



### Principal's Message



This week took me eventually to Kolkata to the meeting of the Heads of IB Schools in India and South Asia. This is an opportunity to swap notes with heads of schools from institutions that have very similar values to TRINS, even if they are quite different in other ways. This networking is of value, as is the opportunity to reflect our own practices. We are part of a growing network of IB schools in India, as well as of the large community of Cambridge schools, and benefit from the presence both now have in the country.

Both the IB and Cambridge emphasise the importance of how students approach their learning. This is what is reflected in the pages of ToT each week, as well as in the conversations you have with your child about their day at school. This term contains a number of occasions when this inquiry-led approach will be highlighted, from the IB Art Exhibition, through the Grade 8 Personal Project to the Grade 5 Exhibition.

Mr. Richard Hillebrand



Pan India and South Asia IB Heads Conference, Kolkata

### Round Square

Five students from Grade IX participated in the Round Square History Lab hosted by The Kingsley School in the UK on "The Roaring 20s". A special thanks to Ms Nayana Varghese and Ms Gayathri for supporting and guiding the group.





## Student Achievements



Pratiksha Deepu

Pratiksha Deepu of Grade IV B participated in the National Read Aloud Challenge organised by Fonetti and made it to the top 100. She will be receiving a reading hamper from our Scholastic India to recognize her enthusiasm.

## TRINS Main School

### Education Excellence

Trivandrum International School has been selected for the JURY Award in the “Education Excellence - Empowering India Awards 2024” in the category, Special Needs. Congratulations to the SEN department for their unwavering dedication to maintaining the highest standards of service quality and making a meaningful difference in the lives of children with disabilities. This success would not have been possible without the collaborative efforts of all the stakeholders: general educators, SEN department and the families.

### Poetry Recital

A poetry session was conducted by Mr. Deepu, one of our security personnels, for Grade V students on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> February. The session was held in the Junior School's second language room. During the interactive session, Mr. Deepu recited his own poems and explained how reading can enhance language development and vocabulary. The session focused on promoting respectfulness, family values and the richness of Malayalam language. The session was beneficial for our younger learners, as it helped them understand the importance of reading and how it helps improve their vocabulary and writing skills.



Mr. Deepu



## Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

The students of Grade 1 have been learning the three R's- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle as part of their inquiry into using materials responsibly. They had a lot of fun making their own paper from recycled newspaper and letting their imagination run wild by decorating their paper with bits of flower petals and glitter.



## Foundational Drawing and Painting Techniques Session

On the 4th of February, 2024, art students from Grades 11 and 12 DP actively participated in a session on "Line and Swirls: Foundational Drawing and Painting Techniques" facilitated by Ms. Katherrin Billordo. Notably, Ms. Billordo is a sophomore at Harvard University, pursuing studies in Studio Art and Social Studies.



## Vegetable Garden

A garden is a calling of human stewardship. It enhances our responsibility to honour, protect and share the gifts of the natural world. A vegetable garden has been established near the football ground on our school campus. Ms.Sapnu George, our Executive Director, inaugurated the garden, encouraging the students to embark on a beautiful expression of simplicity and self sustainability. This wonderful addition to our school grounds serve as a valuable educational resource for our students.





## First Aid Training

At TRINS, we believe that first aid is the first step towards resilience and recovery. Every single person in the world has the capacity to save a life. It's an essential gesture of solidarity. It's not just for medical professionals. It is about empowering individuals to take action without hesitation or second guessing, to act fast and confidently.

Our staff development programme on 3rd February was enriched with training from the medical professionals from KIMS hospital, Trivandrum. They helped the faculty learn the basics of First Aid so as to act vigilantly in cases of emergency.



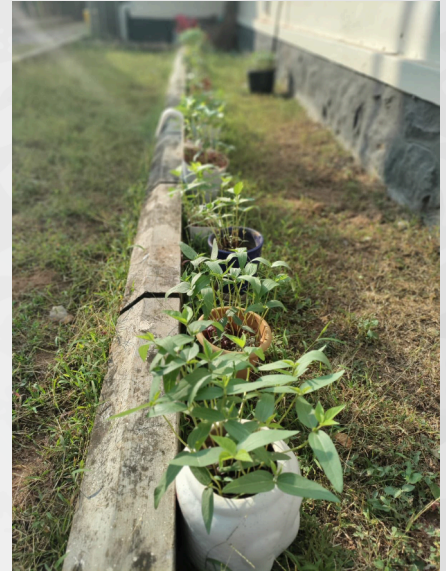


## TRINS ELC Sasthamangalam

### Miniature Botanical Haven

In the heart of our TRINS ELC Sasthamangalam campus, a remarkable initiative has taken root – a thriving plant nursery lovingly nurtured by our youngest learners. These enthusiastic preschoolers (PK2) have embraced the responsibility of tending to their plants, creating a hands-on experience that goes beyond the traditional classroom setting and through which they not only learn about the life cycle of plants but also develop a deep sense of responsibility and empathy for living things.

Observation is key in this miniature botanical haven. Students keenly watch the growth of their plants, noting each new leaf that unfurls and celebrating the progress they witness. The students actively engage in counting the leaves, developing essential early maths skills while fostering an appreciation for the marvels of nature. The plant nursery serves as a canvas for exploring the diverse colours of leaves and flowers. As these young minds cultivate their green haven, they are sowing the seeds of responsibility, curiosity, and a lifelong love for the environment. A big shout out goes to Ms Harmya and Ms Aparna, HRTs of City PK2 for going above and beyond to instil a sense of wonder and appreciation for the environment in our children.



## Staff Achievements



Ms. Sonia J. Mathew

Ms. Sonia J. Mathew of the Department of English attended a webinar hosted by the Director of the Cambridge Research team and a teacher practitioner, Dr. Evelina Galaczi, on the topic From Research to Practice: Using GenAI with Cambridge Materials. The webinar on GenAI explored the latest research on teacher perceptions and delved into practical applications for English classrooms. She also attended a masterclass on building trust in school learning environments, conducted by Suraasa.