



Principal's message



We are coming towards the end of a very busy month, and the past week has been no exception, despite the two holidays. Indeed, these provided an opportunity both for the school to host the Harvard Model Congress, as well as for some of our Grade 12 students to travel to Attapadi to engage with young students there. Details of these activities are in this edition, as well as a supplement in which our students give their reports on Spectra 7.

The school's Mission Statement is to empower young learners to be leaders. The visits by Grade 3 and Grade 5 provided the chance to understand different aspects of leadership in society, whilst our senior students were developing those qualities that an empathetic leader requires.

Mr. Richard Hillebrand

Events Over

STUDENT- LED TEACHING CAMP AT APJ ABDUL KALAM INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL TRIBAL SCHOOL

Twenty TRINS students from Grade 12 accompanied by four teachers left for Attapadi on 23rd August. The students had planned for a student-led teaching camp at APJ Abdul Kalam International Residential Tribal School, Attapadi for classes 1 to 7. For four days, our students taught the pupils Foreign Language acquisition - French, German and Spanish - in classes 5, 6, 7 and English communication in classes 1 to 4. The students were also introduced to various activities related to Art, Robotics, Coding and life skills. Our students enjoyed playing football, basketball, volleyball and dodgeball along with their pupils. TRINS students have left a mark on the pupils, broadening their horizons through providing a new experience for them. Special appreciation to the student leaders - Janaki S (12DP), Vaidhei Nair (12DP), Ajitha Rajakantham (12DP), Aneeta Sebastian (12A2) and Fathima Sheikha (12A2), who made this entire programme a big success and for raising fund of Rs.1 lakh for the purchase of band instruments for the girls' band at the school. Thanks to Ms Ambili, Ms.Rachel, Ms.Jeena and Ms.Sonia for accompanying the students, and to Ms Ambili and Ms Sini Jijo for setting up the collaboration.



Events Over

SCHOOL VISIT - LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND LEGISLATURE MUSEUM



Grade 5 students visited the Legislative Assembly and the Legislature Museum on Friday, 23rd August, as a part of the ongoing theme, 'How We Organise Ourselves'. The visit helped them to get an insight into the structure and functioning of the Indian government system.

TRIP TO POWER STATION

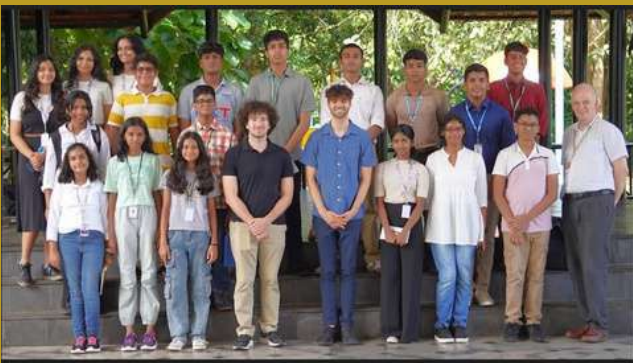
Grade 3 students had a fantastic trip to the Power station on Friday, 23rd August where we had an interactive session conducted by Mr. Saju followed by a tour of the power station. We saw transformers and the sub-station control room from where electricity is supplied. Deputy Chief Engineer Mr. Lin and the Assistant Deputy Engineer Mr. Prakash organised the entire tour with great care. They expressed their excitement on taking the session for the first time for younger children. It was wonderful to see our students engrossed in this session that was presented to their age level.



Events Over

HARVARD MODEL CONGRESS

TRINS played host to a Harvard Model Congress led by two Harvard students, Logan Kelly and Grant Williams. The HMC was attended by students from TRINS, Labour India Public School, GEMS Modern Academy and Choice School, Ernakulam. The participants attended sessions on public speaking, ethics and leadership, as well as taking part in team exercises. Over the three days they worked on developing a concept which they presented to their peers on the final afternoon.



CELESTE HOSTED BY NAVJEEVAN BETHANY, NALANCHIRA

Seven students took part in three events in Celeste, hosted by Navjeevan Bethany, Nalanchira on 24th August 2024. Tharian Abraham Malayattoor, Mathew and Niranjana Lotus won third prize and Arundhati R Menon and Mili Savan won second prize for Enigma.



Events Over

ART GALLERY AT ADMIN BLOCK

The Administration Block has become a gallery for the developing art skills of our Middle School students. Using different techniques, they have been capturing light and shade to produce images full of atmosphere.



Technopark Campus

GRANDPARENTS DAY CELEBRATION

On 29th August 2024, TRINS ELC Technopark joyfully celebrated Grandparents' Day. The celebration was a heartwarming reminder of the invaluable role grandparents play in our lives. The event not only strengthened the bond between generations but also created cherished memories that will be treasured for years to come. The little ones were delighted to see a wonderful side of their grandparents, who joined in the fun by dancing, singing, and participating in games. Both children and grandparents came dressed in shades of green, adding to the festive spirit. The children showcased their love and appreciation for their grandparents through heartfelt performances, including dances, songs, and creative dress-up displays.

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GRADE 1 PARENT INTERACTION - PONGAL FESTIVAL

Grade 1 students of Technopark campus had an amazing session on Pongal, led by Ms. Shanjana, Aadya's mother. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about Pongal in an engaging and easy-to-understand manner. They were also able to connect it with other harvest festivals like Onam.





Sasthamangalam Campus

GRANDPARENTS DAY CELEBRATION

On Friday, 30th August, City Campus Sasthamangalam was abuzz with warmth, love, and joy as we celebrated Grandparents' Day. Despite the heavy rains, our dedicated grandparents made their way to the campus, filling the atmosphere with a sense of pride and happiness. Mrs. Mary George was in attendance, as well as Ms Sapnu George. The event was a beautiful blend of performances by the children, who showcased their love for their grandparents through various acts, and the grandparents themselves, who surprised everyone by revealing their hidden talents.





IB PYP



THE BENEFITS OF REFLECTIVE THINKING

A second article by Mr. Sanjay, Group Head IB Primary Years Programme and PYP Coordinator, in our occasional series on the International Baccalaureate: **The Benefits of Reflective Thinking**

Reflective thinking is a crucial component of the IB pedagogy. Students are encouraged to regularly reflect on their learning experiences, considering what they have learnt, how they have learnt it, and how they can improve. This process helps students develop self-awareness and a deeper understanding of their strengths and areas for growth.

In today's fast-paced world, the ability to pause and reflect is more important than ever. Reflective thinking promotes lifelong learning and continuous improvement, enabling students to adapt to new challenges and opportunities. By fostering a habit of reflection, the IB programme helps students become more mindful and intentional learners, better equipped to navigate the complexities of the modern world.



Mr. Sanjay Prabhakaran

After a six-year break, we were thrilled to bring Spectra back to Trivandrum International School, a celebration of the arts like no other. What follows are the student reflections on an event they envisioned and brought about. The day began with an inspiring speech by our Chief Guest, Mr. Chandhunath (a former member of the teaching staff), who was joined by our Principal, Mr. Richard Hillebrand, Executive Director, Ms. Sapnu George, and Mrs. Mary George. Their words set the stage for a day of creativity and talent under the theme "Freedom of the Arts."

Throughout the day over 200 participants from seven schools showcased their skills in seven diverse events, all crafted to provide maximum freedom for artistic expression. The day ended on a high note with a thrilling awards ceremony. Loyola School was crowned the overall champion, and Sarvodaya Vidyalaya ICSE took the runner-up trophy. Our guest artist, Mr. Aravind Nair, closed the event with an energetic musical performance that left the crowd inspired and looking forward to Spectra 8.



A REPORT FROM THE CULTURAL SECRETARIES' DESK

FREEDOM OF THE ARTS.

Since the very conception of the idea to bring our legacy back, we have had this phrase resonating in our heads, like a chant.

In 2023, the TRINS batch of 2025 ideated the bold initiative to bring Trivandrum International School's strongest, most memorable legacy back for its 7th inter-district edition: SPECTRA, our interschool arts and culture fest. After 6 years, we wanted to make sure the revival would be the biggest and best to date. After much thought, we decided on seven events that would cover the widest interests of the students in our city. The events decided upon were: "µral" (visual arts); "Spotlight" (personality); "Battle of the Bands" (rock band); "Beat the Street" (group dance); "Unveil" (fashion); "Focalist" (photography); "Event X" (our one and only mystery event).

In the planning stages of these events, we had also incorporated the idea of "Freedom of the Arts" (which soon became the motto of SPECTRA) into each of them. When we have attended cultural fests, we encountered pages upon pages of rules, a lack of freedom and endless restrictions. The SPECTRA team did it differently, giving students the extra freedom that is REQUIRED for a person's best expression of their art. This meant that each event was meticulously crafted in a way which gave the participants as much freedom as possible. We did this by having off-campus rounds for certain events, releasing the theme for certain rounds before the event and giving the participants as much time as possible for preparation in order to give the audience their best performance.

Soon, the 9th, 10th and 11th Grade students were involved in the planning process. We started the marketing of SPECTRA 7 through social media and word of mouth, while simultaneously bringing in sponsors and donors for the event. Throughout the process, I can say with certainty that it was truly a student-led event. The students took a great responsibility upon themselves and did everything under the sun to organise an event at this scale; all the way from designing posters, T-shirts, websites and logos to contacting sponsors, vendors and celebrities even further to doing physical labour, measuring stage dimensions, planning seating and even the logistics, finances and security of the event. All 175 of TRINS' talented and determined students working together for SPECTRA to come to life is a sight-to-see indeed.

On the day of the event, seven schools with 200+ participants spanning over two districts had come to enjoy the arts on the TRINS campus, an achievement unseen for over 6 years. Apart from slight delays here and there, the event was magnificently received by all the attendees, receiving praise and golden testimonies from teachers, participants and non-participants. Some said it was the best experience of their lives! Mr. Chandhunath, our chief guest, graced the occasion with his presence and motivating speech, along with our Principal, Mr. Richard Hillebrand, our Executive Director, Ms. Sapnu George, and Mrs. Mary George. The day ended with our guest performer, Mr. Aravind Nair, who undoubtedly stole the heart of everyone present with a beautiful and energetic musical performance. We are also incredibly grateful to our amazing judges without whom the event would not be possible with the quality it had. The event closed with the awards ceremony which had all attendees at the edge of their seats. The overall runners up trophy went to Sarvodaya Vidyalaya ICSE while the overall champions of SPECTRA 7 was LOYOLA SCHOOL.

Organising such a large event with a relatively smaller number of students was challenging, particularly as the event had not happened for over 6 years. Even with every setback and every hurdle the SPECTRA team and the batch of 2025 met SPECTRA 7 was a success beyond words. The city has observed excellence throughout the event and we all hope to see the experience of the Freedom of the Arts repeated at SPECTRA 8 in 2026.

Dhyan Madathil
Cultural Secretary,
SPECTRA 7 Head Organizer

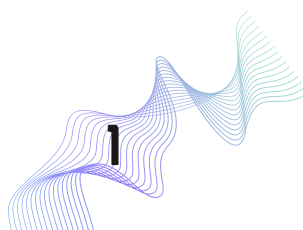


Mili Savan, Vritti Sharma, Bianka Karthikeyan, Sanjana Nair, and I had the privilege of organising 'µral,' the fine arts competition for SPECTRA. As organisers, we are thrilled to share the resounding success of this event, which brought together the artistic talents of students from six prominent schools across Trivandrum and Kollam.

Round 1 tasked the teams with creating A3-sized artworks on the theme, "Metamorphosis." Despite the tight time constraints, the participants demonstrated remarkable adaptability and artistic prowess. After a rigorous evaluation by our esteemed panel of judges - Mr. Vivish, a lecturer at the College of Fine Arts; Ms. Bismi, a designer at Asianet; and Mr. Akhiljith, an artist at Government Ayurveda College - four teams advanced to the highly anticipated final round. Round 2 challenged these finalists to create intricate A1-sized artworks on canvas, centred around the theme of "Revival," a concept that resonates deeply with the overarching narrative of SPECTRA. We heartily congratulate Navajeevan Bethany Vidyalaya for achieving first place in the event.

'µral' was more than just a display of artistic talent; it was a celebration of creativity, collaboration, and perseverance. The participants' dedication and the high calibre of their work made 'µral' a standout event, leaving a lasting impression on everyone involved. 'µral' was truly a resounding success, and we look forward to seeing how these young artists continue to evolve and inspire in the future.

-Aditya Biju





UNVEIL

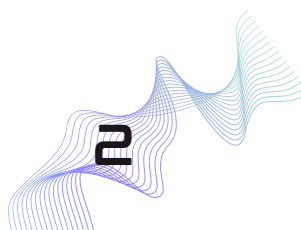


Aneeta Sebastian, Sherin Mary Rajesh and I had the honour of organising 'Unveil'. The five teams showcased garments inspired by renowned paintings, such as Van Gogh's "Starry Night", Botticelli's "Primavera", and Monet's "Woman with a Parasol". The themes were provided three days prior to the event and each team was asked to incorporate three mystery materials provided to them by us and each one of the outfits were carefully analysed and evaluated by our judges Sheila James, the proud owner of Czarina Textiles, Aarsha Girish, a model, and, last but not least, Nandini Syju, our very own alumni who graduated from NID and works for an award-winning design agency. Each team added their own unique twists and embellishments to each outfit, such as the addition of old fabrics, and each model enhanced their outfits with their walk and music. The event proved what the exceptionally talented and creative minds could do when unbound by strict rules which is what ultimately led it to becoming a vibrant success. The Loyola School emerged victorious for their performance.

-Jonathan Mathew



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE SHOW](#)





BATTLE OF THE BANDS



SPECTRA 7, 2024 was a chance to unleash musical magic. It is with great pride and pleasure that I had the honour of heading SPECTRA 7's debut event: Battle of the Bands!

We were thrilled to host incredible performances from three remarkable schools: Loyola School, St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, and Sarvodaya Vidyalaya. Centred at the main stage, each school rocked the stage with their unique styles, with 12 minutes allocated per band – 4 minutes for set-up and sound check, and 8 minutes to dazzle us with their musical prowess and to prove that they were there for a reason. As a first for Trivandrum inter-school music competitions, a countdown timer on the LED screen kept the event transparent and on track, adding an extra layer of excitement.

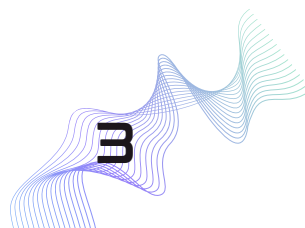
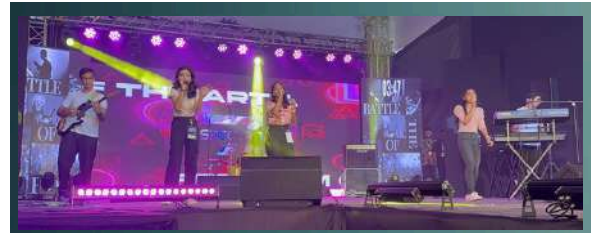
The journey to this successful event began months before, during the previous academic year. I'm incredibly grateful to everyone who played a part in making Battle of the Bands a smashing success. A special thank you to our judges, Mr. Vineeth Panikkar and Ms. Charu Hariharan, for gracing us with their presence and expertise amidst their busy schedules. Their valuable time and feedback were instrumental in the event's success. A huge shout out to the music department and Mr. Tennyson, whose dedication ensured the sound engineering was top-notch. Your support and expertise created the perfect backdrop for the bands to shine.

The energy and enthusiasm of our MCs – Johaan Immanuel (10 IG), Ananya Nair (10 IG), and Ved Sanjeev (11DP) – played a crucial role in making the event vibrant and engaging. They lifted everyone's spirits and added to the fun atmosphere! I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the ushering team, especially Aryan Sarath Chandran (11DP) and Vaidehi Nair (12DP), for their flawless coordination and leadership.

Their efforts ensured everything ran smoothly and efficiently. Last, but certainly not least, a big round of applause to the TRINS Senior School Rock Band for setting the bar high with their demo performance. They truly set the tone for an unforgettable Battle of the Bands.

The performances were nothing short of spectacular, and I'm proud to announce that Loyola School took home the 1st place trophy for their stellar showcase. Kudos to them for their outstanding achievement!

- Aryeh Thomas Mathews



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE BANDS PERFORM](#)

Event X, the mystery event at SPECTRA, was a huge success, engaging participants with a variety of thrilling challenges while they attempted to find the kidnapped kid, Matteo. A total of six schools took part in Event X, with 4 members in each team.

Each school had to successfully complete six rounds to rescue the child. They decoded number lock patterns, retrieved a missing diary piece from the swimming pool and interrogated suspects on stage in order to gain information on their case. The event culminated in a tense obstacle course that led to finding a missing child. An hour later they were expected to give a press release of their discoveries.

The intricate plot, particularly the unfolding drama between Giovanni and Falconi, captivated the participants. Schools praised the event's design and were especially eager to know the conclusion of the storyline. Event X proved to be an unforgettable experience for all involved. After 5 hours of intense competition and strategic problem solving, L'ecole Chempaka Silver Rocks emerged victorious.

-Jaya Sree





BEAT THE STREET



The TRINS dance team and I had the privilege of organising 'Beat the Street', the group dance event of Spectra. Being the concluding event, 'Beat the Street' was designed to leave a lasting impression on both the participants and the audience, and it certainly did not disappoint.

The air was filled with anticipation as teams from various schools gathered, ready to showcase their best moves and creative choreography. The four participant schools brought their A-game, electrifying the stage with their passion and skill. Each team brought its unique style, electrifying the stage with routines that demonstrated not just skill, but a deep passion for dance. The audience was fully engaged, their energy and enthusiasm matching that of the performers. Cheers and applause filled the air as the dancers executed intricate routines, their dedication to the art of dance evident in every move. The diversity of styles, ranging from contemporary to hip-hop, added a vibrant dynamism to the event, making each performance a memorable experience. Just when it seemed the energy had reached its peak, the TRINS dance team took the stage for the grand finale.

We are immensely grateful to our wonderful judges, Mr. Deepak Murali, who also played a pivotal role in supporting the organisation of the event, and Mr. Abhijith "Bhoomi." Their expertise and guidance were invaluable in ensuring the success of the competition. We would also like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Loyola School for winning first place in the event. Their outstanding performance truly set the bar high and was a testament to the talent and dedication that 'Beat the Street' aimed to celebrate.

-Janaki Saju

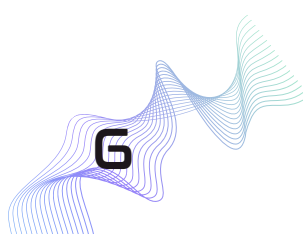


[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE DANCE PERFORMANCE](#)

With great efforts, discussions and willpower, the personality event, Spotlight, was brought back to life for our interschool fest SPECTRA once again. Similar to a Frankenstein's monster, SPOTLIGHT was born from the meticulous planning of our team, consisting of myself (Dhyan Madathil), Tharian Malayattoor, Rishi Neelanath, Aman Nivin and Arjun Divakar. The event consisted of three rounds, each meant to test a person's persona to the limits. The first two rounds, the written test and the stress interview, both meant to build a profile of every participant, went smoothly as expected. The third round is the judges' round, which is also an on-stage round. Five finalists stepped onto the stage with 200 pairs of eyes and two judges with the sole goal of breaking the finalists down to their authentic self. The judges round was incredibly well received, an impossible feat without our incredible judges, Mr. Abhilash Sudheesh and Mrs. Malavika Sudheesh, who were, undoubtedly, the heroes of the whole event.

At the end of it all, only one winner will be titled the ARCHON (the ruler) of SPECTRA. The prestigious award was given to the deserving crowd and judges favourite, Shravan from Loyola School, who stole the show with his wit, humour and genuinity. Spotlight at SPECTRA 7 remained at the top as the least forgiving yet most rewarding personality event, feared and revered by the district of Trivandrum. This event taught that not appearance, caste, race, religion, nationality nor gender make a difference on stage; it is your personality that wins over crowds and countries and makes leaders.

-Dhyan Madathil



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE EVENT](#)

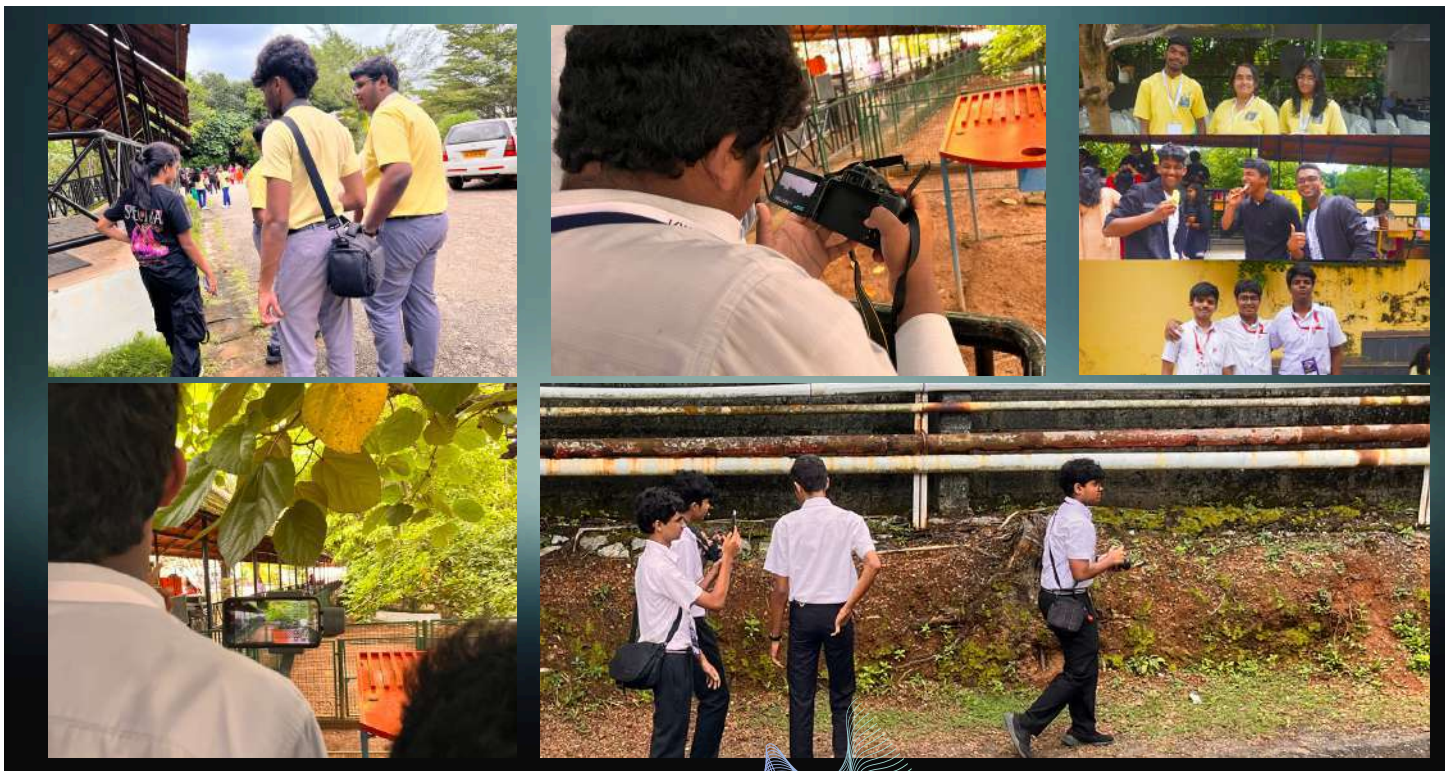
Focalist, the photography contest, was organised by Jacob T.M., Joshua C and Niranjana H. The event's motto, "Freedom of the Arts", was perfectly embodied in Focalist, where participants were encouraged to explore their photographic vision without undue constraints. Unlike many other photography contests, Focalist's minimal restrictions provided a unique platform for students to showcase their ingenuity and creativity.

Focalist consisted of two rounds. In the preliminary round, prior to August 17th, participating teams were expected to portray the harmony and chaos found in metropolitan areas, as the theme was 'Urban Symphony'. The second round, on the day of the SPECTRA 7 event, took place on campus. The theme "Ethereal" invited participants to capture images that explored the surreal. By capturing dreamlike, otherworldly images, photographers were encouraged to push the boundaries of reality through their photography and editing techniques.

The judging panel for Focalist was composed of highly accomplished professionals. Ms. Kripa Suresh, a renowned photographer with a scholarship from the French Embassy to study at the Speos International Photography School in Paris, brought her expertise and international perspective to the competition. Joining Ms. Suresh was Mr. Akhil Geethanand, a talented cinematographer from Trivandrum with a strong background in film and television. Mr. Geethanand's experience in Malayalam feature films, including the critically acclaimed "Paappan," contributed to his insightful assessment of the submitted photographs.

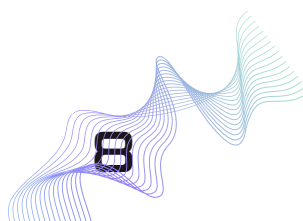
After careful deliberation, L'ecole Chempaka Silver Rocks emerged as the first-place winner, showcasing exceptional talent and creativity. Loyola School and L'ecole Chempaka International secured second and third place respectively.

-Jacob & Joshua



Thank you to those who sponsored **SPECTRA 7**

- **Ramachandran**
- **Brilliant Study Centre, Pala**
- **KlickEdu**
- **Innopolis**
- **Elegancia**
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- **Czarina**



SPECTRA

FREEDOM OF THE ARTS.





Upcoming Events & Holidays

Events

- 07th September 2024 - Wings of Fire Culmination
- 12th September 2024 - Onam Assembly
- 25th September 2024 - EY LIT. Fest-2 & Book Fair
- 26th September 2024 - EY Term 1 PTM & Book Fair
- 27th September 2024 - PYP Term 1 PTM, Grade 7 PTM, and Book Fair
- 28th September 2024 - Book Fair TP and PK2 to K1 Parent Orientation



Holidays

- 13th & 14th September 2024 - First Onam
- 15th September 2024 - Thiruvonam
- 16th September 2024 - Third Onam & Milad-i-Sherif
- 17th September 2024 - Fourth Onam
- 18th September 2024 - Sree Narayana Guru Jayanthi
- 21st September 2024 - Sree Narayana Guru Samadhi Day





Newsletter

TRINS ON TUESDAY



Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 11

03rd September 2024



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