



December Newsletter 2025

Tech Titans

We are delighted to announce that **Agam and his team (non-Indus)** have emerged victorious at the **NRL (National Robotics League) Championship 2025**, winning the prestigious **“Tech Titans” Award**. This outstanding achievement reflects their innovation, teamwork, and technical excellence in the field of robotics.

The team was honoured with a **cash prize of ₹1,00,000**, along with **certificates, a trophy, and an internship opportunity**, marking a significant milestone in their academic and professional journey.

We congratulate Agam and his team on this commendable success and wish them continued excellence in all future endeavours.







Primary years programme



PYP Indus Day

Indus Day, conducted on 13th December, was a powerful celebration of imagination, expression, and purposeful learning, brought alive through a thoughtfully curated script based on an Indian epic - Power of Choices and inspiring performances. The evening set the tone by reminding us that imagination fuels limitless possibilities—an idea that resonated throughout the event as we walked down memory lane witnessing the band perform to songs by the famous band - Queen and the musical production as well.

A key highlight of the celebration was the band performance, which was a tribute to the power of music as a universal language. The students demonstrated not only musical skill but also deep lessons in collaboration, discipline, and attentive listening. Each note reflected shared responsibility and collective harmony, reinforcing the emphasis on teamwork and unity.

The central production- Power of Choices, seamlessly blended drama, dance, and narration to convey meaningful messages about values, identity, resilience, and growth through the various characters that were portrayed by our young actors. Through expressive storytelling, students brought abstract ideas to life, showcasing their ability to think critically, feel deeply, and communicate with confidence.

Beyond the stage, Indus Day offered enduring life lessons as reflected in the concluding moments of the script, the event reaffirmed that true education nurtures character, creativity, and courage. Indus Day stood as a celebration of learning in action—where performance became purpose and students emerged as confident, reflective learners.















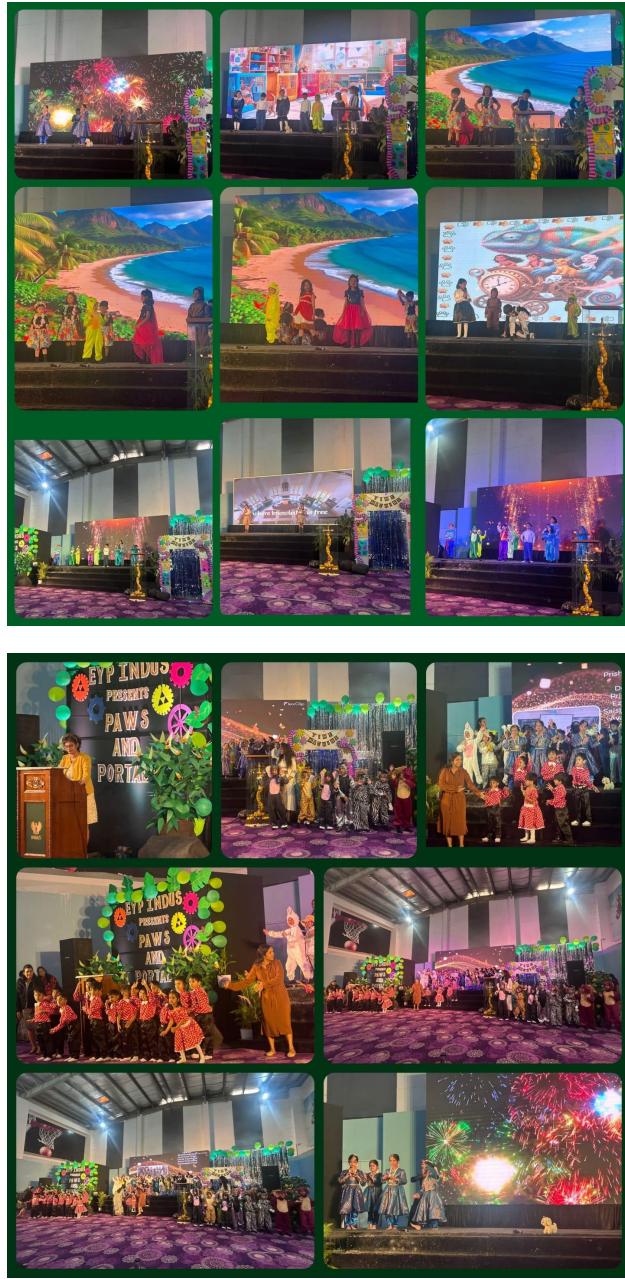


EYP Showcase

The EYP showcase was held on 19th December, where our littlest learners brought "Paws and Portals" to life! This heartwarming production followed Leo the chameleon and five brave children—Chloe, Jake, Mia, Finn, and Ava—as they embarked on time-traveling adventures to discover their inner strengths.

Each child transformed beautifully both onstage and within their character's journey. Through helping beloved heroes like Elsa find her voice, Moana persist through challenges, Simba lead with kindness, and Woody focus to find lost friends, our young actors explored powerful themes of courage, teamwork, and self-belief. The vibrant costumes, joyful dance numbers featuring songs like "Let It Go" and "Hakuna Matata," and the children's genuine enthusiasm created an unforgettable experience.

The showcase culminated in a triumphant celebration where every child from reception to PYP 1 proudly shared what they learned, reminding us of all that when we work together and are kind, we can overcome any challenge and make the world brighter.



PYP Checkmate Challenge

The PYP Checkmate Challenge was conducted for students of the PYP. While PYP 1 and 2 had a brief introduction to the game of chess and learnt about the different pieces of the game and the moves that each of them makes, PYP 3 – 5 students who are proficient in the game had rounds of playing rapid chess. The winners for the tournaments grade wise are as follows –

PYP 3:

1st - Ishaan Chandorkar

2nd - Yashveer Kasat

3rd - Kian Singh Chillar

PYP 4:

1st - Aranya Dhawal

2nd - Kabir Deepa Abhijit

3rd - Shaun Supnekar

PYP 5:

1st - Shaurya Nanaware

2nd - Rivaan Vora

3rd - Kaustubh Khaladkar

Congratulations to all the winners!





Parent Workshop

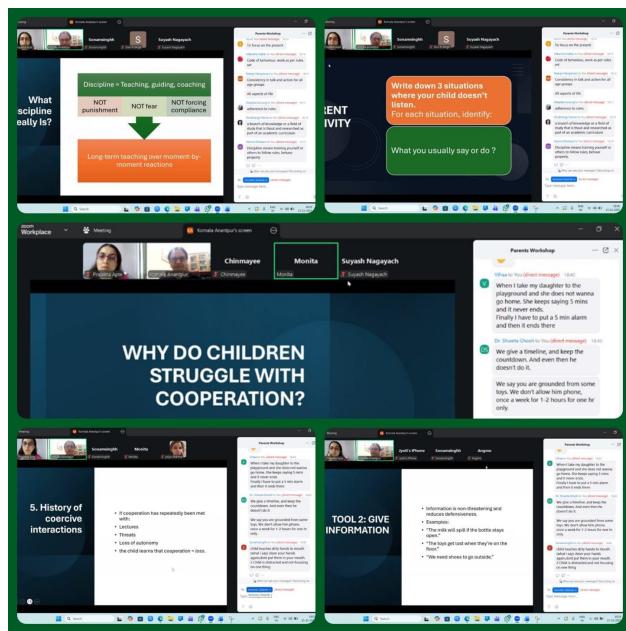
The parent workshop conducted by Ms Komala Anantpur focused on fostering inner strength in children through constructive discipline and proactive parenting. Rather than viewing discipline as a punitive measure, the session redefined it as a skill-building process aimed at self-regulation and long-term personal growth.

Parents identified common struggles, including maintaining consistency, managing screen time, and navigating the contrast between a child's cooperative behaviour at school versus

resistance at home. The lead expert emphasized that children often lack the developmental maturity to cooperate without clear guidance, advocating for proactive management over reactive punishment. Key strategies shared included:

- Effective Communication: Using descriptive language, visual cues, and one-word prompts instead of accusatory tones.
- Modelling Behaviour: Practicing emotional regulation and calmness to teach children how to handle challenges.
- Empowerment: Providing structured choices to build independence.

The session concluded by encouraging parents to focus on building strong connections and life skills rather than immediate compliance through fear.



Design Sprint – PYP 3 – 5

The Design Sprint became a joyful space where children of PYP 3 – 5 over 3 days deep dived into the Design Thinking Process that they were getting into. As a part of efforts to foster imagination and creativity, children were encouraged to think, imagine, question, and create together. Instead of rushing to answers, students learned to pause and look closely at everyday problems—asking why they happen and who they affect. Through role play and group discussions, they stepped into other people's shoes and began to see problems from multiple perspectives.

Imagination flowed freely as students explored magical ideas, animal helpers, and future worlds. Students realised and learnt that there are no “wrong ideas” while starting to create something new. At the same time, gentle structure helped them think critically listening to one another, improving ideas, and choosing solutions with care.

The sprint beautifully balanced fun with thinking, allowing creativity and critical thinking to grow side by side.



PYP Upcoming Updates!

5th January - School reopens after Winter break
7th January- PYP Sports heats begins
7th January - PYP 5 Leadership Camp begins
9th January - PYP 5 Leadership Camp ends
12th January - PYP 1 Leadership Camp
13th January - PYP 2 Leadership Camp
14th January - Sankranti Holiday
19th January - PYP 3 Leadership Camp
22nd January- PYP 4 Leadership Camp begins
23rd January - PYP 4 Leadership Camp ends
23rd January - PYP Sports Day heats end
26th January - Republic Day Holiday
30th January - PYP Sports Day

Middle Years Programme



MYP Half-Yearly Examinations

The MYP Half-Yearly Examinations were conducted successfully, providing students with an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding, skills, and application of concepts developed during the first half of the academic year. These assessments were aligned with MYP criteria and emphasized critical thinking, inquiry, and real-world connections. Students approached the

examinations with focus and responsibility, reflecting their growing confidence as independent learners. We commend them for their sincere efforts and look forward to supporting them further based on the insights gained from these assessments.

Diploma Programme



Grade 11 Team Shines at the National Robotics League (NRL)

Our **Grade 11 students** delivered an outstanding performance at the **National Robotics League (NRL)**, one of **India's most prestigious student robotics championships**, organized by **The Innovation Story** in collaboration with **IIT Bombay**. Competing against nearly **100 teams from across the country**, our students advanced to the **Finals and the Champions Match**, earning national recognition for their innovation, teamwork, and technical excellence.

About the Competition

The NRL challenges students from **Grades 7–12** to apply classroom learning to real-world problems through **hands-on robotics**, strategic arena challenges like the **Battle of Charges**, and an **Innovation Challenge** focused on designing meaningful, socially relevant solutions. The competition reflects national initiatives such as **Robotics for Good**, encouraging ethical and purposeful use of technology.

Our Student Team

The Grade 11 team comprised:

Shreya Trivedi | Anshita Singh | Atharva Wagh | Rithvik Thachappilly | Ravi Ackermann

From ideation and design to programming, testing, and refining their robot, the team demonstrated resilience, creativity, and a strong collaborative spirit throughout the competition.

“The NRL pushed us beyond textbooks. Every challenge required us to think critically, adapt quickly, and work as a true team. Reaching the Champions Match was incredibly rewarding.”

Grade 11 NRL TeamIB CAS & ATL Connections

This experience strongly aligned with **IB CAS** and **Approaches to Learning (ATL)** by fostering:

- **Creativity:** Designing innovative robotics solutions to real-world problems
- **Activity:** Engaging in hands-on construction, testing, and competitive execution
- **Service:** Exploring robotics as a tool for social impact
- **ATL Skills:**
 - *Thinking skills* through problem-solving and innovation
 - *Collaboration skills* via teamwork and shared responsibility
 - *Self-management skills* through perseverance, time management, and reflection

Looking Ahead

With upcoming national platforms such as **DD-Robocon 2026 at IIT Delhi**, our students are well-positioned to continue their journey in robotics, engineering, and STEM leadership.

This achievement reflects not only technical competence but also the **learner's profile attributes of being reflective, risk-taking, and principled innovators**. We congratulate the team for setting a benchmark and inspiring future cohorts.

Aadit Jain (DP 2): Global Recognition in Writing, Thought, and Cinematic Studies

We are delighted to celebrate the exceptional academic and co-curricular achievements of **Aadit Jain, DP 2**, whose work has earned **international recognition across humanities, creative writing, and cinematic studies**, reflecting depth of thought, intellectual courage, and interdisciplinary excellence.

Global Essay Achievements

Aadit has distinguished himself on two of the world's most competitive academic platforms:

- **Shortlisted Finalist – Theology Category, John Locke Institute Global Essay Prize 2025** Selected from **over 63,000 submissions worldwide**, placing Aadit among the **top global candidates**, as confirmed by official communication from the John Locke Institute.
- **Gold Award Winner, The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2025** Awarded by the **Royal Commonwealth Society**, based on judges' recommendation—an honour that recognises originality, clarity of argument, and global perspective.

These achievements highlight Aadit's ability to engage critically with complex philosophical and ethical questions while communicating ideas with precision and insight.

"Writing global platforms taught me to think more deeply about responsibility, belief, and perspective. It pushed me to refine my ideas and my voice."

— Aadit Jain, DP 2Academic Enrichment: USC School of Cinematic Arts

Extending his learning beyond the IB curriculum, Aadit successfully completed a **6-week Summer School Program** at the **University of Southern California - School of Cinematic Arts (USC SCA)**. He earned a **4.0 GPA**, completing **8 college credits** in:

- **Film Business Procedures and Distribution**
- **Studio Producing and Directing**

This experience offered rigorous exposure to industry practices, storytelling, and creative leadership within one of the world's leading film schools.

IB CAS & ATL Alignment

Aadit's journey reflects strong alignment with **IB CAS and Approaches to Learning (ATL)**:

- **Creativity:** Expressing ideas through academic essays and cinematic storytelling
- **Service:** Engaging with global themes, ethics, and shared human values
- **ATL Skills:** *Thinking skills* through critical analysis and synthesis of complex ideas *Communication skills* via persuasive academic and creative writing

Self-management skills demonstrated through independent research, discipline, and academic rigor

Learner Profile in Action

Aadit exemplifies the IB learner profile as a **Thinker, Communicator, Reflective, and Open-Minded** learner- one who pursues excellence while engaging thoughtfully with global contexts.

We congratulate Aadit Jain on these outstanding accomplishments and look forward to his continued contributions as a scholar, storyteller, and global citizen.

College Placement and Counselling Department



Offers 2026

We are immensely proud to celebrate the exceptional achievements of our students who have earned admissions to prestigious universities across the US, UK, Europe, Australia, UAE and beyond during the early application round. Some have also been awarded presidential scholarships, honors programs, dual degree programs and other distinguished recognitions. Their success is a testament to their unwavering dedication, talent and the nurturing environment our school provides.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our students, families and teachers whose collaboration and support have been instrumental throughout this journey.

We remain persistently committed to supporting our students through the regular application cycle and empowering them to realize their academic and personal aspirations.

USA

Arizona State University

Case Western Reserve University

Drexel University

Duke University

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences - Boston

Michigan State University

North Carolina State University

Penn State University

Quinnipiac University

Rochester Institute of Technology

Santa Clara University

University of Miami

University of San Francisco

UK

Imperial College London

King's College London

University of Bath

University of Birmingham

University of Edinburgh

University of Exeter

University of Manchester

University of Nottingham

University of Southampton

Europe

Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands

Leiden University, Netherlands

Les Roches University, Switzerland

Turku University of Applied Sciences, Finland

Australia

University of Melbourne

University of Adelaide

University of Deakin

Monash University

Asia

LAB University of Applied Sciences, Thailand

Middlesex University, Dubai

Classroom Sessions

The Career Counselling and College Placement team has been instrumental in guiding high school students through the college application journey by conducting structured classroom sessions and providing a comprehensive roadmap. By delivering timely, organized information, we ensure students gain clarity on their options while avoiding the overwhelm that often accompanies this critical process.

To further support student decision-making, the team conducted a comprehensive orientation for Grade 10 students covering:

- IB Diploma Program
- IB Career-related Program
- Subject Selection
- Future College Placement Pathways

Orientation Agenda

1. Program Fundamentals

Key facts about DP and CP

Overview of DP and CP curriculum

2. Subject Exploration

Subjects offered at Indus International School Pune (IISP)

Examples of subject choice combinations

3. Guided Decision-Making

Strategic considerations for subject selection

How to align choices with future aspirations

This structured approach empowers students to make informed decisions with confidence and clarity, ensuring they understand their options without feeling overwhelmed by the process.





Shadowship Program: Winter 2025

The Career Counselling team is thrilled to present the Shadowship Program Winter 2025, made possible through the generous support of our parent community. Each year, our dedicated parents open doors to their organizations and professional networks, offering our high school students invaluable real-world experiences across diverse industries. This collaborative effort reflects our school's commitment to bridging the gap between classroom learning and professional practice.

Through their mentorship and guidance, students gain authentic insights into potential career paths, develop essential workplace skills and build meaningful connections with industry professionals—all at no cost. We are deeply grateful to our parent body for their continued dedication to empowering our students with these transformative learning opportunities.

This winter, students had the opportunity to shadow professionals across the following industries:

- **Architecture**
- **Bajaj Market/Finance**
- **Banking**
- **Hospitality**
- **Legal**
- **Marine Engineering & Ship Building**
- **Marketing, Media & entertainment**
- **Diplomacy**

- Pharmaceutical
- Software Company



Career-Focused Learning Opportunities

The Career Counselling team is committed to supporting the students' academic journey by curating diverse, timely opportunities that strengthen their profile and clarify future direction. The team is actively connecting students with programs that align with individual interests and aspirations—providing application guidance, personalized recommendations, and strategic planning to help them build a compelling college narrative.

The following opportunities were shared in December 2025:

IIT Madras — January 2026 Online Certificates (Grades 10–12)

Registrations are open for 8-week beginner-friendly courses offering hands-on, project-oriented learning across STEM, humanities and interdisciplinary topics (e.g., Data Science & AI, Electronic Systems, Architecture & Design, Ecology, Economics, Aerospace, and a new Game Tech Explorers course). These certificates are excellent for exploring future pathways and strengthening student portfolios.

Plaksha University — Academic Research Writing Program (Grades 9–12)

A seven-week online course that guides students from a research idea to a 2,000-word academic manuscript. With a 1:5 mentorship ratio, personalized feedback, a certificate of completion and prizes for top papers, this program builds rigorous research skills—ideal for students aiming to showcase academic initiative in college applications.

Mpower — Psychology Pathfinders Winter Mentorship (Grades 9–12)

A fully online, experiential program in psychology and mental health. Participants earn Teen Mental Health First Aid (TMHFA) certification, attend expert masterclasses, explore diverse career paths, gain industry insights, and receive a 20-hour mentorship certificate and transcript—valuable credentials for mental-health and social-science interests.

Alumni Connect

Saransh Agrawal — Class of 2024 (Carnegie Mellon University - USA)

Belonging, One Step at a Time

It's been almost two years since I graduated from Indus. I'm studying Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU). I've been learning and working with the most intriguing computational concepts — randomized treaps in my parallel algorithms course, Monte Carlo Turing machines in my computational theory class, and Kalman filters on the software team of the Robotic Buggy club (and I've been loving it). CMU has some of the coolest and most interesting people I've met. For example, it's not uncommon to bump into someone who will give you an abridged crash course on chip manufacturing at a random whiteboard in the library. That kind of contagious curiosity is everywhere at CMU, and it's what convinces me that there's nowhere else I'd rather be.

And the best part: as you go through school and college and beyond, you get to figure out where (or what) “nowhere else I’d rather be” means for you.

It doesn’t have to be just one place either. I found a similar sense of belonging off campus. Last summer, I worked at Amazon as a Software Engineering Intern, developing an AI-driven workflow testing feature for AWS users. I had a great summer in Seattle where I met amazing engineers and got experience with core tech concepts like resiliency...and yes, a fair share of tech buzzwords too. I loved interacting with other interns over lunch or while diving deep into some highly specialized component of the tech stack we had just learned about. It was a different kind of community, built around teamwork, ownership, and shared problem-solving.

At the end of the day, most of us are just looking for a place where we feel that we belong. I found that sense of belonging at Carnegie Mellon and then while working at Amazon, and it’s deeply fulfilling. But I’m not done yet. I’ll be at CMU for only a couple more years, my Amazon internship lasted just one summer, and so will my Roblox internship this upcoming summer. I’ve learned that belonging isn’t something you find once, it’s something you keep searching for. So here’s a bit of unsolicited advice that’s worked for me: chase that sense of belonging. Leverage the challenges and opportunities that school, college and life throw at you, however daunting they may feel. Keep asking yourself, “What’s next?” and let that question guide you toward the places and people that make you feel challenged, curious, and at home.



Sania Goel – Class of 2023 (University of California, San Diego - USA)

Sania Goel, a proud alumna currently thriving at University of California, San Diego (UCSD), is pursuing Business Economics with a minor in Entrepreneurship and Innovation—a testament to her passion for understanding the dynamic world of business strategy and corporate decision-making. Studying at one of the nation's premier institutions, Sania has distinguished herself through rigorous coursework and practical application. Her professors, bringing extensive industry expertise into the classroom, have equipped her with sophisticated skills spanning negotiations, financial analysis, economics, marketing, and comprehensive business operations. The analytical foundation and critical thinking abilities she honed during her school years have proven invaluable in navigating these complex university-level concepts.

Beyond academics, Sania has demonstrated remarkable initiative and professional maturity. As a Startup and Venture Capital Intern at Startup Grind and Seamless Ventures, she actively explores innovation landscapes, evaluates emerging startups across diverse industries, and contributes to ecosystem growth. Serving as Senior Quantitative Analyst at the student-led Hedge Fund Club, Sania applies her analytical prowess to real investment scenarios, while simultaneously working as a photographer for a campus creative magazine—balancing her analytical pursuits with artistic vision to embody a well-rounded professional.

The discipline, work ethic, and problem-solving skills cultivated during her school years have been instrumental in Sania's university success. Her ability to balance multiple commitments—from rigorous coursework to internships to campus involvement—reflects the resilience and time-management capabilities her school education instilled. She stands as an inspiring example of how our alumni continue to excel and lead in their chosen fields, ready to make her mark in the world of business and entrepreneurship.



Aarzoo Gilani – Class of 2024 (Toronto Metropolitan University - Canada)

From Curiosity to Leadership

My time at Toronto Metropolitan University has been transformative—a blend of rigorous academics and meaningful community building that has fundamentally shaped who I am and how I approach the world.

Arriving from Indus International School Pune, the transition to university life initially felt daunting. But it became a crucible for growth. Pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (Honours) with a Minor in Business Essentials gave me something invaluable: a dual lens on human behaviour and organizational thinking. Psychology taught me to listen and understand; business essentials grounded that understanding in practical, real-world contexts. Together, they've equipped me with both empathy and pragmatism—qualities I've leaned on throughout my university experience.

More importantly, I learned that independence and resilience aren't just buzzwords. They're built through small moments of showing up when things feel unfamiliar, asking questions when confused, and staying curious even when challenged.

My most rewarding experiences have come through service to our campus community. As Finance Officer for the TMU Psychology Student Association, I've moved beyond the title—managing budgets and governance reports, yes, but more meaningfully, enabling student

initiatives that might otherwise remain ideas. Seeing a proposal transform into a real event or program has been deeply satisfying.

Yet my heart has truly come alive in the role of Vice President - Events for the Indian Students Association. There's something magical about planning cultural celebrations that bring people together across backgrounds. From brainstorming sessions with a handful of passionate volunteers to events that draw hundreds of students, I've learned that logistics and vision must dance together. Every event is a reminder that community isn't built by individuals—it's built by people choosing to show up for each other.

As an Arts Orientation Leader, I had the privilege of welcoming incoming students during their most vulnerable transition. Sharing my own stumbles and victories, I watched students transform from nervous newcomers into confident members of our community. That role taught me that leadership is often simply about creating safe spaces for others to find their footing.

Toronto Metropolitan University has been my classroom and my testing ground. It's where I've learned that growth happens at the intersection of challenge and support, where diverse perspectives create stronger communities, and where genuine connection makes all the difference.

I'm stepping into the next chapter with confidence, empathy, and a commitment to carrying these values forward.



Upcoming Events

9th January 2026: Workshop on Introduction to College Counselling for MYP 5 students & parents (online)

14th January 2026: UCAS Application deadline (UK applications)

16th January 2026: Workshop on College Applications for DP1/CP1 students & parents

30th January 2026: Career Talk

IISP Boarding



Update from the Boarding Office

December was a fulfilling and well-balanced month for the boarding students, combining academics, life skills, safety awareness, celebrations, and enrichment activities.

Students participated in a boarding counselling workshop focusing on well-being, inclusivity, and personal safety, followed by an emergency evacuation drill involving all boarding houses to reinforce safety preparedness. Academic focus remained strong through structured study sessions in boarding, support classes, and regular chess coaching, helping students prepare effectively for their examinations.

The festive season brought joy with the Christmas celebration in boarding, where students presented a skit, dances, and musical performances, and later enjoyed fun activities together. The celebrations extended to the Christmas Carnival and Winter Flea Market for PYP boarders, creating a lively and joyful community atmosphere.

Regular circle-up sessions by the Boarding House Parents (BHPs) reinforced boarding guidelines and discipline, with special emphasis on packing for the winter break. During the 1st semester in the Hobby clubs students explored creativity, fitness, and mindfulness.

As the term concluded, students were warmly bid farewell by the BHPs, who accompanied them for airport drops and wished them a joyful and safe holiday season.

Overall, December was a meaningful month that reflected holistic growth, festive spirit, and thoughtful preparation for the winter break.

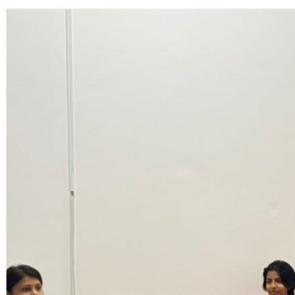
1st December: Workshop by Boarding Counsellors

A workshop on “Inclusive Sex Education for Health and Safety” was conducted to promote age-appropriate awareness, emotional well-being, and personal safety among students. The session provided accurate information in a respectful and inclusive manner, encouraging healthy attitudes toward oneself and others.

Key topics included understanding physical and emotional changes during adolescence, respecting personal and others’ boundaries, the concept of consent, and recognizing safe and unsafe situations. Emphasis was also placed on inclusivity, helping students appreciate diversity in identities and experiences while fostering empathy and mutual respect. Students were guided on making informed choices and seeking support from trusted adults to ensure their overall health and safety.

The workshop was interactive, creating a safe and non-judgmental space for students to ask questions and engage in discussions. Overall, the session helped build awareness, confidence, and responsible decision-making skills, contributing positively to students’ holistic development and well-being.



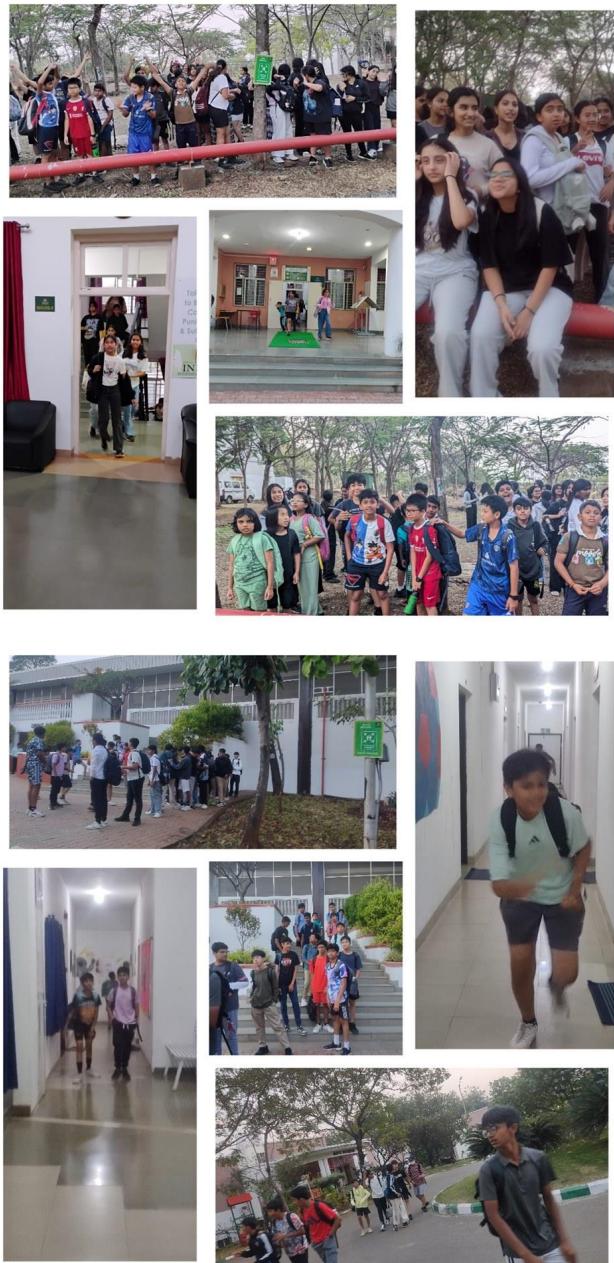






1st December: Emergency Evacuation Drill

Boarding students from all three boarding houses participated in an Emergency Evacuation Drill conducted to strengthen their awareness of emergency safety procedures. When the alarm sounded, students promptly left their rooms, followed the guided exit routes, and assembled at the designated safety points under the supervision of their house parents. The drill helped students understand the importance of staying calm, moving in an orderly manner, and following instructions during an emergency. It also ensured that everyone is familiar with the evacuation plan and can respond efficiently if a real situation arises. Overall, the drill was well-executed and served as a valuable learning experience for all boarding students.





11th December: Christmas Celebration and Party

The boarding students came together to celebrate Christmas with great joy, warmth, and festive excitement. The evening began with a beautiful skit performed by the PYP students, showcasing the birth of Jesus Christ and explaining the true meaning of Christmas. This thoughtful performance helped everyone understand the significance of the festival. The celebration continued with energetic dance performances by the MYP girls, followed by a music presentation by the boys, who confidently displayed their musical talents. All the performances added charm and spirit to the evening. The entire event was wonderfully planned and guided by Ms. Meera, who, along with her students, decorated the entire badminton court with lights, festive décor, and creative displays, transforming it into a joyful Christmas arena. After the performances, the fun moved to exciting games of musical chairs for all the students. The highlight of the evening was when the house parents also joined in, bringing laughter and enthusiasm to the activity. Sweet treats like fresh brownies and refreshing mojitos were enjoyed by all, adding a delicious touch to the celebrations. It was a heart-warming evening filled with creativity, togetherness, and the true Christmas spirit.













14th December: Christmas Carnival for PYP Boarders

The students had a delightful time at the Christmas Carnival & Winter Flea Market held at the Forest Trails Township Tennis Court. Vivaan Singh, Pitchayadol, Krushna Dagade, Sukonchaj, Sukranjai, Yash Galande, Kopkunlap, and Aarna Mishra thoroughly enjoyed the festive atmosphere, colourful stalls, and a variety of delicious treats including cookies, brownies, donuts, cupcakes, and hot chocolate. The cheerful decorations and lively activities made the evening truly memorable. The students were accompanied by Ms. Puja Grover and Ms Ujwala

Kamble, whose presence ensured their well-being and added to the warmth and enjoyment of the outing. It was a wonderful festive experience filled with joy, laughter, and Christmas spirit.



Study at Boarding

The morning activity and evening prep time were effectively utilized by the boarding students to prepare for the upcoming HYE examinations. Students remained in their rooms and focused on their studies in a disciplined manner. While some attended online classes for additional support,

others revised their syllabus either independently or through group study. This structured use of time helped students consolidate their learning and stay focused on their academic goals.

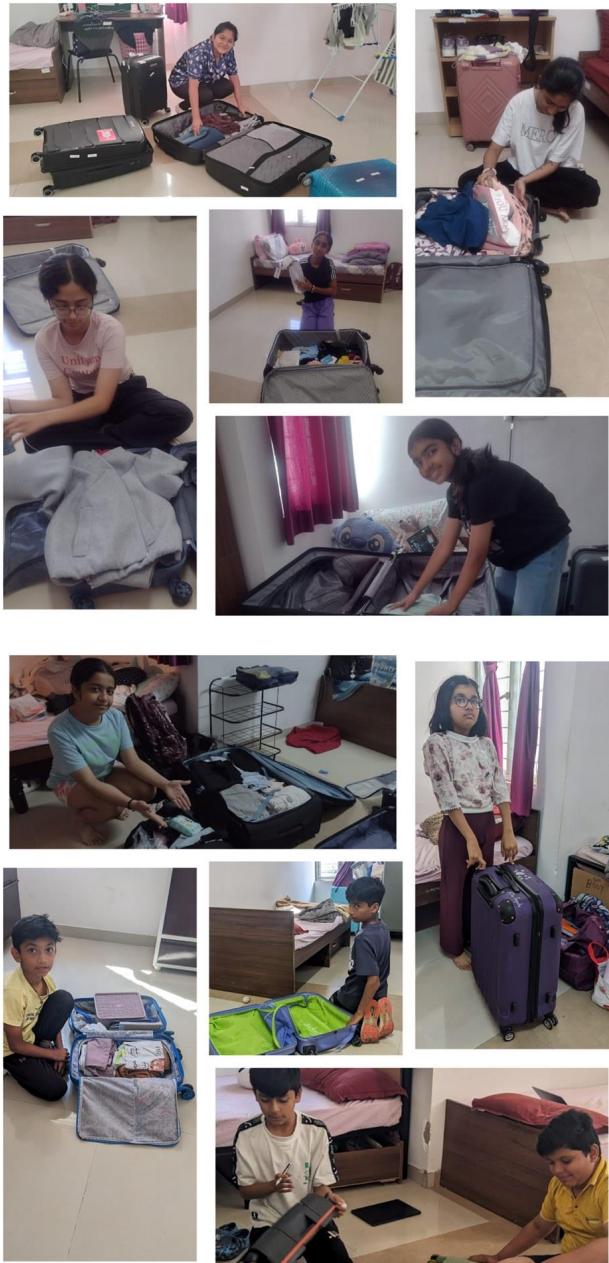




Packing for Winter Break

As part of the boarding routine, students were guided through a packing session in preparation for the winter break. The house parents supported and supervised the students as they neatly organized their belongings, ensuring all essentials were packed and personal items were properly arranged. The session also served as a reminder to be responsible, organized, and mindful of their belongings while traveling home. Students actively participated and completed

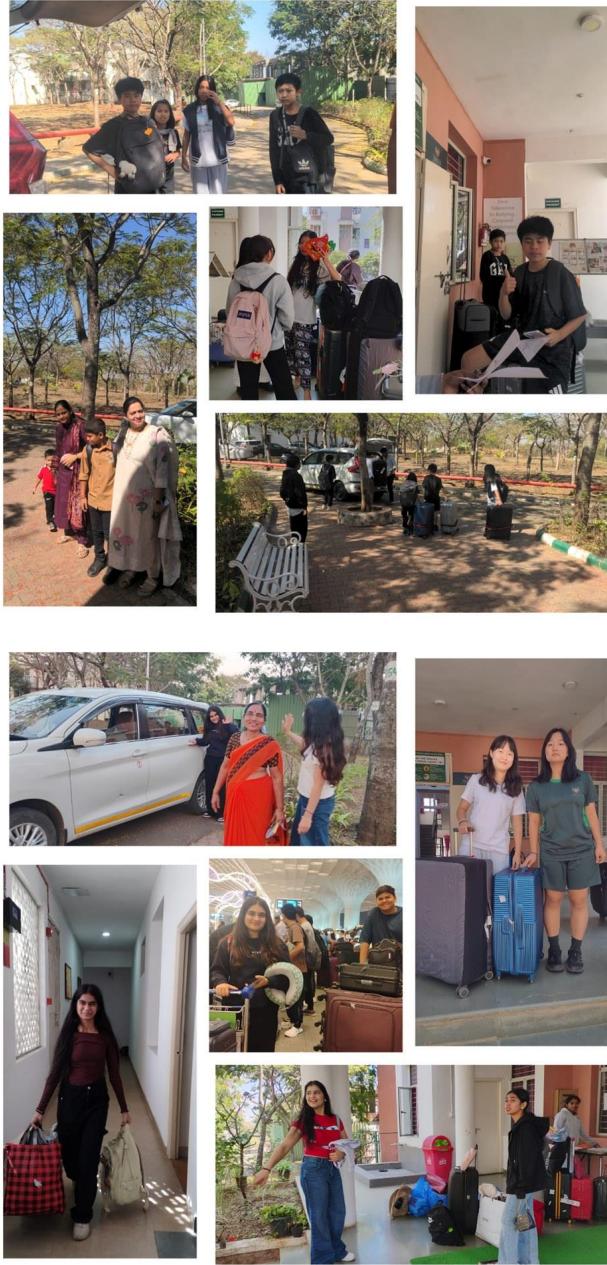
the task in a calm and orderly manner, making the preparation for the winter break smooth and well-managed.



Exit for Winter Break

As the exams were over, the boarding campus was filled with mixed emotions as students prepared to leave for the winter break. With bags packed and rooms neatly organized, students wrapped up their routines, shared warm goodbyes with friends, and reflected on the experiences and learning of the past months.

The Boarding House Parents ensured a smooth departure, accompanying students for their airport drops and wishing them a safe journey and happy holidays. As the campus gradually grew quieter, students left carrying memories, friendships, and renewed energy to spend time with their families. We look forward to welcoming them back in January, refreshed and ready for a new beginning.





Chess Coaching

As part of the regular chess coaching programme, a Simultaneous Chess Competition was organized at Indus International School on December 4th, 2025, featuring FM Aniruddha Deshpande. The FIDE Master played a simul against 10 students, giving them valuable competitive exposure.

The event was engaging and enriching, and Jeff Ratani, Ajita Ingale, and Shankar Inamdar emerged as the winners, earning special recognition for their performance. The competition motivated students to further strengthen their chess skills and passion for the game.



Math and Science Support Classes for Grades 6, 7 & 8

As part of the regular academic support programme, extra classes were conducted to help students strengthen their understanding of key subjects for boarders from grades 6, 7 and 8. Science support sessions were taken by Ms. Geetanjali on Fridays and Saturdays, focusing on concept clarity and doubt-solving. In addition, Maths support classes were conducted by Mr. Aris on weekdays after school, helping students reinforce fundamentals and build confidence through guided practice. These sessions provided valuable additional support to enhance students' learning and academic progress.



Circle up & Boarding Meetings

As part of regular practice, the Boarding House Parents (BHPs) conduct weekly sessions with students to reinforce boarding guidelines and the importance of discipline in boarding life. This week's session reminded the boarders of the need to respect the personal boundaries of fellow students, maintain discipline and respect at all times, follow the guidance regarding good touch and bad touch. They also focused on guiding students on how to properly pack and organize their belongings in preparation for the winter break, ensuring responsibility and readiness before departure. Moreover, the boarders were encouraged to always report any issues or concerns that they encounter immediately to the respective BHP or boarding counsellor.



Hobby Clubs

Karate and Self Defense: Mr. Shamsher Alam

The Karate and Self-Défense Hobby Club successfully completed for the 1st semester under the expert guidance of Mr. Shamsher Alam. Conducted every Saturday from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, the club provided boarding students with structured training in self-defence techniques and martial arts fundamentals. Students learned practical tactics essential for personal safety, along with strength-building exercises. Equal importance was given to mental well-being through guided meditation sessions, helping students develop focus, balance, discipline, and resilience. The club played a significant role in building confidence, self-awareness, and overall holistic growth among participants.



Cooking and Baking: Ms. Ujwala Kamble & Ms. Meera

The Cooking and Baking Hobby Club offered students hands-on exposure to essential culinary skills in an engaging and creative environment. Students learned basic cooking techniques such as knife skills and preparing simple everyday meals, along with baking essentials like cakes, cookies, and sandwiches. The club also emphasized healthy cooking practices, smart ingredient choices, and presentation skills, including plating and decorating. Through guided demonstrations and practice, students built confidence in the kitchen, explored their creativity, collaborated with peers, and took home recipes and creations after every session.



Board Games: Ms. Neena Srivastava

The Board Games Hobby Club focused on encouraging students to step away from electronic gadgets and engage in meaningful group interactions. Through a variety of board games, students developed patience, mindfulness, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Initially hesitant, students gradually explored different games, learned rules independently, and actively participated. They made new friends, taught each other new games, and worked collaboratively as teams. Occasional competitions with time-bound challenges further enhanced engagement, concentration, and enthusiasm.



Cross-Fit & Training : Mr. Mahesh Gulia

The Trekking and CrossFit Hobby Club, led by Mr. Mahesh, focused on enhancing students' physical fitness, endurance, and mental strength through structured workouts and outdoor activities. Students participated in CrossFit exercises that improved strength, stamina, agility, and overall body conditioning, along with trekking activities that encouraged perseverance, teamwork, and a connection with nature. The club helped students develop discipline, resilience, and a positive attitude towards fitness while promoting healthy habits, confidence, and an active lifestyle.



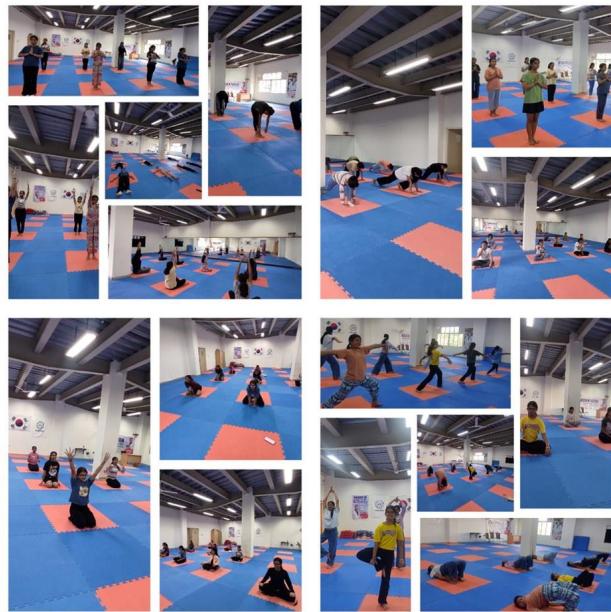
Traditional Games: Mr. Akshay Mujumale

The Traditional Games Hobby Club reintroduced students to age-old games such as Hit the Ball, Land and River, Middle Monkey, and Rumal Pani. These games promoted physical activity, social bonding, and cognitive development while keeping students joyfully engaged and away from gadgets. Students played fearlessly, laughed wholeheartedly, and experienced the pure joy of group play. The club helped students develop teamwork, focus, hand-eye coordination, strategic thinking, aim, attention, and strong team spirit.



Yoga & Meditation : Ms. Rachna Rangray

The Yoga and Meditation Hobby Club, guided by Ms. Rachna, provided students with a calm and structured space to nurture both physical health and mental well-being. Through regular practice of yoga asanas, breathing techniques, and guided meditation, students learned the importance of balance, flexibility, strength, and inner awareness. The sessions helped improve focus, self-discipline, posture, and emotional regulation, while also reducing stress and anxiety. This hobby club played a key role in promoting mindfulness, self-care, and a healthy lifestyle, empowering students to develop calmness, focus, resilience, and clarity in their daily lives.



Music: Mr. Stephen Garrison

The Music Hobby Club provided a nurturing platform for students to explore and develop their musical talents in a joyful and inspiring environment. Students were introduced to the basics of music, including rhythm, melody, harmony, and proper vocal or instrumental techniques. They explored vocals and instruments such as keyboard, guitar, drums, and percussion at their own pace. Through regular practice, group performances, and interactive activities, students built confidence, discipline, teamwork, and stage presence. The club aimed to instil not only musical skills but also a lifelong appreciation for music and the happiness and harmony it brings.



Wall Art: Ms. Aruna Yadav

The Wall Art initiative by Ms. Aruna enhanced the school and boarding spaces by adding colour, warmth, and positivity. It encouraged creativity, self-expression, and appreciation for art while promoting values such as discipline, respect, empathy, and responsibility. Displaying student artwork boosted confidence and a sense of ownership, while the attractive visuals improved engagement and supported emotional well-being by creating a calm and uplifting environment.



Upcoming Events in January

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|---|
| 1 | 3-Jan-26 | Saturday | Boarders report to Boarding after Winter Break |
| 2 | 4-Jan-26 | Sunday | Boarders report to Boarding after Winter Break |
| 3 | 10-Jan-26 | Saturday | BHPs to reinforce rules, set expectations and conduct room checks |
| 4 | 11-Jan-26 | Sunday | Indus Bhugao-Bhukum Community Run |
| 5 | 14-Jan-26 | Wednesday | Makar Sankranti - Kite Flying Activity |
| 6 | 17-Jan-26 | Saturday | Workshop by Boarding Counsellors |
| 7 | 18-Jan-26 | Sunday | Bingo Games |
| 8 | 24-Jan-26 | Saturday | Lunch Outing for Girls |
| 9 | 25-Jan-26 | Sunday | Lunch outing for Boys |
| 10 | 26-Jan-26 | Monday | Republic Day Celebrations |
| 11 | 31-Jan-26 | Saturday | Campus Clean Drive |

Sports



Schoolympic Swimming Competition

Day 1:

- *4x100m Freestyle Relay (U14 Girls): Second place*
- *4x100m Freestyle Relay (U14 Boys): Third place*
- *Finals qualifiers: Trisha (U12), Sara (U14)*

Day 2:

- *Medley Relay (U12 Girls): First place*

- *U14 Boys: Third place*
- *Finals qualifier: Sara (U14)*

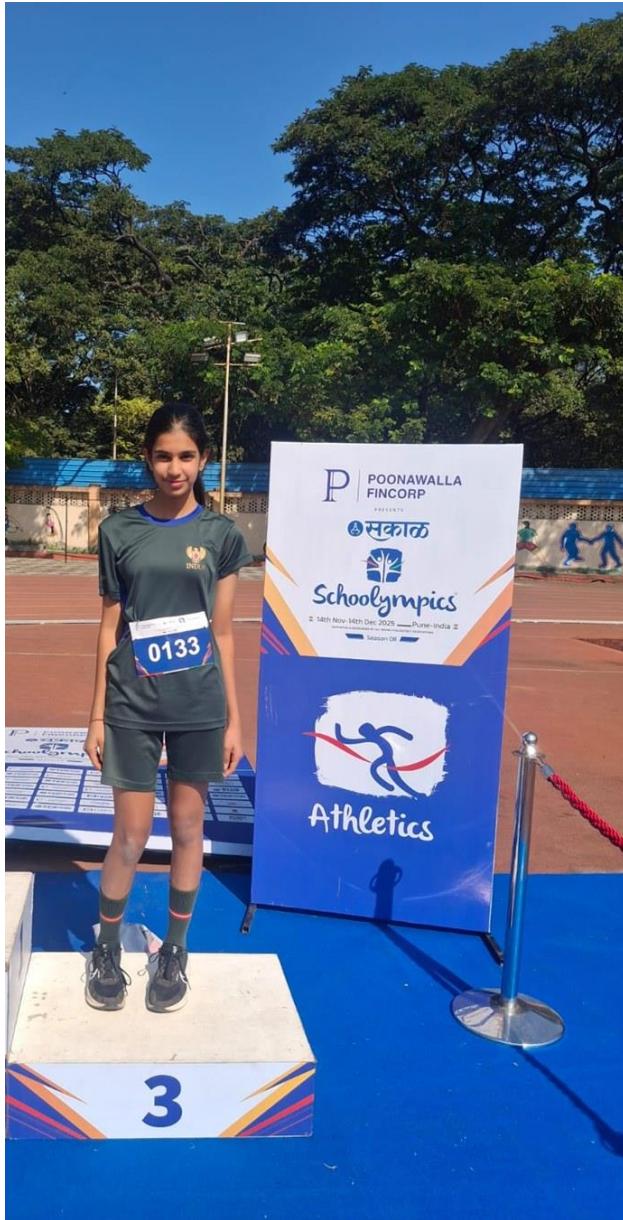


Athletics Schoolympics

Held at Baburao Sanas Ground, Pune on 10–11 December 2025.

- **Medalists:**

- *Reyansh Jagtap (Grade 7): Silver — Discus Throw (Boys U14)*
- *Vihana Shah (Grade 8): Bronze — High Jump (Girls U14)*



National Level Achievements

Anant Sathe: Bronze in Fencing at the 69th School Games Nationals, representing Team Maharashtra.

Shaili: Represented ISSO at the 69th School Games Nationals in Delhi (third consecutive year), competing in the 400 IM (U17 Girls); improved her ISSO time by 4 seconds and placed in the top 15.





Staff Achievements

We are pleased to share that **Mr. Amit** has successfully completed the **Generative AI Foundations Certificate** from **upGrad** in collaboration with **Microsoft**. This certification reflects his commitment to staying at the forefront of emerging technologies and integrating innovative, future-ready skills into his professional practice.

In addition, Mr. Amit has also completed the **first submission of his Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA)** from the **European Global Business School – Institute of Innovation & Technology**. This milestone marks a significant step in his advanced academic journey, showcasing his dedication to research, leadership, and continuous professional growth.

We congratulate Mr. Amit on these achievements and wish him continued success in his academic and professional pursuits.





We are proud to share that **Mr. Rajeevan V V** has successfully completed the **Generative AI Foundations Certificate Program** offered by **upGrad** in collaboration with **Microsoft**. The certification was awarded on **16th December 2025** after successful completion of all program modules, including prompt engineering, AI-powered research, analysis, automation, and problem-solving.

This achievement reflects his strong commitment to upskilling in emerging technologies and staying aligned with advancements in artificial intelligence and digital innovation.



We are pleased to share that **Mr. Jayakrishnan Nair** has successfully completed the **IB Category 3 professional development workshop** titled **“Leading an IB Education – Leadership.”**

This **one-month-long online workshop**, designed specifically for **senior IB leaders**, focused on strengthening leadership practices within the IB framework. Mr. Nair completed the workshop on **3rd December 2025**, further reinforcing his commitment to academic leadership and continuous professional growth.

We congratulate Mr. Jayakrishnan Nair on this achievement and commend his dedication to enhancing leadership capacity within the IB community.



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

Jaykrishnan Nair

successfully completed the workshop

Leading an IB education (Cat.3)

Leadership

During the Online - November 2025 event, from November 5, 2025 to December 3, 2025.

The workshops were organized by the IB Online Professional Development department and were led by experienced practitioners of the IB.

December 3, 2025

Cynthia H. Farrar
Director of Professional Learning Development & Delivery

Attendance at all IB online workshops is worth a minimum of 16 hours of instruction.

International Baccalaureate Organization
IB Foundation Office
Rue du Pre-de-la-Bichette 1
1211 Geneva
Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 309 25 40
E-mail: support@ib.org
Web: www.ibo.org

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We are pleased to share that **Ms. Sharmila Karnad** has successfully completed the **IB Educator Certificate (IBEC) in Teaching and Learning**. We had received her earlier submission regarding this achievement, and we are delighted to update that she has now received her final report with an **overall grade of A+**.

This excellent outcome reflects Ms. Karnad's strong pedagogical understanding, commitment to IB teaching practices, and dedication to professional excellence. We congratulate her on this commendable achievement and wish her continued success in her professional journey.

Faculty Achievement: Appointment as IB Examiner

We are pleased to share that **Capt. Rajiv Bali**, Director of Administration and IBDP Business Management teacher, has been **officially appointed as an IB Examiner for Business Management and Theory of Knowledge** in the Diploma/Career-related Programme.

This prestigious role involves evaluating student work from IB schools around the world and upholding the high assessment standards of the International Baccalaureate. Capt. Bali's selection reflects his strong subject expertise, deep understanding of the IB philosophy, and commitment to academic excellence.

His contribution as an examiner will further strengthen our school's teaching and learning practices and enrich the academic experience for our students.

We congratulate Capt. Bali on this significant achievement and wish him continued success in his professional journey.

Completion of IB Professional Development workshop



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

Pratima Talekar

successfully completed the workshop

Leading the learning - PYP (Cat.2)

Primary Years Programme

During the Online - November 2025 event, from November 5, 2025 to December 3, 2025.

The workshops were organized by the IB Online Professional Development department
and were led by experienced practitioners of the IB.

December 3, 2025

Cynthia H. Farrar
Director of Professional Learning Development &
Delivery

Attendance at all IB online workshops is worth a minimum of 16 hours of instruction.

International Baccalaureate Organization
IB Foundation Office
Route de la Bichette 1
1202 Geneva
Switzerland
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1 - Ms. Pratima Talekar - Leading the Learning – PYP (Category 2)



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

Angelica Fernandez

successfully completed the workshop
Making space for learning (Cat.2)

Primary Years Programme

During the Online - November 2025 event, from November 5, 2025 to December 3, 2025.

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and were led by experienced practitioners of the IB.

December 3, 2025

Cynthia H. Farrar
Director of Professional Learning Development &
Delivery

Attendance at all IB online workshops is worth a minimum of 16 hours of instruction.

2 - Ms. Angelica Fernandez - Making space for learning - PYP (Category 2)



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

Yamini Arora

successfully completed the workshop
Learning and teaching for conceptual understanding (Cat.2)

Primary Years Programme

During the Online - November 2025 event, from November 5, 2025 to December 3, 2025.

The workshops were organized by the IB Online Professional Development department
and were led by experienced practitioners of the IB.

December 3, 2025

Cynthia H. Farrar
Director of Professional Learning Development &
Delivery

Attendance at all IB online workshops is worth a minimum of 16 hours of instruction.

3 - Ms. Yamini Arora – Learning and teaching for conceptual understanding – PYP (Category 2)



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

Ritika Dasgupta

successfully completed the workshop

Leading the learning - PYP (Cat.2)

Primary Years Programme

During the Online - November 2025 event, from November 5, 2025 to December 3, 2025.

The workshops were organized by the IB Online Professional Development department
and were led by experienced practitioners of the IB.

December 3, 2025

Cynthia H. Farrar
Director of Professional Learning Development &
Delivery

Attendance at all IB online workshops is worth a minimum of 16 hours of instruction.

4 - Ms. Ritika Dasgupta – Leading the learning – PYP (Category 2)



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

Kalpana Sharma

successfully completed the workshop

Connecting subjects to create a coherent PYP curriculum (Cat.3)

Primary Years Programme

During the Online - November 2025 event, from November 5, 2025 to December 3, 2025.

The workshops were organized by the IB Online Professional Development department
and were led by experienced practitioners of the IB.

December 3, 2025

Cynthia H. Farrar
Director of Professional Learning Development &
Delivery

Attendance at all IB online workshops is worth a minimum of 16 hours of instruction.

5 - Ms. Kalpana Sharma – Connecting subjects to create a coherent PYP curriculum – PYP (Category 3)



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

Swati Parekh

successfully completed the workshop

Connecting subjects to create a coherent PYP curriculum (Cat.3)

Primary Years Programme

During the Online - November 2025 event, from November 5, 2025 to December 3, 2025.

The workshops were organized by the IB Online Professional Development department and were led by experienced practitioners of the IB.

December 3, 2025

Cynthia H. Farrar
Director of Professional Learning Development & Delivery

Attendance at all IB online workshops is worth a minimum of 16 hours of instruction.

6 - Ms. Swati Parekh – Connecting subjects to create a coherent PYP curriculum – PYP (Category 3)



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

Amruta Ujjainkar

successfully completed the workshop

Learning and teaching for conceptual understanding (Cat.2)

Primary Years Programme

During the Online - November 2025 event, from November 5, 2025 to December 3, 2025.

The workshops were organized by the IB Online Professional Development department and were led by experienced practitioners of the IB.

December 3, 2025

Cynthia H. Farrar
Director of Professional Learning Development & Delivery

Attendance at all IB online workshops is worth a minimum of 16 hours of instruction.

7 - Ms. Amruta Ujjainkar – Learning and teaching for conceptual understanding – PYP (Category 2)