

# IB PYP Newsletter December 2025 - January 2026

## Principal's Message

*Dear Parents, Students, and Members of our School Community,*

*It is with immense pride and excitement that I share my first newsletter message with you. Since taking the helm, I have been inspired daily by the vibrancy of our **progressive school culture**. Our campus is buzzing with the energy of students who truly embody our vision: **Thrive. For Life**. The past few weeks have been a testament to our two-decade legacy of excellence, marked by outstanding achievements across academics, sports, and innovation.*

### **Academic & Competitive Excellence**

*Our Primary School students have set a phenomenal benchmark with their **outstanding achievements in the Maths and Science Olympiads**. Seeing our youngest learners embrace complex problem-solving with such enthusiasm is a clear sign that we are successfully nurturing **lifelong learners**.*

*As we speak, the academic rigour of our international curricula is in full swing. Our **Cambridge students** are currently focused on writing their final board exams, while our **IBDP students** are in the final stages of intense preparation for their upcoming assessments. We wish them all the focus and resilience they need to excel.*

### **Sporting Glory**

*On the field and the court, our athletes have been nothing short of spectacular. Our sports teams showed incredible grit in recent **inter-school competitions**, fighting their way through to the finals. A special mention must go to our **Squash players**, whose performance was truly elite, demonstrating the discipline and sportsmanship we value so highly.*

### **Innovation in the Classroom**

*At the heart of our **innovative teaching practices** is the integration of cutting-edge technology. I am delighted to see our teachers utilizing the new **Teachmint interactive boards** to their full potential. These tools are revolutionizing **transdisciplinary teaching**, allowing students to see the connections between subjects in a dynamic, visual, and highly engaging way.*

### **Our Commitment**

*Through **continuous professional development**, our educators remain at the forefront of pedagogy, ensuring that your child's experience is world-class. Whether it is in our **modern, "home away from home"** boarding facilities or our high-tech classrooms, we are committed to providing an environment where every student can flourish. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership as we embark on this exciting chapter together.*



# IB PYP Newsletter December-January 2026

## From the PYP Coordinator's Desk

Winter has been a truly enriching and joyful season for our PYP community, filled with moments of celebration, connection, and thoughtful reflection. Throughout this season, students enthusiastically participated in a range of significant events such as Founder's Day, Christmas, Lohri, and Republic Day. Each celebration provided meaningful opportunities for learners to explore cultural traditions, understand shared values, and develop a strong sense of national identity and pride.

These occasions extended far beyond festive enjoyment and became powerful learning experiences that supported the development of key learner attributes, particularly being Caring, Reflective, and Open-Minded. Through performances, storytelling, music, art, and collaborative activities, students deepened their understanding of community life and learned to respect and appreciate diverse cultures and perspectives.

As we move ahead, the spirit of togetherness and joy experienced during this winter season continues to inspire our learners. The values and lessons gained from these celebrations are guiding them to grow into confident, compassionate, and curious individuals who actively contribute to their community and embrace learning with enthusiasm and purpose.



# Our Daily Photo



# Foundation 1

## Inside the Classroom

Aditi Dash

**A Quick Peek into Learning:** This month, our classroom became a space full of sensory exploration and active fun. Children enjoyed play-doh, sensory trays, and textured materials that supported focus, curiosity, and hand control. Gross-motor skills were developed through obstacle courses, passing games, and action movements that encouraged crawling, reaching, and moving across the body. Fine motor activities like threading beads, sticker play, finger painting, scooping, and pouring brought excitement while strengthening finger muscles. Group activities and sharing moments supported social interaction and communication. Through these joyful and engaging experiences, children grew more confident, coordinated, and happy learners, ready to explore their world with enthusiasm.



# Our Daily Photo



## Foundation 2

**TD Theme:** How the World Works

**Inquiry into :** Changing seasons impact our everyday life

**Lines of Inquiry :** How seasons affect our lifestyle

**Specified Concepts:** Change, Causation, Perspective

**Extended Concepts:** Impact, geography, lifestyle

**Approaches to Learning :** Communication skills- (Exchanging information skills)

**Research:** (Information Literacy skills)

**Learner Attributes:** Knowledgeable and Inquirer

## Inside the Classroom

Aditi Dash

**A Quick Peek into Learning:** This month, children explored how different seasons affect daily life through role play, storytelling, and hands-on activities. They learned how the weather influences what we wear, the food we eat, and the games we play. Activities such as dressing up, sorting seasonal items, and sharing favourite seasonal experiences made learning fun and meaningful. These interactions helped strengthen their communication skills and build an understanding of how seasons influence everyday choices.



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## Foundation 3

**TD Theme: How We Express Ourselves**

**Central Idea:** Stories are a medium to enhance creativity and expression

**LOI 2:** Elements of a story

**LOI 3:** Different ways to express stories

**Key Concepts:** Form, Connection and Perspective

**ATL's:** Collaboration skills, Thinking skills

**IB Learner Profile developed:** Communicators, Thinkers, Risk -Taker

## Inside the Classroom

**Ms. Vidhi Sharma**

**A Quick Peek into Learning:**

In their recent exploration of stories, Foundation 3 students learned about key story elements through engaging activities and the story *The Three Little Pigs*, focusing on characters, beginnings, middles, ends, and morals. Parent volunteers enriched the experience by sharing a variety of stories, creating joyful and interactive storytelling sessions. Students actively participated and concluded the unit by presenting their favorite stories using props, showcasing their creativity and understanding.



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## Grade 1

**TD Theme:** How The World Works

**Central Idea:** All living things go through a process of change.

**LOI 3:** Life cycle of various groups (Change)

**Key Concepts:** Form, Causation, and Change

**ATL's:** Research Skills and Thinking Skills

**IB Learner Profile developed:** Communicators and Thinkers

## Inside the Classroom

**Ms Kawalpreet**

Our young learners explored the fascinating life cycles of various animal groups. Through engaging discussions, observations, and hands-on activities, students discovered how various animals grow and change at each stage of their lives. They compared similarities and differences in life cycles—such as metamorphosis in butterflies, the journey from tadpole to frog, and how birds and mammals care for their young. This inquiry helped students understand that every living thing follows a unique pattern of growth, yet all are connected through nature's cycle of life. The unit encouraged curiosity, scientific thinking, and appreciation for the interconnected world we live in.

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## Grade 2

**Central Idea:** Managing money helps in making responsible and informed decisions.

**Lines of Inquiry :**

- 1: Evolution of money (Change)
- 2: Needs, wants and choices (Connection)
- 3: Saving, spending and budgeting(Responsibility)

**Key Concepts:** Change, Connection, Responsibility

**Related Concepts:** Transformation, Differences, Decision-making, Value

**Approaches to Learning :** Thinking Skills(critical thinking ), Self-Management Skills(state of mind- Mindfulness)

**Learner Attributes :** Thinker, Principled, Reflective

## Inside the Classroom

**Ms Richa and Ms. Ishita**

The unit on **Money** began with exploring different money systems through a timeline of old coins and currency notes. Pupils developed an understanding of needs and wants through real-life discussions and strengthened their communication skills. Mathematics integration included solving money-related word problems, while English lessons focused on comprehension passages based on money. Role-play activities of buying and selling helped pupils practise budgeting and wise spending. The story The Ant and the Grasshopper further reinforced the importance of saving and self-management.

# Our Daily Photo



## Grade 3

**TD Theme:** How We Organise Ourselves

**Central Idea:** Systems and roles enable schools to function as organised communities.

**Lines of Inquiry:**

**LOI 1 -** Systems in school

**Key Concepts-** Function

**Related Concepts-** Connection, organisation, structure, relationships

**ATL's developed:** - Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Research Skills

**IB Learner Profile developed:** - Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Principled

## Inside the Classroom

**Ms Shivani and Ms Rashmita**

Under the transdisciplinary theme “How We Organise Ourselves,” students explored different systems and understood why they are important. Through a provocation activity, they examined the school system and its hierarchical structure using the “I See, I Think, I Wonder” routine to reflect and build deeper understanding. A gallery walk around the school allowed students to observe various systems in action, sparking curiosity about how the school functions. Their active questioning and exploration supported the development of the IB learner profile attribute of Inquirer.



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## Grade 4

**TD Theme:** Where we are in place and time

**Central Idea:** Uniqueness of ancient civilisations continues to influence the present society

**Lines of Inquiry:**

**LOI 1** –Civilisations around the world (Form)

**LOI 2** -Factors that influence a civilization to change over time (Causation)

**Related concepts:** Civilization, Progress, Change

**ATL's** :Communication skills(Literacy and ICT skills), Research skills(Information Literacy and Media Literacy skills)

**Attributes:** Knowledgeable, Inquirer, Communicator

## Inside the Classroom

**Ms. Harpreet**

The unit began with a pre-assessment and an engaging provocation where students explored images, maps, and artefacts related to ancient civilizations around the world. Through map work, they identified major river valley civilizations on a political world map, gaining an understanding of their geographical spread. Videos, discussions, and inquiry-based activities helped students identify key features such as location, river systems, lifestyle, and innovations. As the unit progressed, learners explored how factors like geography, climate, trade, and invasions influenced the growth and change of civilizations over time. Students engaged in quizzes, informational reading, and collaborative discussions. Integrating numeracy skills, they created bar graphs to compare civilizations and presented their learning through models, posters, and artifacts, strengthening their Thinking, Research, and Self-management skills.

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## Grade 5

**Central idea:** Being responsible for balanced intake of nutrients may lead to well being.

**LO1 2:** Precautions taken to prevent nutritional diseases.(perspective)

**LO1 3:** Steps taken globally to curb nutritional diseases.(responsibility)

**Specified Concepts:**Causation, Perspective, Responsibility

**Extended Concepts:** Well-being, Responsibility, Reflection

**Approaches to Learning :**Research Skills (information literacy, media literacy, Communication Skills (exchanging information and literacy), Self-management( Organization skills- managing time and tasks effectively)

**Learner Attributes:** Knowledgeable, Caring and inquirer

## Inside the Classroom

Ms. Komal and Ms. Akanksha

Students analysed health precautions, identified nutritional diseases, and suggested ways to address them. In groups, they explored the root causes of malnutrition and obesity using the **5 Whys** strategy. They examined Indian government initiatives through a **Round Robin** activity and recorded key ideas using a **Fishbone organiser**. Students also researched global organisations working to combat nutritional challenges and shared their findings. As a summative task, they created creative presentations to spread awareness among younger students.

# Third Language

## French

**Grade 4 :** Students built basic French skills through short texts, simple dialogues, sentence writing, listening activities, and a poem. They reinforced vocabulary through a creative task on La rentrée à l'école.

**Grade 5:** Students strengthened French reading, writing, listening, and speaking through short texts, functional writing (invitations, postcards), vocabulary practice, and simple verb conjugations using videos, audios, and worksheets.

## Spanish

**Grade 4:**

Students practiced subject pronouns and the verb tener through interactive flashcard activities. Children's Day was celebrated with joyful Spanish games and cultural activities, making learning fun and engaging.

**Grade 5:**

Students strengthened reading comprehension and learned prepositions along with clothing vocabulary. They practiced describing outfits, helping them build confidence in using Spanish sentences.

## German

Students learned articles and the names of fruits and vegetables, practicing new vocabulary through games and speaking activities. A lively role-play, where learners became shopkeepers and customers, made the experience even more enjoyable as they confidently used German in a fun, interactive setting.

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## Specialist Subjects

### Hindi

SStudents from Grades 1 to 5 engaged in varied Hindi activities to strengthen reading, writing, and comprehension skills.

**Grade 1:** Practiced matras, reading, writing, and comprehension through stories and Show and Tell.

**Grade 2:** Developed sentence writing, picture comprehension, and storytelling skills.

**Grade 3:** Enhanced reading, vocabulary, and speaking skills through interactive story activities.

**Grade 4:** Improved reading and writing through stories, comprehension, and One Word Substitution tasks.

**Grade 5:** Strengthened comprehension, story writing, and listening-speaking skills.



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## Specialist Subjects

### ICT

Grades 1 & 2: Students learned basic coding concepts using MS Paint and Scratch Jr.

Grade 3: Students enhanced their coding skills using Scratch.

Grade 4: Students continued practicing coding with Scratch.

Grade 5: Students strengthened coding and storytelling skills using Scratch and were introduced to HTML for website development.



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## Specialist Subjects

### Art

**F1 & F2:** Learners developed fine motor skills and creativity through paper tearing, pasting, and freehand drawing.

**F3:** Students strengthened coordination and creativity by making paper ball art and freehand drawings.

**Grade 1:** Explored warm and cool colours and created mosaic-inspired artwork.

**Grade 2:** Created landscape art and explored Romero Britto's colourful style.

**Grade 3:** Designed mosaic patterns and learned line illusion techniques.

**Grade 4:** Created drip art inspired by Jen Stark and explored optical illusion art based on Victor Vasarely.

**Grade 5:** Practiced Zentangle collage art and studied optical illusions inspired by Victor Vasarely.



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## Specialist Subjects

### Dance

**F1 & F2:** Learners practiced the dance “It’s a Beautiful Day” along with simple body-movement exercises. They did lots of observation exercises on Christmas songs.

**F3:** Students completed the dance “A Million Dreams” and have begun learning basic steps for their upcoming assembly. They did lots of observation exercises on Christmas songs.

**Grade 1:** Students completed their assembly dance based on the transdisciplinary theme “How the world works ”Christmas dance.

**Grade 2:** Students completed the dance to the song “Dreamers.”

**Grade 3:** Students are learning the steps to perform a Bhangra, folk dance of Punjab.

**Grade 4 & 5:** Students are practicing dance circles at a second speed with coordinated footwork and also performed Christmas dance assembly in December.



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## Specialist Subjects

### Drama and Vocal Music

#### Drama:

Students from Foundation 1 to Grade 5 emotions and body language through fun and engaging activities. Through role plays, they developed creativity, confidence, and a deeper understanding of characters. These sessions nurtured imagination and expressive confidence.

#### Vocal Music:

Students learned and sang heartwarming Christmas carols to capture the season's magic. They also sang stirring patriotic songs that celebrate freedom and heritage.



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## Specialist Subjects

### Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Learners explored personal boundaries and practiced confidently saying “No.” They reflected on emotions, identified their strengths, and learned strategies to manage challenges. Through a focus on inclusion and diversity, they developed empathy and a sense of belonging. Students also strengthened self-management and relationship skills by practicing patience, self-control, and respectful conflict resolution through role plays and situation-based activities.



# School Events

## Grade 1 Assembly

Students of Grade 1 presented a beautiful assembly under the Transdisciplinary Theme “How the World Works”. Through a delightful play, an energetic dance performance and a melodious song, the young learners confidently showcased their learning of the concepts of Form and Change.



# School Events

## Inter - House General Knowledge Quiz

An Inter-House General Knowledge Quiz was held for Grades 3 to 5 with enthusiastic participation from all houses. The quiz promoted curiosity and confident thinking through engaging rounds such as current Affairs, logical thinking, picture identification, rapid Fire, and brain teasers. Students showed strong team spirit and presence of mind, and the event boosted their thinking skills and confidence, ending with appreciation for all participants.



# School Events

## Inter-House Math Competition

An Inter-House Math Competition for Grades 3 to 5 was organized as part of the extended learning program. The prelims on 21st November 2025 saw strong participation from all houses, and selected students advanced to the finals on 5th December 2025.

The competition featured three rounds—Mental Ability, Visual, and Buzzer—highlighting students' problem-solving skills, teamwork, and enthusiasm. Cedrus House secured first place, and winning students were awarded certificates for their performance.



## Online Orientation for parents:

An online orientation was conducted for parents of Grade 5 students transitioning to Grade 6 to familiarize them with the upcoming curriculum. The session provided an overview of academic expectations, learning approaches, and assessment methods, helping parents understand how to support their child's growth and learning in the new grade.

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## School Events

### Reading Programme- Wings of Reading

The PYP Library organized a Reading Program for Grades 4 and 5, where students read and reflected on four books within a set time. They shared their ideas through creative presentations, and the program concluded by appreciating their reading efforts.



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# School Events

## Founder's Day:

Founders' day was a warm celebration of our vision and our spirit to Thrive for life. Heartfelt performances, reflections by our alumna, Ms Akanxa Swami made the day a meaningful tribute to who we are and what we aspire to become. Led with confidence by our students, the celebration echoed the values that shape creativity, courage, compassion in the Goenkans.



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## School Events

### Boarders' Christmas Dinner

Before heading off for the winter break, our boarders came together to celebrate Christmas with joy and festivity. The evening was filled with cheerful carol singing, lively dance performances, and ended with a delightful dinner, creating warm memories and festive cheer for all.



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## School Events

### Christmas Carnival :

Our students celebrated Christmas with joy and a festive carnival atmosphere. From enchanting carols and lively dance performances to colourful stalls and fun activities, every moment captured the vibrant spirit of the season.



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## School Events

### Republic Day Celebrations:

The school celebrated Republic Day with great patriotic fervor. The event commenced with the ceremonial flag hoisting, followed by the melodious rendition of the National Anthem. Students then showcased their talents through a medley of patriotic songs and vibrant dance performances. The celebration concluded with an inspiring address by the Principal, instilling a sense of pride, unity, and respect for the nation among all.



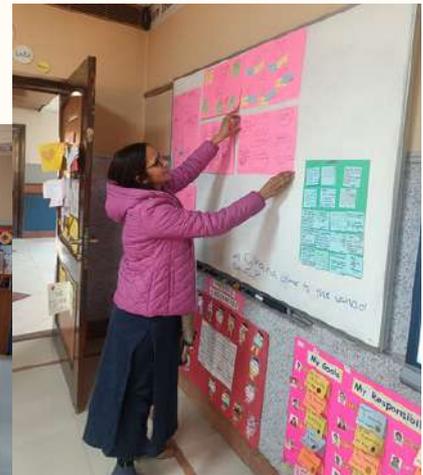
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## School Events

### INSET (In-Service Education and Training)

Professional development plays a vital role in strengthening teaching practices and enhancing student learning. Our teachers actively engaged in professional development sessions during the **INSET (In Service Education and Training)** where members of the team were given the opportunity to lead workshops and share their expertise with colleagues. These collaborative learning experiences promoted reflection, skill-building, and a culture of continuous improvement, empowering teachers to grow together as a strong and supportive learning community.



#### NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL TEAM

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