



Trivandrum. Sasthamangalam. Technopark

Week 5 23rd July 2024

## Principal's message



We celebrated the school's twenty-first birthday at the beginning of last week - and then enjoyed a week that included much of what makes the school such a special place to learn. The Talents Day for our older students drew on the enthusiasm and talents in the field of performance, whilst our Under 14 Basketball team brought us further success. During the week, there were several visits that took students' learning out of the classroom and to real-world situations.

I am very grateful that the Honourable Member of Parliament for Thiruvananthapuram, Dr. Shashi Tharoor, was able to spend time to be Chief Guest on Friday for the handing over of the school's donation to Ammathottil and the inauguration of the refurbished nursery facility there. The work that is being done at Ammathottil to improve the life chances of some of the most vulnerable children deserves media attention, and I am glad that fundraising by the TRINS community has been instrumental in bringing about change.

Mr. Richard Hillebrand





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### Events Over

#### SCHOOL BIRTHDAY ASSEMBLY

The week started with a lively celebration of the 21st Birthday of Trivandrum International School in a special assembly. The lighting of the lamp, cutting of the cake and presentation of cards were important parts of the tradition that goes back to the school's first birthday in 2004. Ms Brinda was able to speak about the school over its history, having joined the school at its creation in 2003. Ms Sapnu George, Executive Director, spoke of the continuous growth of the school, whilst maintaining and enhancing its values-based approach to learning. In reminding the assembly of the significance of the words of the School Anthem, Mr Richard Hillebrand, Principal, also emphasised the values that the school has cherished for 21 years. The Rock Band performed its set from LaFest and the assembly was also dazzled by the dance routine that students had presented at the same inter-school competition. An assembly reflecting the dynamism of the school was kept on track by Head Boy, Aryeh Thomas Mathews, and Head Girl, Vaidehi Nair.

Thank you to all who participated in the assembly, for the contribution from the Art Department in preparing the Chess Board area, for the support form the Music Department, and a special round of applause to the Assembly Team for getting the week off to such a positive start.







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#### MIDDLE AND SENIOR SCHOOL TALENTS DAY

Middle and Senior school Talents Day for the academic year 2024-25 was successfully conducted on 15th July, 2024. The day was filled with both solo and team events. Individual performances showed a variety of dance styles, and there were singing and instrumental entries that reflected both Eastern and Western traditions. The Fashion Show created by each house is always a highlight, and the mime competition is always a very competitive display of invention. We express our gratitude to Ms. Aiswarya, Ms. Renjini, Dr. Rajeev, Dr. Aswathy, and Ms. Arya for coordinating the event and ensuring its timely completion. We also extend our deepest thanks to all house mistresses and masters, Ms. Brinda and her team, and all the teachers who contributed to the success of the Talents Day event.







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#### INAUGURATION OF THE REFURBISHED NURSERY BY DR. SHASHI THAROOR

Friday 19th July, a cheque for 4.12 lakhs rupees was presented to Ammathotill, under the Kerala State Council for Child Welfare, in Thycaud, in the presence of Honourable Member of Parliament for Thiruvananthapuram, Dr. Shashi Tharoor. This is the amount raised through the Cake-Sale and Christmas Carnival. The payment was handed over in the presence of Kerala State Council for Child Welfare General Secretary, Mr.GL Arun Gopi, Ms. Sapnu George, TRINS Executive Director, Principal, Mr. Richard Hillebrand and TRINS students. This funding is being utilised to renovate the Ammathottil nursery; this will be opened to the public and the revenue earned through the nursery will be used to fund Ammathottil children's requirements.

After the inauguration of the refurbished nursery, Dr Tharoor spoke to the audience and congratulated the TRINS students on the efforts they have made to ensure a connect with the community around them, to challenge the perception of an international school as a place apart from its surroundings. He also found time to take a few questions from TRINS students and offer his insights on the issues they raised. Ms Sapnu George, Executive Director, spoke of the school's outstanding record in social service and how this is an ongoing commitment. Vaidehi Nair, Head Girl, gave her personal account of the student experience of social service at TRINS. Janaki S, ably led the event, linking the different speakers, who also included General Secretary, G L. Arun Gopi, Sister Sharmila K., and Mr Hillebrand, Principal. Aryeh Thomas Mathews gave the vote of thanks.





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#### **VISIT TO IDBI BANK AND UNION BANK**

Students of 9IG visited local banks on 17th July in a Math and Commerce collaboration. 23 students with 2 teachers visited the IDBI bank. The Bank assistant Manager, Mr Basqind and his fellow bank executives Ms Lakshmi and Ms Daflyn explained in detail about the banking procedures, like how a cheque gets processed, how banks function, how they prepare the BRS, what kind of accounts are maintained and how interest is calculated. The Bank representatives took initiative to answer all the questions raised by our students and helped them understand how each department works. They also helped our students recognise the original and fake currency notes and also showed them how vaults function at a bank. 22 students visited Union Bank, Mamam and enjoyed a similar learning experience.

The visit was very useful for the students. Thanks to Ms Ambili, Ms Merly, Mr Abilash and Mr Suraj for accompanying the students, to the Heads of Department, Ms Sinduja and Ms Jisha for supporting the visit and for all who made it possible.











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#### **HISTORY FIELD TRIP**

On Friday 19th July 2024 students of Grade 6A, 6B, 9IC and 10 IC were taken to a History field trip conducted by the Department of Humanities. Students were taken to the Department of Archaeology, Kariavattom campus, Thiruvananthapuram. The trip heightened students' understanding of archaeological artefacts and how to interpret information, as well as familiarising students with what an archaeological site would look like.

The enriching experience will enhance the students' understanding and knowledge of topics they will be studying throughout the academic year, as well as extending their knowledge of how the past is explored. Thanks to the Head of Department, Ms Sunita, and accompanying teachers, Ms Devsree, Ms Sonia, Ms Hima, Ms Ranju, Mr Visakh.







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#### INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

The following students attended the International Research Conference for School Children (IRCC 2023-'24), organised by the Global Young Researchers' Academy (GYRA), Oregon, USA held at Ashis Convention Centre, Ernakulam from 12th to 14th July:

- 1. Aadya Lal, Grade 8
- 2. Sarah Thomas Regi, Grade 8
- 3. Diya Dinu Mathew, Grade 10

Diya had the opportunity to present her research findings from her personal project as a poster. Her project, titled "Autism Awareness among School Children through Social Stories," was well-received by the audience. Additionally, the students had the chance to interact with India's first robot teacher, IRIS, from Makerlab, Edutech. Thanks to Ms. Sini for accompanying the students. Images attached.











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#### **ALUMNI HOMECOMING**

Last Saturday (13th July) saw our alumni returning to the campus for a happy reunion with their friends and teachers. An early highlight was the inauguration of the new football turf by Mrs Mary George, followed by a match between the alumni and the current students (the alumni won!). Thanks to the PE team & Mr Sanjay for organising the same. The evening formally started with a welcome from Mr Hillebrand and Ms Sapnu George. Alumni contributed to the evening in a variety of ways: Devi Shivani presented a high energy dance routine, Hridhu Haroon spoke of the experience of being part of a prize-winning film at the Cannes Film Festival and Gokul Thampi spoke of his recollections as a senior alum.

About 50 alumni were in attendance, as well as a number of former teachers, making for a strong sense of community. Thanks to Ms Sinduja, Ms Sona, Mr Abhilash V L, Ms Parvathy and Ms Brinda for supporting to organise the evening along with Ms Sangeetha, who has been working over the past months to ensure that an alumni event took place.

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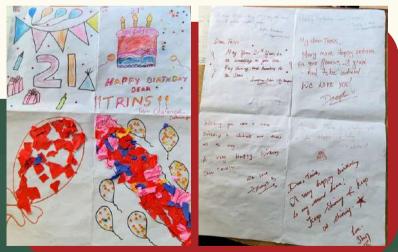


### Sasthamangalam Campus

#### SCHOOL'S 21ST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

A special assembly at the City campus, featuring students from PK1 to KG2, began with our proud tradition of the school prayer, followed by a presentation introducing key members of our school community: our Principal, Executive Director, Junior School Head, PYP Coordinator, Centre Head, and Home Room Teachers. The highlight of the assembly was a presentation that replayed the 21 years of the TRINS' journey, giving both children and staff a nostalgic and inspiring look at our school's history. The school's anthem was the appropriate finale. A huge shout-out goes to Ms. Harmya for planning and executing this heartfelt and well-received assembly.

In their classes, children made cute cards to take home, showcasing their pride in their school's birthday. Additionally, they marked their love and wishes for the school on a huge card, which teachers also contributed to. This card will be sent from this campus to our main school.



Upcoming: Early Years Team Goal Setting Meetings

The Early Years Team is gearing up for the upcoming goal setting meetings with parents in the coming week. Our teachers are prepared with the goals they have identified for each student, ready to discuss and collaborate with parents.





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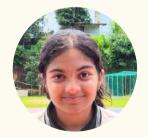


### Student Achievements

#### CISCE ZONE A BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT 2024-25

TRINS Under 14 Girls' Basketball team achieved second place in Zone A CISCE Basketball Tournament held at Loyola School on Thursday 18th July. Congratulations to all the team and the PE Department who have guided them!





Chilanka Kartha- Grade 8



Shriya Manu Nair- Grade 8



Esha J Paul- Grade 8



Sarah Thomas Regi- Grade 8



Niya Mahesh- Grade 7



Ashlynn Dinoop- Grade 7

Congratulations





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Sarah Mariam Stephen- Grade 7



Shriya Sivakumar P-Grade 7



Riqveda R Nair - Grade 8

### Staff Achievements

#### CRE PROGRAMME AT ST. MARTHA SPECIAL SCHOOL

Ms Ahalya Das of the S.E.N Department successfully completed MA in Clinical Psychology from IGNOU with a score of 76%.



Ms. Ahalya Das

# Congratulations





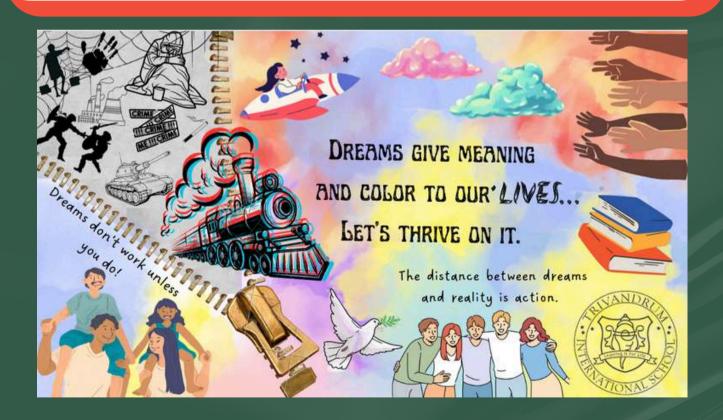
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#### **ROUND SQUARE POSTCARD**

Six students from grade8 participated in the Zoom postcard on the theme 'Dreams', hosted by the Emerald Heights School on Wednesday 17 July 2024. Thanks to Ms Sonia for coordinating the same.







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