps that happened when someone named the Scottish play, and if some unruly soul did actually invoke some toil and trouble, they'll also tell you rituals to save the day.

By Pakhi Daswani



WHITE REVEALS WONDER

In our everyday lives we see a wide plethora of colours mixed and intertwined together to make up for all that we perceive, but among these colours we often see the colour white stand out in stark yet quiet elegance. Though the colour generally signifies purity and simplicity, here at Stephen's, the colour white holds even more significance. Pivoted inside the imposing red outer walls of the College are the whiter more somber walls of the classrooms which provide a space to contemplate, reflect and learn. These walls are even more complemented by the ubiquitous white boards where thoughts unfold and ideas take shape.

The whiteboard serves as a medium of clarity where with every stroke of the marker difficult concepts are simplified.

questions are answered and perspectives are broadened. Beyond its practical purpose, the whiteboard stands as a symbol of infinite possibilities and uncharted knowledge ever ready to be explored.

At Stephen's, the presence of white in its walls and boards reminds us that every day is a new opportunity to write, erase, and rewrite our understanding. In this space of learning, white is not merely a colour; it is a beacon of growth, a testament to the pursuit of wisdom, and a canvas for the future we aspire to create.

Rty: Shreea Rai

BASKETBALL TEAM (W)

Name of Tournament: S PORRTIFY
Tournament

Location: SHRI GURU GOBIND
SINGH COLLEGE OF ART AND
COMMERCE

Award won: Gold Medal (4)

Name of Tournament: St. Stephen's
invitational Basketball tournament 2025
St Stephen's College Alumni Team Won
the Championship

Final was played between College
Alumni (W) and SRCC (W)



BASKETBALL TEAM (M)

Name of Tournament: St. Stephen's
invitational Basketball tournament
2025

Won by: St Stephen's College
Alumni Team

Final: College Alumni vs KMC



CHESS TEAM

Name of Tournament: SGSCC
Invitational tournament

Location: SGSCC, Delhi

Award won: Gold Medal

FOOTBALL TEAM

Name of Tournament: St Stephen's
Invitational Football Tournament
2025

Location: Delhi

Award won: Runner Up Trophy
(2023, 2024, 2025)

Final : Hindu College 2-1 St.
Stephen's College





MAJOR



HIGHLIGHTS

Thanking those who made it possible

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed their time, creativity, and effort in bringing this yearbook to life.

Your dedication, hard work, and passion have beautifully captured the memories, milestones, and spirit of this incredible journey. This yearbook wouldn't have been possible without each one of you—thank you for making it truly special!

With gratitude,
Yearbook Team 2025

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