



Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

# Principal's message

First, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year. As we enter 2025, it is another year that brings possibilities and opportunities for all members of the TRINS community. For each of our students, there will be new experiences and important milestones. I look forward to sharing their accomplishments with you.

I was out of school for the week as I extended my own trip to England to attend the Round Square Heads Symposium, which was held in London at the end of the week. The opportunity to meet other school leaders, and to hear from experts on topics related to school development, are two of the very real benefits I gained from the experience. I believe that establishing and strengthening inter-school links provides significant opportunities for our students, whilst the discussions led by experts provide insights that enable me to have high-quality conversations when back in school about how TRINS continues to move forward.

I was sorry to miss the first All-Kerala Cambridge Schools Athletics Meet on Saturday, which TRINS co hosted. I have mentioned before how the different networks of which the school is a part enrich the experience we offer our students. In this case, the chance to test themselves against the young athletes from other Cambridge schools in Kerala. I am delighted by the success individual athletes achieved and very proud that TRINS lifted the overall championship trophy. This is a very positive start to 2025 and I look forward to further success.

To continue the sporting theme - and to build on the success of our students - I look forward to the Parents Sports Day on 25th January. There are details in this edition - and you will also have received information by email. Please join us for a morning of fun and good-natured competition.

Mr. Richard Hillebrand







Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

### Events Over

#### THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Eight students from 11DP and 12DP participated in the National Conference on Inclusive Education, which took place in New Delhi from 19th to 21st December, 2024. This prestigious conference was organised by the Global Inclusive Education Network (GIEN) in collaboration with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) and the National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD).

The TRINS students presented their research papers which will be published collectively in the form of a book. The students are: Advay Nair, Ajitha Rajakantham, Akshaja Vineed Nair, Apurva Madhulika Chakilam, Aryan Sarath Chandran, Bhavya Chandranath, Shrreya Renjini Sajith, Vritti Sharma.

Advay outlines his topic; 'AI is what Aryan, Vritti, and I focused on. How AI can be brought into Inclusive education. . . By combining AI's potential with human-centric approaches, we can create an education system where every learner thrives, regardless of their abilities or background. Inclusivity is not just a goal; it's a shared responsibility for a better future.'

Ajitha observes; 'Being the first ever conference to include student papers, it was something I had never done before, especially to present in an audience full of experts, who are definitely aware of the points and tips we wish to share, however, the encouragement provided by my peers, our mentor and the experts proved to be extremely helpful.'

Bhavya adds, 'When our moment finally arrived, I won't deny that I was nervous. The anxiety was obvious in my voice as I began speaking, but as I continued, I found my rhythm, and everything started falling into place.'

A special thanks to Dr. Sini Regi Thomas, Head of the SEN Department, for identifying this opportunity and then accompanying and supporting the students.







Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

# Events Over

#### NATIONAL MATH DAY

The National Math Day Awareness Programme, held on Tuesday,17th December was a huge success. The event was celebrated with enthusiasm, with our school premises decorated with math-themed posters, charts, and models created by our students. The programme featured a speech by our student on the contributions and achievements of the legendary mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan, a skit on Ramanujan-Hardy Number, and a captivating dance performance on Geometry.













Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

### Events Over

#### ALL-KERALA CAMBRIDGE SCHOOLS ATHLETICS MEET

TRINS co-hosted the inaugural All-Kerala Cambridge Schools Athletics Meet on 11th January 2025, along with L'ecole Champika and Christ Nagar International School. We welcomed students from Cambridge schools across the state to the Sreepadam Stadium, Attingal.

Over 40 TRINS students competed, and through their individual success they placed TRINS in first place overall. We will share more details in the next edition.

Thanks to Mr Arun Anil Kumar and all members of the PE Department for helping to organise the Meet, as well as for preparing out students. They would not have been able to achieve this without support from across the TRINS community.









Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

## Events Over

#### INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS: A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

We are pleased to share the wonderful internship opportunities provided by our school community to some of our Senior School students during Christmas break. These internships offer invaluable real-world experience and exposure to various fields, helping our students build skills and gain insights that will benefit them in their future careers. Our students had the opportunity to intern with:

- i) Dr. Anil Prahladan, the CEO of Aramis Imaging LLP. Dr.Anil is the parent of Tanusha Samitha Anil (Grade VI), and we are grateful for his mentorship in the field of MedTech and Artificial Intelligence in the Healthcare Industry;
- ii) Dr. Bimal John, the Medical Director of Credence Hospital. Dr. Bimal is the parent of Aiden Mathew John (Grade V), and his guidance provided the students with valuable insights into the medical field;

Iii0 CS Jose George, F.C.S., LL.B, a legal professional and the parent of Neethi Jose (Grade V), offering an enriching experience in the legal domain.

We thank these parents for their generosity in providing such meaningful internships to our students and for helping to foster their growth and career aspirations. Their support is greatly appreciated!













Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

### Events Over

#### LITERACY AND LANGUAGE SKILL BUILDING WORKSHOP

On Saturday, 11th January 2025, the Department of English, the Department of Humanities, the PYP Literacy Team, and Homeroom Teachers participated in the Literacy and Language Skill Building Workshop led by Mr. Abhinandan Bhattacharya. Also in attendance were Ms. Priya Prakash and Ms. Ann Maria from COCHINS. The collaboration between departments and the insightful guidance of Mr. Abhinandan Bhattacharya gave the participants an opportunity to reflect and further develop their approach to language and literacy teaching.







Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26

15th January 2025

# Main Campus - Early Years



The Early Years Main School campus reopened on Tuesday, 7th January 2025, with a buzz of excitement and activity. The children were eager to share their vacation adventures, and they were thrilled to reconnect with their teachers and friends. We kicked off the year by introducing the idea of a vision board for 2025. The children enthusiastically cut and pasted images and words that represent things they hope to achieve this year, such as learning new songs, planting more flowers, being kind and helpful, discovering new things, and starting new hobbies. Parent-teacher meetings were conducted on Friday, 10th January, an opportunity to share each child's progress.

Our theme 3, How We Express, continues as we explore story and art as powerful forms of expression. We're also excited to welcome parent volunteers next week for some engaging and fun sessions. Wishing everyone a wonderful academic year ahead!







Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025



### Technopark Campus

#### EXPLORING THE DIFFERENCES: A VISIT TO JOSHUA'S HOME

As part of our Theme 3, "How We Organize Ourselves" which focuses on understanding the differences between home and school, students of pK1 Technopark had the pleasure of visiting one of their friends, Joshua's house. The goal of the field trip was for the children to observe and appreciate the unique aspects of a home environment compared to a school setting. The kids thoroughly enjoyed their day, engaging in fun activities, playing together and having some snacks and juice. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to connect what they experience at home with their

school life.



#### REFLECTING ON GROWTH: TERM 2 PTM HIGHLIGHTS

On Friday, 10th January, the Term 2 PTM for KG1 to Grade 2 provided a meaningful opportunity for teachers and parents to reflect on students' progress and growth. It was a platform to celebrate achievements, discuss challenges and set goals for the upcoming term. Engaging conversations fostered a deeper understanding of each child's journey, emphasizing collaboration between home and school. The meeting highlighted students' hard work and commitment, leaving everyone motivated and ready for a successful final term.







Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025



### Sasthamangalam Campus

#### **EXPLORING THE EVOLUTION OF TRANSPORTATION: KG1**

As part of Theme-3: Changes in Transportation Systems, our KG1 students of the City campus delved into an insightful inquiry comparing transportation systems of the past with those of the present. During their Christmas holidays, the children conducted interactive interviews with their grandparents, capturing vivid accounts of how transportation looked and functioned in earlier times. These engaging discussions offered a unique glimpse into the children's curiosity and their eagerness to understand the evolution of transportation.







#### TERM 2 - PTM: STRENGTHENING THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

The Term-2 Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) for our Early Years (KG1 and KG2) took place on Friday, 10th January. This PTM serves as a valuable platform for open dialogue and collaboration between parents and teachers, further enhancing the learning journey of our young learners. Parents have expressed immense appreciation for the efforts of our academic team and the thoughtfully curated curriculum. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our parents for their enthusiasm and active partnership in this educational journey.







Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

#### Achievements

#### GLOBAL SCHOOL ALLIANCE AWARD

Trivandrum International School has achieved the silver Global School Award, recognising the ongoing work to promote an international outlook. The school received a personal message from Mr John Rolfe, Community and Partnership Manager at the Global School Alliance; 'Many thanks for all your fantastic support and many congratulations to you and to all at your wonderful school!...proud to work with you and to learn from you.'





#### Student Achievements

Hearty congratulations - Joanna Benoy 7C, Jeshnaa Hari 6B and Rachel Ann Roy 6A! As a part of Book Olympics in the library, their stories were submitted to the Read Bloom Books story writing contest and these stories were selected to be published on their website.



Joanna Benov -7C



Jeshnaa Hari - 6B



Rachel Ann Roy Grade 6 Alumni





Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

#### Student Achievements

#### STEM NEWS:

Three students from the High School have been selected for the preliminary stage of the prestigious YIP 6.0 programme by the Kerala government. Congratulations to Gourika A. J. and Priyanka Kalahasthi of 10 IG and Venika A. J. of 9IG



Priyanka Kalahasthi 10 IG



Venika - 9IG



Gourika 10 IG

#### Staff Achievements

Ms. Amritha Renganath and Ms. Karthika Raj attended a 3-day certificate programme on Behaviour Modification conducted by SensAble Child from 3rd - 5th January, 2025.



Ms. Amritha Renganath



Ms. Karthika Raj





Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

### Round Square

#### **ROUND SQUARE HEADS SYMPOSIUM**

Mr. Richard Hillebrand, Director of Academics and Principal, attended the Round Square Heads Symposium in London from 9th to 11th January. The theme of the symposium was 'Back to the Future' which embraced conversations around innovations in technology in education, as well as how the values of Round Square can be used to help young people navigate the challenges of today - and tomorrow. There was the opportunity to visit a school and reflect on its experience, as well as a series of presentations that provided much to stimulate further discussion. Speakers included Priya Lakhani OBE, the Founder CEO of CENTURY Tech and a contributing BBC technology correspondent who sits on the UK Government's AI Council. How a school can adapt to the growing significance of AI, both through adoption and educating students - and adults - in informed usage, were key points that were explored.

The Symposium also provided an opportunity to meet Mr Gerard Foley, the Principal of Ivanhoe Grammar School, Melbourne, a school TRINS has been partnered with through its Global School Alliance membership.







Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

#### Staff Profiles



Mr. Ajesh Suresh

Mr. Ajesh Suresh- HOD Arts is a multidisciplinary artist specialising in site-specific installations and performance art. Holding a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath and a Master's degree with Distinction from the Birmingham Institute of Art and Design, UK, he draws inspiration from a profound appreciation for nature. His practice focuses on non-permanent installations and performance art in natural spaces, where his passion for theater often leads him to incorporate his physical presence. These interventions challenge conventional notions of stage and audience, offering immersive artistic experiences.

From 1998 to 2010, Ajesh worked as an art director for various Bangalore-based theatre groups. In 2001, he wrote and directed "Words," marking his directorial debut. He later wrote and directed "The Cube" in 2009, an issue-based play that was staged at Alliance Française, Bangalore. While in Malaysia from 2010 to 2021, Ajesh directed three major musicals—The Wizard of Oz, Caucasian Chalk Circle, and Oliver the Musical—which were performed at the Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Center (KLpac) and University Malaya in Kuala Lumpur.

With teaching experience at international schools across India, Thailand, and Malaysia, Ajesh has inspired countless students. His reverence for nature has deepened his spirituality and fuelled his artistic practice, bringing him to various locations worldwide, where heconnects with people through his art.

Website: <a href="https://ajesh.art/">https://ajesh.art/</a>

Book details: https://findingkrishna.com/





Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

#### Staff Profiles



Ms. Lekshmi Jaya, Numeracy Lead - EY- PYP, began her journey with TRINS in 2020 as a Mathematics teacher in the PYP program. Born and raised in Trivandrum, she has a postgraduate and B.Ed. in Mathematics from the University of Kerala. Her teaching career began in 2003 in the Middle East, where she worked in CBSE schools in Sharjah and Doha. In 2012, she returned to Kochi and continued teaching before moving to Trivandrum. Her 20 years of teaching experience, including IB PYP training and strong bond with children speak volumes about her commitment to her role. Having taught in India and abroad, she brings a wealth of knowledge, a methodical approach, and a global perspective that will benefit her students by providing them with wider exposure and deeper insights.



Ms. Shalini Bose, Special Educator and EY SEN Coordinator. With over 18 years of experience, Ms. Shalini Bose is a certified special educator specialising in intellectual disabilities, accredited by the Rehabilitation Council of India. Holding a postgraduate degree in Clinical Psychology and additional certifications in special education, she excels in behaviour modification, sensory challenges, and managing learning disabilities. Her expertise includes supporting students with severe multiple disabilities and handling complex behavioral challenges. She conducts assessments, mentors teachers, and provides tailored support to foster inclusive education. Ms. Shalini is dedicated to empowering children to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.





Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025

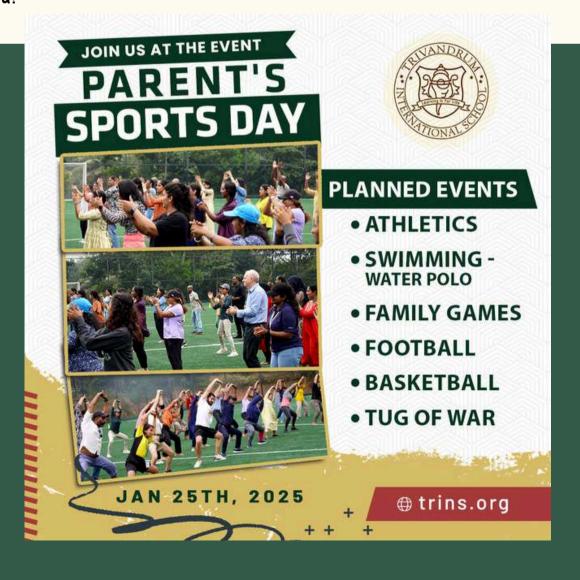
#### Invitation

Dear Parents.

We are excited to invite you to Parents Sports Day on Saturday, 25th January 2025, at the TRINS Campus. Join us for a day filled with fun, fitness, and friendly competition. We look forward to your participation and cheers!

Click here to Register.

Thank You!







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Week 26

15th January 2025

# Upcoming Events & Holidays

### <u>Holidays</u>

• 26th January 2025- Republic Day

### Events

- 15th January 2025 EY LIT. FEST
- 20th January 2025 Monthly Assessment DP 11 &12
- 23rd January 2025 Grade 8 into Grade 9
  Orientation
- 25th January 2025- Parent Sports Day
- 27th January 2025 Republic Day Celebration
- 28th January 2025- EY & PYP STEM Day
- 31st January 2025- MS, HS AND SS, Swimming Gala









Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 26 15th January 2025



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