

St. Stephen's College University of Delhi Delhi 110007 Phone: +91-11-27667200 E-mail: pstoprincipal@ststephens.edu Website: www.ststephens.edu

### Society Activity Report 2020-21

## **Mathematics Society**

## -Workshops, Lectures, and symposiums: Symposium

Under the aegis of IQAC, the Department of Mathematics together with the Mathematics society organised a 2-day online Symposium on the topic 'Real-Life Applications of Abstract Mathematical Concepts' on 9 and 10 April 2021. The symposium was open for undergraduate students from all over the world. We invited Prof. Shobha Bagai (Cluster Innovation Centre), Prof. T.V. Vijay Kumar (JNU), Dr. Amit Kulshrestha (IISER-Mohali), and Prof. Anupam Saikia (IIT-Guwahati) to share their expertise and knowledge with the students.



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ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE		
John Rayven DC. Surio from College of Science		
was a participant in the online symposium on		
Real Life Applications of Abstract Mathematical Concepts		
organized by		
The Department of Mathematics and The Mathematics Society		
in collaboration with		
The Internal Quality Assurance Cell		
St. Stephen's College, Delhi		
on the 9th and 10th of April 2021		
Thaur	Stand	Hen Vingle
Dr. Jaspreet Kaur Convener	<b>Dr. Sonia Davar</b> Head of the Department	Prof. John Varghese Principal
Convener	read of the Department	

#### -Competitions

#### Bezerka

In the odd semester, the first online event organized by the society was Bezerka. It was held on 10-11 October. It was open to students from all across India and saw a participation of 800+ people. In the event, participants were made to solve mathematical puzzles like Sudoku and along with questions testing their logical reasoning.

#### Mathopolis

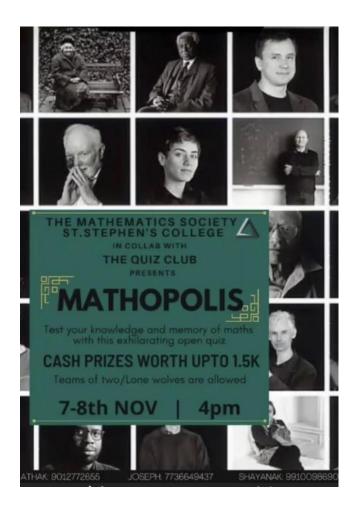
The next event was Mathopolis, one of the most famous events of our society. This online quiz, in collaboration with the Quiz Club of St. Stephen's College was organized on 7-8 November. There was a turnout of 500+ participants quizzing on everything to do with Mathematics from Leibniz to Lebesgue, from Galois to Game Theory.



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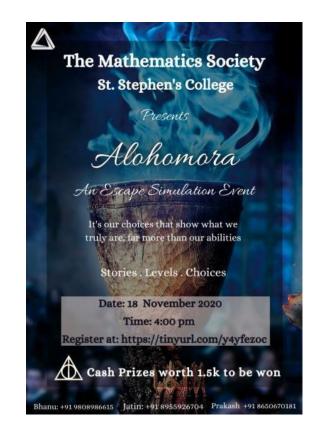




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#### Alohomora

In order to make the online year more interesting, we came up with the idea of Alohomora, an online room simulation game, based on the famous novel series 'Harry Potter' by J.K Rowling. It was the first event that witnessed a participation of 1000+ from all over the country. The participants had to solve mathematical puzzles based on logical reasoning, sequences, pattern identification etc. in order to win. This event also marked the end of the odd semester.





It seems like a good time to interact with people as friends are important.



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#### **Treasure Hunt**

Our most awaited event, Treasure Hunt was put together on 4 February 2021, and this was the first event for the even semester. It required students to solve puzzles, mathematical riddles etc. to reach their desired destinations. We incorporated a murder mystery to make it more interesting and were able to get a turnout of 1100+ students from all over the world.

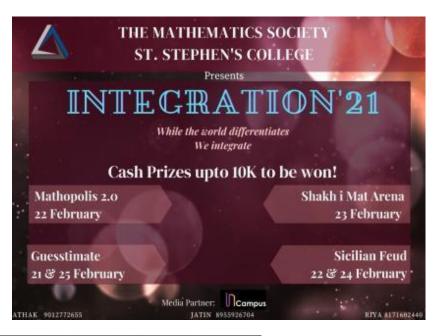


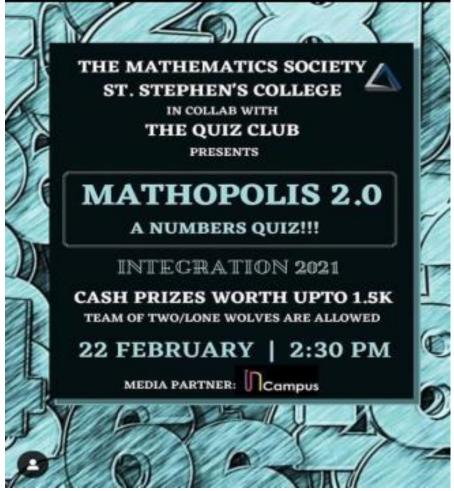
#### Integration

The annual fest of our society, Integration' 21 was held from 22-26 February. Multiple events and competitions were conducted during the course of these 5 days. Some of the events that took place include Mathopolis 2.0, Sicilian Feud, Guesstimate, and Shakh-i-Mat Arena.



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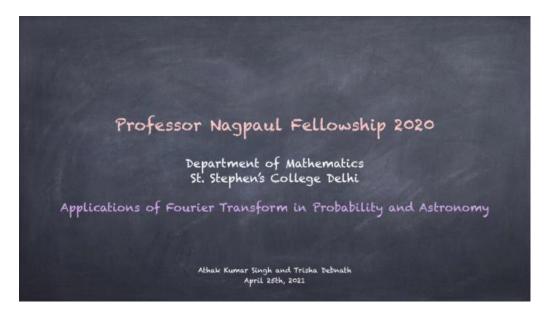


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#### -Other:

#### **Professor Nagpaul Fellowship**

The Professor Nagpaul Fellowship started in the month of October. It is a collaboration between a group of students and a teacher where they work together to produce a research paper on a topic in Mathematics. The fellowship started six years ago and is one of the most prestigious fellowships in college. Over the years, it has nurtured budding researchers in the college. St. Stephen's College is well known for undergraduate research and the Professor Nagpaul Fellowship aims at providing the students with just that. It not only provides mathematically motivated students an opportunity to develop an interest in research, but also provides students who are just intrigued by the subject a chance to nurture their interest. This year the presentation was held on 25 April. 18 students participated and presented their research on a variety of topics, ranging from Application of Abstract Mathematical Structures to Study of COVID-19 using R.



#### **Editorial Board**

This year we also established our society's Editorial Board, *When Epsilon Met Delta* to expand our social media presence. Till now, we have covered various topics including stories about great mathematicians, astonishing numbers and weekly quizzes. Our follower count on social media has taken a big leap in the year 2020-21.



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# What's new mathematics?

#### More healthy diets on the way!

A recent research from Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden shows how a newly developed mathematical model for the interaction of bacteria in the gut could help design new probiotics and specially tailored diets to prevent diseases. According to Jens Nielsen, the lead researcher, the model is useful to deal with diseases related to intestinal bacteria, which plays an important role in determining health. The accuracy of the model was verified through two carlier clinical studies, one involving Swedish infants, and the other concerning adults in Finland with obesity.

The predictions made with the help of the model corresponded with the measurements of health indicators incorporated in the study. Moreover, the model proved reliable in predicting multiple variables, including how a switch from liquid to solid food in the Swedish infants affected their intestinal bacterial composition and how the obese adults' intestinal bacteria changed after a move to a more restricted diet.

Bacterial growth and functioning depends upon an individual's diet, interactions with other bacteria already present in the gut and interaction with the host. Thus, adding bacteria or making dietary changes will affect the intestinal composition and subsequently, the interactions of the added bacteria with the intestinal microbiome."The model we have developed is unique

because it accounts for all these variables.It

combines data on the individual bacteria as well as how they interact. It also includes data on how food travels through the gastrointestinal tract and affects the bacteria along the way in its calculations. The latter can be measured by examining blood samples and looking at metabolites the end products that are formed when bacteria break down different types of food,' says Jens Nielsen.

