

SASTHAMANGALAM

**TECHNOPARK** 

Week 32 Tuesday 27 February 2024

# **Executive Director's Message**



As we conclude the month of February, I am pleased to share an overview of the recent events that took place across the TRINS Group of Schools: The Charter School in Cochin successfully hosted its inaugural Grade 12 graduation ceremony, marking a significant milestone in the School's history and for the students as they embark on a new chapter in their lives.

Last Saturday, The Charter School also came together to celebrate the School's Annual Day, where students showcased their talents for a truly electric atmosphere. I look forward to visiting Cochin International School's PYP exhibition and Grade 5 graduation next month. Meanwhile, at TRINS, a series of activities were organised across all grade levels. The EY

and PYP students actively participated in the Swimming Gala, showcasing their skills and energy. The STEM Exhibition, on the other hand, was a testament to student agency, with well-researched and well-presented exhibits showing high clarity of thought and strong collaboration. Thanking the core team Ms. Geomi, Ms. Lekshmi J, and Dr. Uma for their efforts.

Grade 8 students are diligently preparing for their upcoming Personal Project exhibition, scheduled for the 2nd of March at ASB, which I eagerly await after having seen the previews last week. I appreciate all the hard work put in by the coordinator Ms. Bindu and form teachers Ms. Devika and Ms. Renjini with support from Ms. Devasree and Ms. Arya.

A very interesting talk I'd attended at the Mathrubhumi Festival of Letters was about opposing narratives and what that looks like for people of different places with different lived experiences and realities.

Our own IBDP visual art exhibition was an absolute treat for me to witness the unique approaches and media employed by the students to share their own personal stories and interpretations to a host of diverse themes. I would like to thank Ms. Sona Sakthi and Ms. Rachel for guiding these students. This month our students led by the Round Square society, as part of their fundraising initiative, helped our cleaning staff. They organised pop up stores for handmade greeting cards, jewellery, baked goodies and more. They were able to purchase some household supplies for our chechis, some of whom have been with us for over 13 years. A special thanks to Ms.Sangeetha and Ms. Bindu for their support to the students in this initiative.

February also marked the successful completion of the student-led teaching program at four government schools. The initiative of our Grade 11 students dedicating their Wednesdays to teach English to government primary schools is a tradition as old as the School itself, and continues to leave a lasting impact on our students and the communities they serve. I want to extend my thanks to the social service coordinator Ms. Ambili Balan and the entire team Ms. Jeena, Ms. Sini Jijo, Ms. Krishnendu and Ms. Sonia Mathew. In the meantime, our student council selection process is steadily progressing after a series of campaigns and group discussions, for which I thank Ms. Amoolya.

To each and every one of you, I want to extend my gratitude for your dedication and efforts in ensuring these events and activities are a success.



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# **Principal's Message**



The partnerships TRINS has with local government schools are long established. That our Grade 11 students are able to go to these schools and work with the pupils there gives our own students the opportunity to develop leadership skills, to be organised and to demonstrate initiative. I am grateful to the head teachers of Andoor LPS, Kayilothukonam LPS, Korani LPS and Manalakam LPS for welcoming our students over the past months. This service project culminated over the past two Wednesdays with pupils visiting TRINS to celebrate the accomplishments of this collaboration.

Collaboration was also evident when experiencing the PYP STEM Fair last week. Students had worked in groups to

explore different aspects of sustainability and presented their findings on how a scientific approach offers ways of protecting our planet. There was a tremendous amount of research and ongoing learning on display. This emphasis on active learning will again be seen this coming Saturday. The Grade 8 Personal Project will reach its exciting climax at the Asian School of Business. As in previous years, there will be a range of projects on display; the common theme will be the enthusiasm the students have for their projects which they have been working on since the end of the last academic year.

I am honoured to have been nominated for the Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Award, particularly when I look at the other nominees from TRINS. You will see that, apart from me, there are another six nominees from TRINS - in addition to the four teachers named last week. I would also like to thank those parents and students who have taken the time to nominate a teacher from TRINS.

Mr. Richard Hillebrand

# **Round Square**

Round Square schools are characterised by a shared belief in an approach to education built around six themes, the IDEALS –

Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service. The ethos of Trivandrum International School align well with these IDEALS, as evident from the various platforms and the opportunities given to the students over the year.

Apart from being a green campus, we encourage the students to take an active interest in – and concern for – all natural environments. One such initiative was taken up by the Biology department under the theme of "Environmentalism" to explore the greenery that shapes the ambience of the 18 acre Trivandrum International School campus. The student activities included the Butterfly Garden, making and distributing seed bombs and tagging trees on the campus.



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Other initiatives taken by the School include:

- Rain water harvesting
- Biogas plant
- STP
- Fruit Cultivation
- Vegetable Farming
- Incinerator for non-biodegradable products
- Pets corner
- Tree planting in the campus in collaboration with the NGO Thanal
- Tree planting ceremony by the grade 12 students every year.

The Round Square society hosted the Zoom postcard last November on the theme "Patching up our homes" on the UN sustainable development goals 11-15, under the RS theme of Environmentalism.













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# **Student Achievements**

## **Individual champions PYP Swimming Gala:**

Category Grade 4 & 5 Boys - Nazeeh Farzad (Vayu)

4 & 5 Girls - Gia Karthik (Jalam)

Category Grade 2 & 3 boys - Dhanush G P (Jalam) and Daris Ibhaam (Prithvi)

Category Grade 2 & 3 Girls - Anya Rahul (Vayu)

Category Grade 1 Boys - A S Davis Hadley (Agni)

Category Grade 1 Girls - Snehamitra (Agni)



Nazeeh Farzad



Gia Karthik



Dhanush G P



Daris Ibhaam



A S Davis Hadley



Anya Rahul



Snehamitra



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### Middle School inter house basketball:

Best player (Boys) - Marcus Joseph Alencheril - 8A

Best player (Girls) - Iarin Reji - 8A

Promising player - Darsh V Roshith - 6B and Vojtech Fasanek- 8A

## High School/Senior School inter house basketball:

Best player (Boys) - Neil Anthony Alencheril - 12 DP

Best player (Girls) - Thertha V Roshith - 12 DP

Promising player - Athul Krishna - 9 IG A



Darsh V Roshith



Iarin Reji



Marcus Joseph Alencheril



Vojtech Fasanek



Neil Anthony Alencheril



Thertha V Roshith



Athul Krishna





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# **TRINS Main School**

### **PYP STEM Fair:**

The PYP STEM Fair 2023-2024 was held on 22nd & 23rd of February in the Junior School campus. The theme chosen for this year was 'Science for a sustainable future'. The formal function was inaugurated on 22nd February by our Executive Director, Ms. Sapnu George. Student driven projects were prepared at school, as a part of the inquiry process of theme 5. Students collaborated as teams to create innovative projects, exploring STEM (science technology, engineering, mathematics) elements within each project. They enjoyed interacting and presenting their work to parents, teachers, and students. A big thank you to the event-incharges, Ms Geomi, Ms Uma and Ms Lekshmi and all the homeroom teachers for guiding the students and ensuring agentic learning in













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### **Student led Teaching Culmination:**

Students from Korani LPS and Kayilothukonam LPS were at TRINS on Wednesday 21st February. They performed items they had learnt during the communicative English sessions with their Grade 11 mentors, which was the concluding performances of the Grade 11 Social Service Culmination. It was also an opportunity to present certificates to our Grade 11 students in appreciation of their efforts since August in our partner schools that lie within our local community.

Thanks to Ms Ambili Balan, Ms Jeena George, Ms Sini Jijo, Ms Sonia Mathew and Ms Krishnendu for their leadership and guidance.









## **The Good Tech Squad Quiz Competition:**

The Good Tech Squad (GTS) has been established in our school with the view of promoting responsible and ethical use of technology among students and staff. GTS consists of 12 students from grade 9 and 11, who are supported by an NGO, Citizen Digital. We strive to offer tech support, teach digital literacy skills, promote online safety, and advocate for the positive use of technology in education.

On Feb 22nd the GTS organised a house level quiz competition. The High School/Senior School winner was Jalam, with Prithvi as runners up. The Middle School winner was Prithvi, with Vayu as runners up.







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### **Talent Assembly:**

Students of Grade 3 B showcased their talents at the Talent Assembly held on Monday, 19th Feb 2024. The students put forth a variety of exuberant performances. The opening act by the Rock Band set the ball rolling for more events like dance, music, speeches, and art. The audience was enthralled by the captivating array of events . We extend our gratitude to our dedicated homeroom teachers, Ms Akhila and Ms Nimmy, as well as the invaluable support from Mr Arun. Our heartfelt gratitude to our beloved parents for their encouragement and enthusiasm , which greatly contributed to the success of this lively and talent-filled assembly.





## **Swimming Gala:**

Kudos to the PE and the Swimming coaches for a wonderful PYP Swimming Gala on 16th February. Mr Rajanish and Ms Aneesha were instrumental in coordinating and planning the event from start to finish. A big thank you goes to Mr Manoharan, Mr Sijo, Ms Reshma and Mr Sooraj for their exemplary teamwork. A big shout out to all the homeroom & specialists teachers Ms. Amy and the admin team for their assistance

Team Championship points:

1st - Jalam 62 points 2nd - Vayu 51 points

3rd - Agni 37 points 4th - Prithvi 36 points















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#### **Orientation Grade 5:**

An orientation took place on Friday 16th February, for the parents of students of Grade 5, enabling them to be aware of the new curriculum, its delivery and the various other processes in Middle School. The event was made possible by the combined efforts of both the PYP and Middle School teams. The interactive session encouraged the parents and teachers to share new and valuable information that will prove beneficial for the smooth transitioning of the students progressing into 6th Grade. Ms. Sapnu George, the Executive Director, took the time to speak with the parents about the transition arrangements and the continuing focus on the reinforcement of growth and overall development of the students.





### **Junior School Election:**

Placing an emphasis on democratic rights, the students of Grade 5 were given an opportunity to cast their online votes for the candidates they deemed fit, for the positions in the Junior School Student Council for 2024-25. Voting was the third round in the selection process which was preceded by the 'Meet the Candidate' and group discussion rounds held in the previous weeks.







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#### **Club Session Conclusion:**

This year's Club sessions concluded with the presentations and the Club Day Assembly on the 14th February 2024. Club reports, recitals by the music department and eggs benedict from the Cookery Club were the highlights of the day. Contributions to the respective clubs were recognised and certificates were awarded to the members. Vaidehi Nair, Antara Kunal Kothari and Arundhati of the Robotics Club, Film Club and D and D Club respectively were adjudged the best club leaders.









#### **Inter-House Basketball Match:**

The final Middle School inter-house basketball match was held on Thursday, 1st February. The winning team was Prithvi and the runners up, Agni with the score 17-8. The third position was secured by Vayu, against Jalam with the score of 8-7.

The final High School/Senior School inter house basketball match was held on Wednesday, 21st February. The winning team was Prithvi and the runners up, Agni with the score 11-10, The third position was secured by Jalam, against Vayu with the score of 20-14.









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# **TRINS ELC Main Campus**

### KG 1 Trip to the Farm:

As part of their exploration into the theme "Sharing the Planet," KG 1 students visited the Mullassery Farm on Monday, 19th February. Their experience at the farm was enriching as they developed a fondness for animals. They actively engaged in feeding the goats and observed firsthand the care provided to cows, hens, and ducks. This experience has sparked inspiration within them to create their own miniature farms.





## **Early Years STEM Fair:**

The EY STEM fair took place on Thursday, 22nd February. KG 2 students selected "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" as their theme. They crafted models depicting the beds, chairs, and the house, presenting the story alongside explanations of their construction materials and methods. This project integrated elements of engineering, mathematics, and technology.

Meanwhile, KG 1 students designed a farm focused on selling produce. Their farm included duck, cow, and chicken egg farms, as well as a milk farm. Parents were provided with beads as currency to simulate purchasing the produce. This interactive activity encompassed science, engineering, mathematics, and technology.

We are immensely proud of the creativity and effort demonstrated by our students.







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# TRINS ELC TECHNOPARK

#### **Grade 1 and Grade 2 STEM Fair:**

STEM education fosters curiosity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills from an early age. In the recent showcase, Grade 1 and 2 students of Technopark enthralled parents and peers with their innovative STEM projects. From models of resources using solar energy to creative inventions, the young minds demonstrated their understanding of fundamental concepts in a hands-on manner. This event not only showcased their academic growth but also instilled confidence and pride in their abilities. Thank you, Ms Anice and Ms Rosemary, for all your hardwork and dedication.





#### **KG1 AND KG2 STEM Fair:**

The KG 1 and KG 2 STEM Fairs at Trins ELC Technopark showcased children's innovative projects such as self-paddling boats, sink-and-float experiments, and models of various houses. KG 2 students also conducted drip irrigation trials and explored everyday objects like books and pens. Parent-child interaction enriched the experience, fostering a supportive learning environment. These events celebrated young minds' ingenuity, deepening their appreciation for STEM disciplines. Through hands-on demonstrations and dialogue, children honed problem-solving skills and imagination, laying a foundation for future exploration. Parents engaged in dialogue with their young ones, fostering a supportive learning environment. The fair not only celebrated young minds' ingenuity but also encouraged a deeper appreciation for STEM disciplines at an early age, laying the foundation for future exploration and discovery. Thank you, Ms Sreedevi, Ms Gopika, Ms Veena, Ms Jasmine and Ms Rajita, for your dedication and commitment to fostering creativity in our children.









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### **KG1** Field Trip to Mullasery Farm:

As part of the theme "Sharing the Planet", KG1 students from TRINS ELC Technopark embarked on a field trip to Mullasery Farm. There, they interacted with cows, goats, hens, ducks, and fish, experiencing firsthand the wonders of farm life. They delighted in touching the animals and had the unique opportunity to feed them. This hands-on experience not only fostered a connection with nature but also instilled a sense of responsibility towards the environment and its inhabitants among the young learners. Thank you to Ms Sreedevi, Ms Gopika and Ms Jasmine for a fun filled day.





#### **PK2 Field Trip- Coconut Nursery:**

As part of our theme - Sharing the Planet, with a focus on the central idea - Plants are part of the world, the preschoolers of Technopark embarked on a visit to the coconut nursery in Kazhakootam. It proved to be an enriching experience for our young learners. They observed the sprouting of coconut and various vegetable seedlings within the polyform house and greenhouse. They also gained insight into the dietary habits of animals such as cows, goats and ducks. Exploring the vegetable



garden and plant nursery was a delightful activity that they thoroughly enjoyed. Kudos to Ms Milan, Ms Sheena, Ms Sheethal and Ms Saniya for organising a fun day.











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# **TRINS ELC Sasthamangalam**

### Field Trip to Vikasana Corporation Agricultural Farm by City PK1 and PK2:

In an enriching excursion that brought learning to life, the City PK1 and PK2 students embarked on a captivating field trip to the Vikasana Corporation Agricultural Farm, seamlessly integrating with their thematic exploration of "Water" and "Plants" respectively. This immersive experience provided the little ones with a firsthand glimpse into the intricate ecosystems of plants, animals, and the invaluable role of water resources on our planet. The highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the encounter with the farm animals, which elicited gleeful exclamations of recognition from the students. Many of these animals, previously encountered through the beloved nursery rhyme "Old MacDonald Had a Farm," now stood before them in living colour, igniting a sense of connection and wonderment. Through guided exploration and hands-on activities, the City PK1 students gained a deeper appreciation for the interconnectedness of all living things and the vital role that plants and animals play in sustaining our ecosystem. Moreover, they learned about the importance of water resources in nurturing and sustaining life, laying the groundwork for future environmental stewardship. Kudos to the HRTs of ELC Ms Harmya, Ms Aparna and Ms Shisy for always being courageous for creating wonderful opportunities of learning experiences to our tiniest tots.

















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### **STEM Fair at City Campus Sasthamangalam by Early Years Students:**

In a delightful showcase of innovation and creativity, the Early Years students (KG1 and KG2) at City Campus Sasthamangalam recently presented their STEM projects, leaving the parent community mesmerised by their journey of real-time experiments and exploration. The projects conducted by the Early Years students served as a testament to their boundless creativity, ingenuity, and passion for learning. Through hands-on exploration, experimentation, and integration of technology, these young innovators are laying the foundation for a future enriched by scientific inquiry and technological advancement.

**KG1 Projects:** The KG1 students embarked on a captivating journey integrating STEM concepts with their current theme of animals and the previous theme of transportation. For their animal-themed project, they delved into the realm of providing shelters for domestic animals, experimenting with various materials to withstand rain. This hands-on



exploration not only fostered their understanding of animal habitats but also honed their problem-solving skills. Transitioning to their transportation-themed project, the young innovators began with humble paper boats in water, gradually advancing to engineering a boat capable of floating while carrying substantial weight. Witnessing their progression from simple experiments to functional prototypes was truly awe-inspiring to the parent community, showcasing the power of STEM education in nurturing critical thinking and practical skills from an early age.

**KG2 Projects:** Meanwhile, the KG2 students seamlessly integrated STEM principles with their theme of Stories, engaging in an array of captivating activities. Inspired by the classic tale of "The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Wolf," they embarked on constructing three distinct homes using materials like straw, sticks, and bricks. Through this project, they not only explored structural engineering but also conducted experiments to determine the durability of each material against external forces, such as wind. Furthermore, the students delved into the theme of Community Helpers by creating tools used in house construction, thereby connecting STEM concepts with real-world applications. Leveraging

technology, they ventured into the realm of Augmented Reality, recreating stories on iPads and seamlessly integrating ICT into their learning journey.

In another enchanting endeavour inspired by "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," the students embarked on a captivating exploration of the caterpillar's life cycle, culminating in the transformation into a beautiful butterfly. Through hands-on activities and visual representations, they gained a profound understanding of metamorphosis while reinforcing their grasp of STEM concepts.

Applause and heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Nisha, Ms. Sreedevi M. G, and Ms. Swapna, the passionate and dedicated Homeroom Teachers at City KG1 and KG2, not only for embracing their roles as IB facilitators but also for going above and beyond in empowering their young learners to explore, discover, and grow.





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# **Staff Achievements**

The following teachers have been nominated for the Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Award:



Ms. Devika B. S



Ms. Girija D. N



Ms. Miranda Selvaraj



Ms. Rajitha Kaipulli



Mr. Richard Hillebrand



Ms. Vineetha



Dr. Uma Sharma





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Ms. Shalini Bose, EY SEN coordinator, conducted a two-day training session for doctors enrolled in the 11th batch of the PG Diploma in Developmental Neurology at the Child Development Centre, Government Medical College, Trivandrum.

She led sessions covering topics such as Individualised Education Plans (IEP) and the special educational management of children with neuro developmental disorders.

Congratulations, Ms. Shalini!

