

**Vol - 4**

**November - December 2025**



# **CIS HERALD**

**Monthly E-Magazine published by Junior School**

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# Newsletter

## Events in December

### Primary Section

**Friday, 12.12.25** - Report Card Distribution

**Monday, 15.12.25** - Return of signed report card.

**Tuesday 16.12.25** - EYP Stage rehearsal.

**Wednesday 17.12.25** - EYP

**Friday 19.12.25** - Last working day for Students and Teachers.  
Carol Singing and Class Party.

**20.12.25 to 7.01.26** - Winter Vacation.

### Junior Section

**Thursday 11.12.25** - Science Olympiad

**Friday 12.12.25** - Report Card Distribution  
Math Olympiad

**Monday 15.12.25** - Return of signed report card.  
Prize Distribution for Grades 1 to 5

**Tuesday 16.12.25** - EYP Stage rehearsal.

**Wednesday 17.12.25** - EYP

**Friday 19.12.25** - Last working day for Students and Teachers.  
Carol Singing and Class Party.

**20.12.25 to 7.01.26** - Winter Vacation.



**The Primary Section welcomes, Keiichiro Ibusuki to Pre-Nursery A and  
Akari Ibusuki to Upper Nursery A.**

# Dyslexia Awareness Day

On 28th October 2025, the SEN Department of Calcutta International School observed Dyslexia Awareness Day, with the theme “Walk in My Shoes,” encouraging everyone to develop empathy and understanding for learners who perceive and experience the world through a different lens. The event aimed to simulate the learning challenges faced by students with dyslexia and to help participants appreciate the perseverance, creativity and resilience these learners demonstrate every day.



A series of thoughtfully designed experiential activities allowed participants to step into the shoes of a dyslexic learner. Activities such as Swap the Lens (reading and writing with altered rules), Walk in My Shoes (reading passages with reversed or missing letters), Maze Walk (a letter reversal challenge) and the Memory Challenge (recalling words or images after a brief exposure) were carefully curated to mimic real classroom difficulties related to decoding, sequencing, and retention. These engaging simulations helped illustrate how effortful simple tasks can become for a dyslexic learner, promoting a sense of empathy and deeper understanding among all participants.



What made the day even more impactful was the enthusiastic participation of students, teachers and parents alike. Everyone embraced the activities with curiosity and open-mindedness, often expressing surprise at how challenging some of the tasks felt.

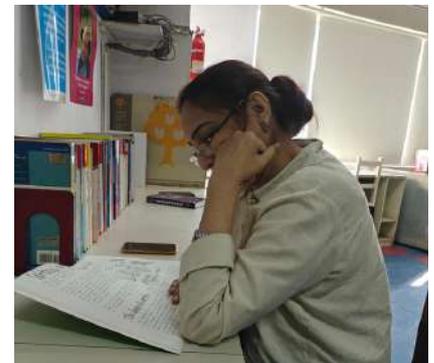
Laughter, reflection and meaningful discussions filled the atrium as participants shared their experiences and realizations. Teachers and parents particularly appreciated the opportunity to “feel” the struggles dyslexic learners face, leading to a collective sense of respect for their determination and capability.



The event was met with overwhelming appreciation, as all participants thoroughly enjoyed the immersive and thought-provoking sessions. It served as a powerful reminder that dyslexia does not define one’s intelligence or potential. At CIS, we remain committed to nurturing an inclusive learning environment where every learner—regardless of their challenges—feels understood, valued and empowered to thrive.

# Flipping pages, filling hearts — Library Shelfie Day at CIS

On 31st October 2025, Calcutta International School celebrated Library Shelfie Day — a delightful initiative introduced last year by our librarian, Mrs. Anuradha Ganguly. In an era when digital screens often overshadow the charm of printed books, this special day rekindled the simple, timeless pleasure of holding a book and losing oneself in its pages.



The Junior School faculty gathered in the library to mark the occasion. Surrounded by rows of well-loved shelves, teachers selected books that resonated with them, found cosy reading nooks and spent an hour immersed in reading — accompanied, of course, by a comforting cup of coffee.





The soft rustle of turning pages and the serene ambience created a truly magical atmosphere.

Library Shelfie Day was more than just a celebration of books; it was a moment to pause, reflect and reconnect with the written word. It reminded everyone at CIS that reading is not merely an activity but a shared experience that binds our community together in the love of stories.

# Children's Day Celebration

## Junior School



On 14th November 2025, the Junior School celebrated Children's Day with vibrant enthusiasm and a joyful spirit. The day was filled with cheerful laughter as students enjoyed a range of fun games and interactive activities with their teachers.

A major highlight was the delightful programme presented by the teachers.

In the Primary Section, teachers staged an engaging play called, *Pirates Looking for Treasure*. Dressed as pirates on an exciting quest, they brought the adventure to life with lively actions and spirited performances, keeping the children thoroughly entertained.





## Grade Pre Nursery



## Grade Nursery



# Grade Upper Nursery



Across Grades 1–5, teachers performed energetic dances, humorous skits and melodious songs, filling the hall with applause, excitement and joy. Students were thrilled to see their teachers in such playful roles, making them feel valued and celebrated.





To make the day even more special, each child received a thoughtful gift to take home. The combination of lively activities, enchanting performances and warm gestures created an atmosphere of pure happiness, making this Children's Day a memorable and heart-warming celebration for the entire Junior School.



Grade 1





Grade 2



Grade 3





Grade 4



Grade 5



Adding to the day's significance, Mrs Nayar was invited as the Chief Guest at the 'Rainbow Fun Fest', a Children's Day celebration held at Loreto Day School, Bowbazar, on 15th November 2025.



The event was organised by Ms. Lovina Khan, Managing Trustee of Open Arms Educational & Charitable Trust.

Mrs. Nayar was felicitated and presented with the Rainbow Fest 2025 trophy in recognition of her dedicated efforts in fostering academic growth and mentoring generations of students.



# Junior School Annual Sports Day

The CIS Junior School Annual Sports Day 2025, held on 22nd November, was a vibrant celebration of athletic talent, teamwork and school spirit, bringing together students, teachers and parents for a memorable day of healthy competition. The programme began with an encouraging address by Mrs Nayar, followed by the introduction of the Chief Guest, Ms Mayurakshi Mukherjee, an accomplished national and international rower and former karate champion from Kolkata. The event was expertly compered by Ms Amanda DuPratt and Mrs Debika Dasgupta, whose presence ensured a lively and engaging experience throughout the programme.



The March Past set the tone for the day, as students marched in synchrony, proudly representing their houses.



This was followed by a lively series of fun races, including the Wiggle and Giggle–Tunnel Dash, Hurdle Hustle, Balance Dash, Power Pass, Joyful Sack Leap, Eco Warriors, Steady Scholar’s Walk and the exciting Obstacle Odyssey.





Track and field events added to the competitive spirit, with students demonstrating determination and resilience.



A powerful Martial Arts display of focus and discipline.



Races for teachers, parents and staff added moments of warmth and laughter, strengthening the sense of community.







As the results were announced, Yellow House emerged as the overall champion and also secured the prize for Best March Past, followed by Green House and Red House in second and third place.



Thoughtfully organised by Sports teachers Mr Abdul Samad and Mr Kaushik Kumar Sinha and smoothly coordinated by Section Heads Mrs Neelam Choudhary and Mrs Sharmila Majumdar, the event concluded with a spirited prize distribution, a jubilant Victory Lap and the dignified lowering of the CIS school flag—capturing the true essence of sportsmanship and participation.



# Session on Puberty

On 29th October, 3rd and 5th November, Grade 5 students attended a series of sessions with the school counsellors on Navigating Puberty. The session aimed at providing insight to the young learners about Adolescence, the crucial phase of development that each of them is journeying through. The interactive sessions were conducted separately for boys and girls so as to make it relatable for the students. The safe space created enabled every child to clarify their doubts about what puberty really entails and how it feels.



While girls asked a plethora of questions about menstruation, how to use period products and how to manage discomfort, if any, boys were intrigued about aspects such as growth spurt, their voices breaking, body hair, acne, pheromones, to name a few. Students were enlightened on pubertal changes for both boys and girls to create sensitivity and foster an environment of respect and inclusion. The session also highlighted the fact that puberty includes not only physical changes but also emotional transformations caused by hormonal development. While some students shared that they have had opportunities to discuss puberty with parents in the past, others shared that this had not begun for them at home yet. The absence of such interactions at home can often lead them to feel confused and overwhelmed. We urge all parents to initiate conversations around puberty to foster healthy discussions and provide accurate information to children, clarifying their doubts and concerns along the way.



School counsellors will schedule a workshop for all Grade 5 parents in the upcoming months to guide them on how to address puberty, depending on the readiness of your child and support them in navigating through this period of rapid development.



# Session on Empathy and Kindness

The school counsellors, Mrs. Spriha Patronobis, Mrs. Farishta Dastur Mukherji and Ms. Yashvi Thakkar conducted Life Skills sessions with the Grade 3 students on the themes of Empathy and Kindness on 31st October and 3rd November, 2025.

The session began by revisiting World Mental Health Day, when the students had participated in an “Empathy Bingo.” This activity encouraged self-reflection, helping students think about whether their actions truly reflect in their interpersonal relationships, especially with peers. Some students thoughtfully acknowledged where there might be room to grow, which opened the space for meaningful discussion.



The counsellors then spoke about how our words and actions can deeply affect others. Together, the students explored situations where peers may feel left out and discussed how each of us can play a role in making our classroom and playground a warm and inclusive space.

In conclusion, the students were reminded that while kindness is essential, it is equally important to know when to seek help from a trusted adult, especially if they notice someone being excluded repeatedly or if they themselves feel overwhelmed or unsure.



# GK and English Olympiads Conducted Successfully



Our young learners from Grades 1 to 5 enthusiastically participated in the International English Olympiad (IEO) and International General Knowledge Olympiad (IGKO). A total of 140 students took part in the IEO and 91 students in the IGKO, showcasing their curiosity, confidence and quest for learning beyond the classroom. Their participation reflects a spirit of excellence and a love for knowledge. Kudos to all our budding scholars for their commendable effort and enthusiasm!

# Session on Safe and Unsafe Touch



On 10th and 12th November, students of Grade Nursery and Upper Nursery attended sessions with the School Counsellors on 'Safe and Unsafe Touch'. Aimed at creating age-appropriate awareness among students on aspects such as Body Awareness and Personal Safety, these interactive sessions helped children identify the various forms of touch and their impact on how we feel, both in terms of bodily sensations and emotions - (comfortable/ uncomfortable/ scared/ anxious/ confused/ hurt), the different parts of the human body which can be touched (to express affection) and which must be avoided to respect personal boundaries. Children were also enlightened that unsafe behaviours include another individual displaying their private parts or exposing children to inappropriate content (through conversations, gestures, images, videos, etc.).



It was highlighted that contrary to popular belief that safety lines are crossed by strangers, often it can be a person that we are familiar with and even share a close relationship with. It was emphasized that usually parents and in some cases grandparents or caregivers can help us while bathing, changing clothes, using the washroom or to check if we are hurt. A doctor can only examine a young person's body in the presence of their parents.



Once students were clear about body boundaries, the next step was to empower them with a Safety Plan, in case they ever experience uncomfortable situations. The 3 step STOP-RUN-TELL Safety Plan was discussed:

- Shout at the person to “Stop!”
- Run Away from the person, go to a safer place/zone/ towards other adults
- Tell a trusted adult about the incident.

The concept of Safety Circle was also explained – as children need to be helped to identify who qualifies as a trusted adult whom children can report to and confide in when needed – Parents, teachers, and in some cases grandparents or a trusted caregiver can be a part of the Safety Circle.

The sessions were well received by our young learners who are eager to practice.



# Interhouse Football Tournament



The Interhouse Football Tournament is always one of the most eagerly anticipated events of the year and this year was no exception.

Yellow House emerged as the winner, while Red House secured the position of runner-up.



# Shaping Tomorrow's Cricketing Champions

The Junior School Cricket Team Trials for boys and girls were held on 7th November, 2025 and were conducted with great success. The event saw enthusiastic participation, with students demonstrating impressive skill, energy and sportsmanship throughout the day.

A particularly heartening highlight this year was the strong response from our Junior School girls. Their willingness to step forward and engage in the trials reflected growing confidence and interest in the sport, adding to the pride of the occasion.



Following a detailed and thoughtful selection process led by Mr Kaushik Sinha, along with an external coach, sixteen students have been chosen to represent the Junior School Cricket Team for the upcoming season. The selected players are:

- Daksh Jain – 5B
- Aarav Agarwal – 5B
- Aaryav Gujral – 5B
- Miraan Lakhota – 5B
- Daksh Sureka – 5B
- Reyansh Sureka – 4A
- Shreyaan Kajaria – 4B
- Anirved Somani – 3A
- Agustha Chamria – 3B
- Devyansh Shah – 5B
- Aneesh Chatterjee – 3B
- Devangi Phumbhra – 3A
- Dhruv D Patodia – 5A
- Sanay Parasrampurua – 5A
- Moksh Lakhota – 3B
- Alentino M Sarkar – 3A (Reserve)

We extend our warmest congratulations to all selected students and appreciate the sincere efforts of every participant. With a talented and enthusiastic squad in place, we look forward to seeing our Junior School Cricket Team participate in inter-school tournaments and gear up for an exciting season ahead.

# Kitchen Garden Harvest at CIS!

This season brought a burst of joy as our very own grown papayas were harvested from the flourishing CIS kitchen garden!

The papaya saplings were sown by the Grade 4 learners of the academic session 23-24 as a vertical collaboration, which was nourished by the Grade 2 and 5 learners of the academic session 24-25, along with their other kitchen garden plants.



The papayas harvested were made into a refreshing and healthy salad to be relished.



Our Grade 3 learners couldn't get enough; many even asked for second helpings! Along the way, they also learned about the importance of including fibre-rich fruits in their daily diet and made meaningful connections between garden produce and healthy eating.



Teachers and staff joined in too, enjoying the flavours and appreciating the care put into growing these wonderful fruits.



A very big thank you to our dedicated teachers, lab assistant and Mali Dada for their hard work and nurturing hands.

# Student Achievements



Dhruv D Patodia of Grade 5A participated in the Jharkhand Amateur & Junior Open 2025, organised by the IGU Junior East Zone Feeder Tour on 9–10 October, 2025 at Golmuri Golf Course, Jamshedpur and emerged as the top performer in his category.

Aaryav Gujral of 5B participated in the International Student Essay Writing Contest '25 (GEMA) and received a certificate of appreciation for his outstanding essay.



We are pleased to share that Arjun Vora Kejriwal of 2B achieved the highest band of attainment, 'Distinction', in guitar from Trinity College London through the Calcutta School of Music.

# Student Achievements

Abigail Shuhan Chung of 5A received an e-certificate and a Praiseworthy Young Author consolation prize for her short story in the International Short Story Writing Competition (GEMA).



Arjun Patodia Pereira of Grade 3B has been awarded the Silver Medal in the prestigious Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2025, which celebrates young writers' ideas and creativity on global themes.

Samara Bagaria of Grade 3B participated in the Kolkata Open WT (Olympic) Taekwondo Championship, securing 1st place in fighting and 3rd place in speed kicking.



# Student Achievements

Ishanjit Dawn of 2A recently played the lead role in the short film *Manikchander Panchali* (মানিকচাঁদের পাঁচালী), a cinematic tribute to Satyajit Ray. Portraying the protagonist 'Manik', he explored narratives inspired by Ray's iconic works such as *Sonar Kella*, *Bhuter Raja*, and *Gupi Gayen Bagha Bayen*. The film highlights themes of imagination, friendship, and empathy, offering young audiences a world of engaging adventures. This project provided Ishanjit with a valuable learning experience as a young actor.



We are also proud to share that the film was screened at the Bengal's Film Festival, 2025 in New Delhi, organised by the Government of West Bengal, where Ishanjit was felicitated by esteemed dignitaries.



# Student Achievements

The Junior School Football Team participated in the Blue n White Inter-Junior School Football Tournament 2025 at St Xavier's Collegiate School on 13th October 2025. The team showed strong spirit, putting up a good fight against the host school before losing 2–0, and then securing an excellent 7–0 win against Albany High Public School. Their performance reflected solid teamwork, skill, and sportsmanship. Mrs Nayar congratulated the players and presented them with certificates for their commendable effort and participation.



We are delighted to share that Ayaan Kasera of Grade 4B has emerged as a National Level Winner in the GEMA International Student Speaker Competition, a platform recognising exceptional public speaking and leadership potential. He received a certificate and medal for his outstanding performance.



Heartiest congratulations to all our young achievers for their exceptional accomplishments and for bringing pride to the CIS community.

# CIS Shines at 5th Kolkata Cup Karate Championship 2025

On 16th November 2025, six talented students from the Martial Arts ECA at CIS participated in the Inter-school 5th Kolkata Cup Karate Championship 2025, organised by Japan Karate India in collaboration with Vedanta College.

The participants—Shravyaa Baid, Araddya Tewari, Anushka Sarkar, Dravin Chakraborty, Aisha Bansal and Vaani Agarwal excelled in their respective Kata categories, with all six winning medals.



In the Team Kata event, the trio of Shravyaa Baid, Araddya Tewari and Anushka Sarkar delivered an impressive performance, securing the 2nd Runners-Up Trophy.



Dravin Chakraborty competed in Kumite and secured a bronze medal in his category.

Congratulations to our CIS Martial Arts students for their remarkable achievements and dedication!

# Coffee Meets at CIS

## Strengthening the Home-School Partnership

The Junior School at CIS hosted its annual Coffee Meets—a much-valued platform for open dialogue between parents and the school—across the Primary and Junior Sections in October and November 2025.

The sessions were graced by Mrs. Pratima Nayar, Junior School Principal, who warmly welcomed parents and emphasised the school’s belief in fostering a close partnership between parents and educators to nurture the holistic development of every child.



Section Heads Mrs. Sharmila Majumdar and Mrs. Neelam Choudhary, took the sessions forward with updates about the latest events - Sports Day and EYP, along with the upcoming events of the Junior School.





The sessions were also attended by the Academic Heads Mrs. Antara Banerjee, Mrs. Shweta Mazumder, Mrs. Sushmita Ray, Ms. Amanda DuPratt and Ms. Tanbir Datta in their roles as subject coordinators. Mr. Subrata Ghosh, HOD Art was also an integral part of some of these sessions.



The discussions reflected CIS's commitment to providing a nurturing, inclusive and globally aware learning environment.

Parents participated enthusiastically, offering valuable feedback and suggestions on various aspects of the teaching-learning process. The subject coordinators addressed academic queries and shared insights into curriculum planning and pedagogical approaches.



The constructive suggestions shared by parents were highly appreciated and several are being considered for implementation. This collaborative spirit between home and school continues to strengthen the shared vision of excellence in education at CIS.

# ECA Parent Teacher Meeting

The recent ECA Parent-Teacher Meeting on 30th October, 2025, was a great success. Parents had the valuable opportunity to meet the coaches and discuss their child's progress, strengths and areas for further development.



The session provided meaningful insights into each student's journey and reinforced the strong partnership between parents, coaches and the school in supporting every child's growth and achievement.

Parents also shared valuable feedback during the meetings, which has been carefully noted. The ECA team will be taking the necessary steps to address suggestions and further enhance the overall program experience.



# "Bridging Diversity in the Classroom: Worksheets and Rubrics for All Learners"



The SEN Department conducted a professional development session on “Bridging Diversity in the Classroom: Worksheets and Rubrics for All Learners.” The session guided teachers in designing differentiated worksheets and meaningful rubrics. It began with a self-reflective checklist on teachers’ learning and working styles, helping them recognise diversity within themselves and their students.



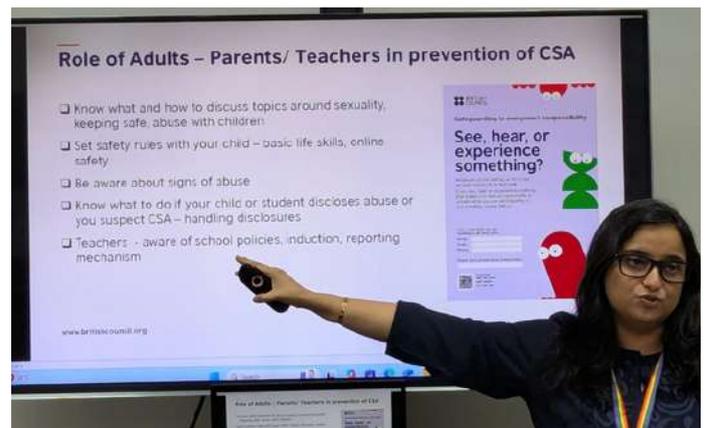
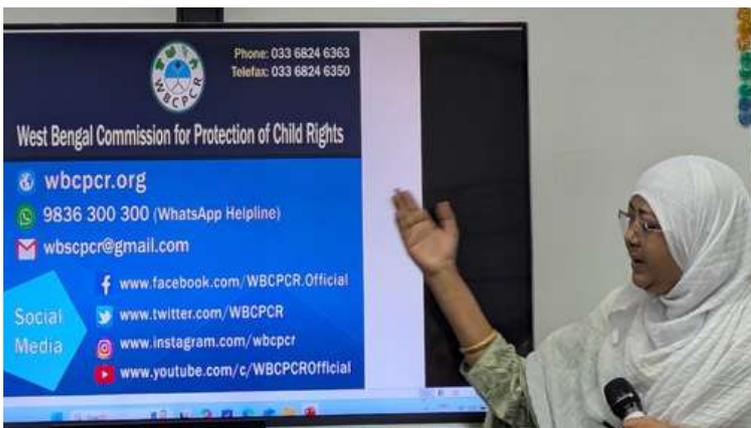
Teachers then explored the need and elements of differentiation through three short videos, noting key takeaways after each. The SEN team presented a tiered worksheet with a rubric and compared it to a standard worksheet, highlighting how differentiation supports accessibility and inclusion. In the final group activity, teachers identified three main differences between the worksheets and drafted rubrics for upcoming lessons. Overall, the interactive session helped teachers translate diversity principles into practical classroom strategies.

# POCSO SESSION

On 8th November, 2025, our ECA Coordinator and coaches attended an informative session on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act at the British Council Library.



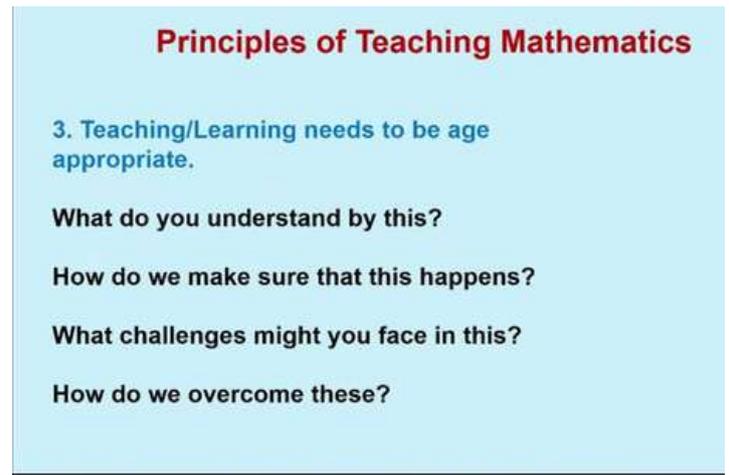
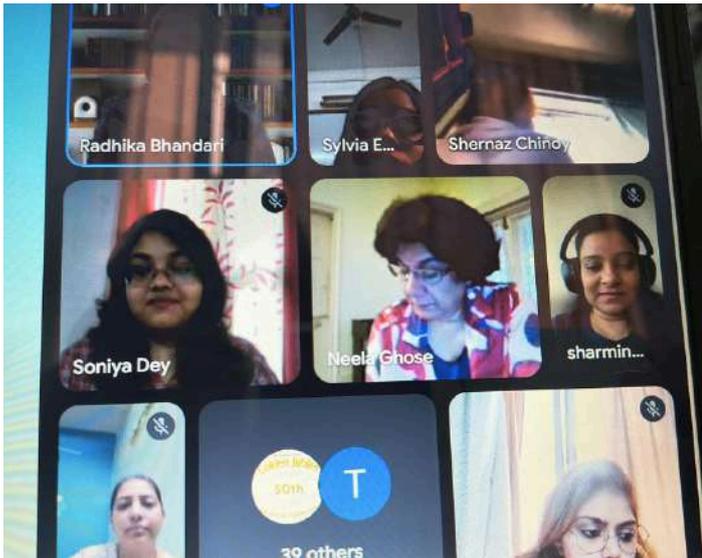
The session focused on understanding the legal framework that safeguards children and highlighted how educators and caregivers can play a key role in ensuring their safety and well-being. Discussions included effective ways to identify, report and support children in need, as well as the importance of collaboration between schools, healthcare professionals, and other community partners.



This training reinforces our ongoing commitment to creating a safe, supportive and caring environment for every child in our programmes.

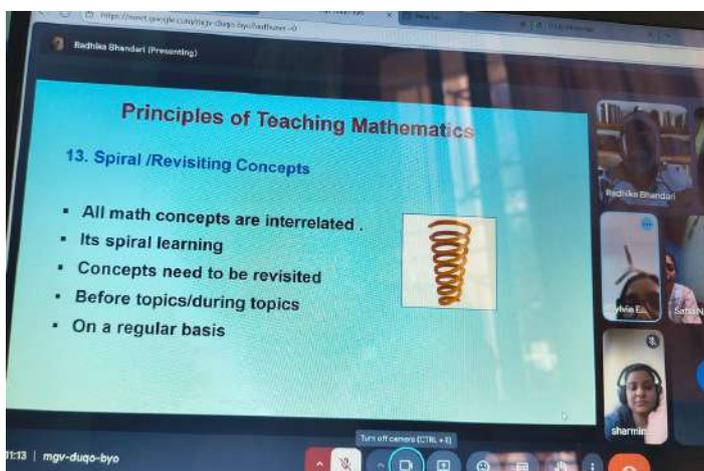
# Mathematics Workshop for Primary Section

The workshop, held by Ms Radhika Bhandari on 15th November 2025, provided valuable insights into effective mathematics teaching and classroom practices. It emphasised concept-based learning, encouraging teachers to ensure pupils build a strong foundation before moving on to more advanced ideas.



Strategies highlighted included inquiry-based learning, the use of manipulatives, mixed-ability group work ensuring engagement for slow, average and advanced learners alike.

The importance of formative and pre-assessments was discussed with tools such as exit polls and quick comprehension checks suggested to identify prior knowledge and monitor ongoing understanding. Ways to extend gifted learners through deeper, challenging tasks within the same concept were also explored. The workshop introduced the carousel method, where pupils move between different activity tables- such as art, listening and practical tasks—to reinforce concepts in varied and meaningful ways. Real-life problem-solving, modelling and catering to different learning styles (visual, auditory, and kinesthetic) were emphasised.



Overall, the session reinforced the need for purposeful planning, clear learning outcomes (WALT) and a well-structured classroom environment that allows every child to progress at their own pace.

# Grade 5 Student Council Members Lead Awareness Sessions on 'Brain Rot'

On Monday, 24 November 2025, the Grade 5 Student Council members conducted informative awareness sessions for students of Grades 3 to 5. This one-of-a-kind initiative by the Junior School stood out because it was entirely student-driven, with the council members confidently addressing their own schoolmates to raise awareness about a growing concern: 'brain rot'.



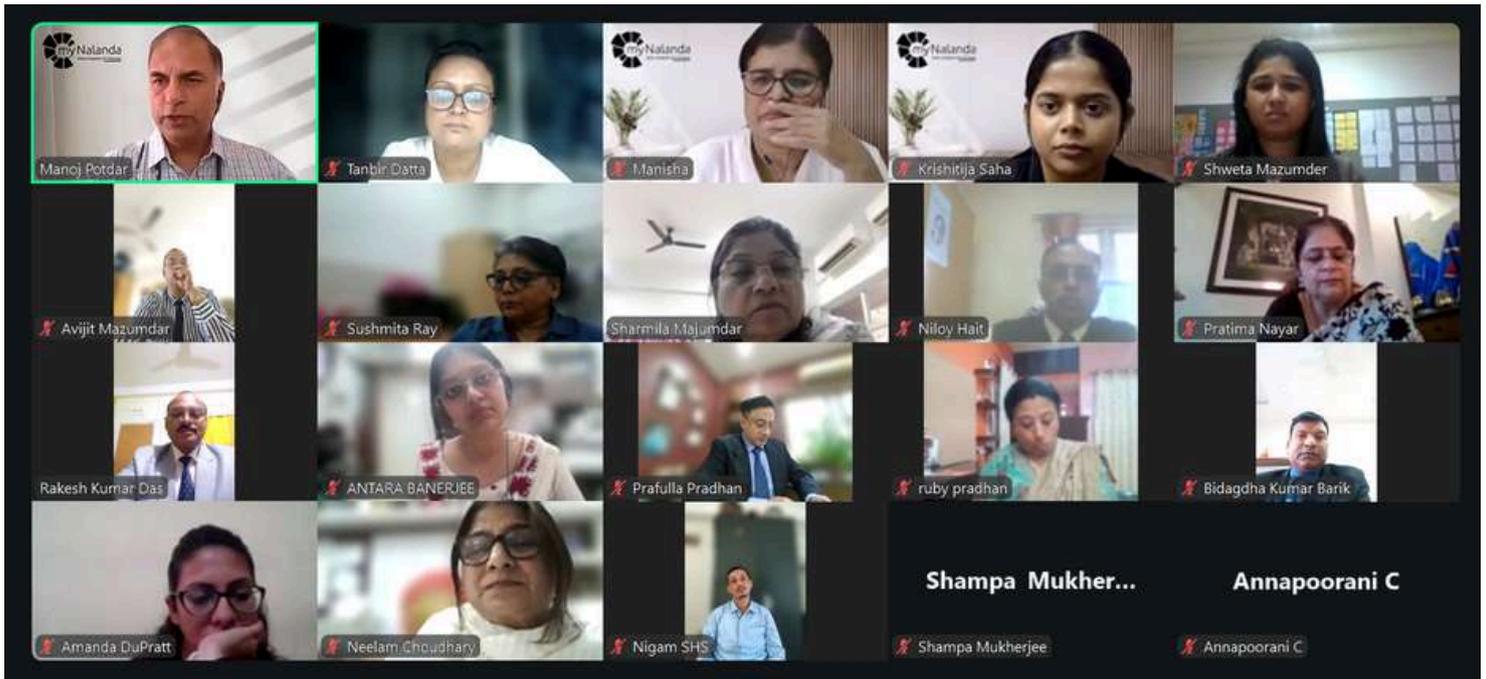


The sessions helped students understand what brain rot is, how it affects focus and attention and ways to avoid unhealthy screen and media habits. The council members engaged their audience through thoughtful discussion and interactive questioning. They then used a clear and well-structured PowerPoint presentation to explain the ill effects and share practical strategies for maintaining a healthy balance.



# Leadership Development for School Growth

On 28th November, Principal ,Junior School, Mrs Pratima Nayar, along with Section Heads - Mrs Sharmila Majumdar and Mrs Neelam Choudhary and Academic Heads — Mrs Sushmita Ray, Mrs Antara Banerjee, Mrs Shweta Mazumder, Ms Amanda DuPratt and Ms Tanbir Datta attended a leadership webinar titled “5 Ways to Leverage Middle Management for School Growth”.



Organised by my Nalanda Solutions & Services Pvt. Ltd. and conducted by Mr Manoj Potdar, the session focused on strengthening school systems through empowered middle leadership. The workshop reinforced the importance of aligning leaders with academic and operational goals, nurturing accountability and building strong second-line leadership to support continuous school growth.



# EDITORIAL TEAM

Mrs Neelam Choudhary, Mrs Sharmila Majumdar,  
Ms Tanbir Datta, Mrs Rashi Poddar,  
Mrs Antara Banerjee, Mrs Debika Dasgupta,  
and Mrs Chandrela Khenka

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