



St. Stephen's College
Delhi – 110007
India

25th July 2026

St. Stephen's College Welcomes Its 146th Batch of Junior Members

On July 27, 2026, St. Stephen's College will open its gates to welcome its 146th batch of Junior Members for the commencement of the 2026–27 academic session. Founded in 1881, the College continues its distinctive collegiate tradition, with students known as *Junior Members* and faculty as *Senior Members*, reflecting an enduring ethos that views education as a shared pursuit of scholarship, mentorship and service.

The academic year will commence with the **Freshers' Assembly**, one of the College's oldest and most cherished traditions, inspired by the collegiate customs of the University of Cambridge. For nearly a century and a half, this ceremony has symbolised the formal induction of every new generation into the life, traditions and values of the College. Far more than an orientation programme, the Freshers' Assembly marks the beginning of a journey that generations of **Stephanians** have undertaken.

St. Stephen's is distinguished not only by its academic excellence but also by its unique collegiate culture. Junior Members reside in **Residences**, gather in the iconic **Dining Hall & Café**, exchange ideas in the **Junior Combination Room (JCR)**, while Senior Members meet in the **Senior Combination Room (SCR)**. At the heart of campus life is the **Hall**, where the College assembles for public lectures, celebrations and significant academic and ceremonial occasions. Together, these traditions foster a close-knit academic community where scholarship, dialogue and fellowship flourish.

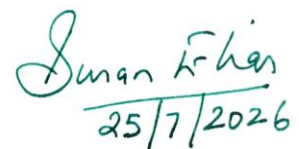
Academic life is enriched by the College's renowned **tutorial system**, which complements classroom teaching through small group discussions between Senior Members and Junior Members. Beyond the classroom, the College's vibrant academic societies, cultural associations, sports clubs and the Social Service League provide opportunities for leadership, creativity, service and holistic development, enabling Junior Members to pursue their passions while contributing meaningfully to the life of the College.

The **College Library**, one of the intellectual treasures of the University of Delhi, houses an exceptional collection of books, journals, manuscripts and rare volumes that have supported generations of scholars. It remains a place where ideas are discovered, knowledge is preserved and intellectual curiosity flourishes.

Equally distinguished is the College's rich sporting tradition. St. Stephen's has produced Olympians, international cricketers, national champions and distinguished sportspersons who have brought honour to the College and to the nation. Its playing fields and sporting facilities continue to nurture excellence, resilience, teamwork and sportsmanship, making sport an integral part of the Stephanian experience.

At the heart of the campus stands the historic **Chapel**, a place of worship and quiet reflection that symbolises the values on which the College was founded. Guided by its motto, **Ad Dei Gloriam** (*To the Glory of God*), St. Stephen's continues to nurture intellectual excellence, integrity, compassion and service within a diverse and inclusive community.

As the College welcomes its 146th batch of Junior Members, it entrusts to them a legacy that has endured since 1881, a legacy of intellectual excellence, integrity, compassion and service that remains the enduring hallmark of a Stephanian.



Susan Elias
25/7/2026

Prof. Susan Elias
Principal

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