



A BADGE OF HONOUR, A HEART FULL OF DREAMS



THE INVESTITURE CEREMONY

By Peher Jain, Grade 7



“Work towards progress not change, because change means starting completely fresh but progress means building on what we already have.”

- Shaanvi Shah, Head Girl

“We are members of one great body, planted by nature to act as one.”

- Ayush Shah, Head Boy



The investiture ceremony is one of the most important events in the school. It is a special occasion where students are officially appointed as prefects and given the responsibility of helping their school. The ceremony is filled with excitement, pride, and a sense of responsibility.

One of the most meaningful parts of the ceremony is the oath-taking. The newly appointed student council promise to be honest, responsible, and helpful. The oath reminds them that being a prefect is not just about wearing a badge or having a title. It is about setting a good example and treating everyone with respect.



The Head Boy and Head Girl gave speeches to encourage others. They remind them that leadership is about serving others, making fair decisions, and working as a team. These words help the students understand the importance of their new roles.

An investiture ceremony is not only a celebration but also the beginning of a new journey. Through this experience, students learn that leadership comes with duties and challenges. Along with encouraging them to become more confident, caring, and responsible members of the school community. Overall, it is truly a day of honour, promise, and new beginnings.



MEET THE

STUDENT COUNCIL 2026-27

Leaders Today, Stronger Tomorrow





Proud Patriots: A Joyful Independence Day Celebration

By Aaira Aggarwal, Grade 6

“EVERY CITIZEN OF INDIA MUST REMEMBER THAT HE IS AN INDIAN AND OWES HIS LOYALTY TO INDIA.” - SARDAR VALLABHAI PATEL



The school choir then filled the campus with the patriotic song *Lehra Do*. Students of the PYP presented an informative act about India’s freedom, helping everyone learn more about the sacrifices made for our independence.

Selected students then sang and played musical instruments for *Aashayein* and *Maa Tujhe Salaam*. The celebration also featured a special robot flag march, facilitated by Mr. Pankaj Dewale, our robotics teacher and his team, showcasing the exciting combination of technology and patriotism.

The celebration concluded with the distribution of certificates for the Spelling Bee, recognising students’ hard work. Overall, the day was a wonderful blend of patriotism, talent, technology, learning, and teamwork.

It reminded us to value our freedom and use it responsibly. It was truly a proud and memorable day for everyone.

भारत
माता
की जय!

The spirit of patriotism filled the air as PORTIS, our school celebrated India’s 80th Independence Day on 15th August 2026. The programme was organised by the school’s Music, Dance, Robotics, and Student Council. Many students enthusiastically participated and made the celebration memorable.

The programme began with a March Past followed by a speech by our Head of School, Dr. Sreelaxmi Murthy, who spoke about the importance of freedom and our responsibilities as citizens. This was followed by inspiring speeches by the Chief Guest; Col. Rajiv Ghosh, Subedar Major, the General Manager of our School and Head of Curriculum, Ms Monica Sarang. The Student Council March Past added discipline and pride to the celebration. Soon after, the National Flag was hoisted, filling everyone with a sense of patriotism. The students presented a graceful dance performance that beautifully expressed their love for our country.

“The Independence Day programme was a rewarding experience that involved teamwork, discipline, regular rehearsals, and coordination. Seeing the students perform confidently and bringing the entire school together through music, patriotism, and unity was a proud and memorable moment.”
- Music Department



Vive la France: French Day Celebrations

By Samar Ghelani, Grade 7



Activities of the Day

The games (Petangue, Trouvez les objets, The Monalisa Smile, and the tote bag), dance and music performances were a big hit. Through these activities, students learnt about French culture and traditions.

Challenges faced

Due to the new government rules, we had to cancel our food stalls. The students were highly disappointed, but, instead of giving up, they worked extremely hard over the weekend, and made a presentation on the history of French Day, and a short quiz on French culture.

IB Alignment

This connects to core IB values, such as inter-connectedness, and global-mindedness.

Future Plans

Next year, we could invite a French expatriate or native French speaker as the Chief Guest, and also invite students from other schools to participate and make this celebration merrier .

On the 14th of July, we celebrate French Day, also known as ‘Bastille Day’. This day marks a major turning point in France’s history and talks about core French values of liberty, equality, and fraternity. In conversation with our enthusiastic and creative French teachers, Ms Jinisha Shah and Ms Pooja Shah, let us gain an insight into PORTIS’ very first French Day celebration.



“Vive la France! Our French Day celebration on 4th August was a vibrant showcase of language, culture and creativity. From student-led décor, French songs, dance performances, games and a fashion show to hands-on activities and beautifully hand-painted tote bags, every moment reflected the enthusiasm and talent of our students. It was a day filled with learning, laughter and teamwork, bringing the spirit of France alive on our campus. Merci to everyone who made this celebration such a memorable success!”

- French Department

TPH Star of the Month

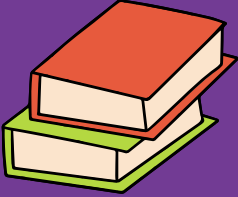
Chosen by the Editor-in-
Chief, Advay Bhatia





The Magic Makers of The Classroom

By Ananya Kulkarni, Grade 7





A joyful Teacher’s Day celebration at PORTIS was filled with love, laughter and gratitude.

A Morning of Surprises!

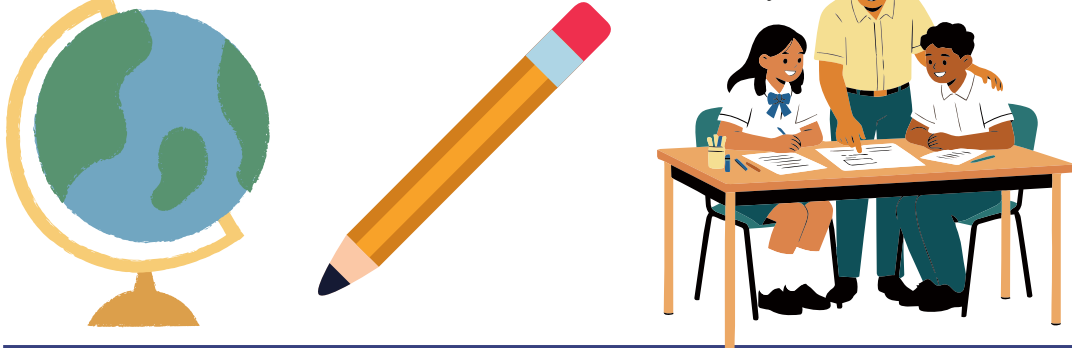
Students ensured their teachers felt valued, respected and deeply appreciated. On 4 September 2026, they excitedly transformed their classrooms into festive spaces of appreciation, surprising the teachers as soon as they entered for a truly memorable start of the day. The celebration began with cheerful greetings, party poppers, confetti and loud applause. Colorful streamers decorated the ceilings and walls, creating a bright, lively atmosphere. The teachers’ desks displayed handmade cards and small gifts prepared by the students with care. Each card carried a heartfelt message of thanks to the teachers who make school life enjoyable, meaningful, inspiring and memorable.

Games, Smiles and Memories

The fun continued with games such as charades and UNO, bringing smiles, laughter and joy to everyone present. Students planned every detail with care, and their sincere efforts made the day even more special for their beloved teachers. “Teacher’s Day was so much fun and exciting!” said Kayra Gore of Grade 7A, capturing the happiness and pride shared by many students.

A Day To Remember

For the teachers, the celebration was just as memorable. Ms. Mamta Bavkar, A Visual arts professionalist and teacher, shared that in over 22 years of teaching, this was her first such thoughtful surprise planned by students, complete with decorations, games, cards and gifts. Their gesture touched her heart and made her feel truly special and honoured. The day showed that gratitude, when expressed with love, can create lasting memories for everyone and further strengthen the beautiful bond between students and teachers forever beautifully.





Move As One

By Saisha Ghambir, Grade 9

Tension and excitement were running high as we all waited for the first interhouse competition of the year - Mass Drill, conducted by our hardworking sports department teachers and organized amazingly at Podar ORT Senior School.

It was another year of hard work and practice. Regardless of the score, mass drill or inter - house competitions in general always bring out the best in us, it kindles our competitiveness and team spirit which pushes us to work hard and compete as a team.

This year was no different, every member of each house put in their best efforts to make sure they did the best for their house, regardless of whatever the outcome. Everyone should be proud of their hard work.

We should also take a moment to appreciate the support and guidance of our sports teachers. Congratulations to everyone who participated!





FROM SETBACKS TO GLORY

PORTIS Makes History at ISSO U-17 Football

By Rayze Borgawkar, Grade 9



ISSO U-17 JOURNEY

MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5
W	L	W	W	L
2-1	0-3	4-2	3-1	1-2



PLAY ♦ FIGHT ♦ ACHIEVE

The Podar ORT International School U17 football team made history at the ISSO U17 Football Tournament in Jaipur, held at JPIS from 3 to 8 September, securing the school's first-ever ISSO football victory and recording three wins from five matches. Despite finishing third in their group and narrowly missing qualification, their determination, resilience and fighting spirit made the campaign one to remember. The tournament began with a hard-fought 1–0 victory over Sanjay Ghodawat, with Joshua D'Souza named Player of the Match. However, the team then suffered a 5–0 defeat against CNS Mumbai.

Rather than allowing the setback to define their campaign, PORTIS responded with determination. Their response was spectacular. The team stormed to a dominant 9–0 victory over Kairos, with Tatva Jain earning Player of the Match honours. They continued their winning momentum against Vales International, securing a 2–0 victory, with Rayze Borgawkar named Player of the Match.



In their final group match, PORTIS faced The International School of Bangalore (TISB), but were defeated 8–0. Across five matches, the team recorded three wins and two losses, scoring 12 goals and conceding 13. Under the guidance of Maxy Sir and Sagar Sir, the squad gained valuable experience competing against schools from across the country. Although qualification remained just out of reach, the team's fightback, historic victories and exposure to high-level football marked a significant milestone for PORTIS. The experience also strengthened the squad's belief, unity and confidence, leaving them determined to return stronger and compete for qualification in future ISSO tournaments.



HINDI DIWAS:

When Poems Found Their Voices

By Naivedya Dhameja, Grade 6

Hindi Diwas is celebrated on 14 September to recognise the importance of Hindi and its place in India's culture. At PORTIS, the celebrations came alive through the Hindi Elocution Finals, where students from Grades 6 to 9 presented a diverse range of poems. Finalists from all the houses performed their respective poems, bringing a variety of moods and messages to the stage. Some poems were humorous and entertaining, while others carried meaningful and informative messages. This variety kept the event lively and engaging for the audience.

Elocution is not simply about memorising a poem. It encourages students to communicate ideas and emotions through clear pronunciation, expression and voice modulation. It also gives students an opportunity to build confidence and develop their public-speaking skills.



Ms Anjana Chauhan explained that the activity helped students develop their "oral communication, pronunciation, expression, and voice modulation skills." She also highlighted how the event encouraged creativity, active listening and self-confidence. The performances were judged by Ms Dolly Mantode, Ms Anjana Chauhan and Mr Brijesh. Mr Michael and Ms Binal were also present at the event. The judges appreciated the students' efforts and praised them for their performances. The Hindi Elocution Finals showed that Hindi poetry is not simply about words on a page. When students bring those words to life through voice, expression and performance, poems can connect with an audience in an entirely different way.



More Than a Classroom: Inside PULSE

By Krishiv Gupta, Grade 8

What if learning could extend beyond textbooks, tests and traditional classrooms? Podar Unbound League of Student Enrichment (PULSE) aims to make that possible by giving students opportunities to explore their passions through a diverse range of interest-based clubs. Available to students in Grades 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11.

The variety of clubs allows students to explore interests that may not always be covered in the regular curriculum. Creative students can express themselves through Arts, Photography, Music, Dance or Writer’s PULSE, while those interested in academics and critical thinking can explore Debate, WOW Science, Robotics or Financial Literacy. Students can also develop practical and recreational skills through clubs such as Self-Defence, Chess, Table Tennis and Carrom.

Students have seen the value of having dedicated teachers and engaging activities within the clubs. One student described PULSE as providing “a really good chance to discover new interests and try things they might not have explored before.”

Among the clubs, Photography, Arts and Debate have emerged as particularly popular choices. With students already suggesting possibilities such as coding and entrepreneurship, PULSE has the potential to continue expanding the ways students can learn, create, and explore beyond the classroom.





PULSE 2026-27
PODAR UNBOUND LEAGUE OF STUDENT ENRICHMENT

EXPLORE YOUR INTERESTS. | DISCOVER YOUR TALENTS. | BUILD LIFELONG SKILLS.

P.U.L.S.E. provides students with opportunities to pursue their passions, develop new skills, and collaborate with like-minded peers beyond the classroom. Guided by dedicated mentors, each experience offers engaging, hands-on learning that nurtures creativity, confidence, leadership, teamwork, and lifelong learning.

PULSE EXPERIENCES	WHAT STUDENTS WILL EXPERIENCE	MENTOR(S)
 Infinity PULSE	Sharpen logical reasoning and problem-solving skills through puzzles, games, competitions, and real-world mathematical challenges.	Mr. Premprakash, Mr. Sanjeev
 Writer's PULSE	Explore mystery writing, storytelling, editing, and self-publishing, culminating in the publication of an original work.	Ms. Jaina, Ms. Binal
 Debate PULSE	Build public speaking, critical thinking, and persuasive communication through debates and discussions on contemporary issues.	Ms. Anjana, Ms. Zainab, Mr. Michael
 Robotics PULSE	Design, build, and programme robots while developing engineering, coding, and STEM problem-solving skills.	Mr. Pankaj, Ms. Dinesh
 Music PULSE	Develop musical talents through instrumental practice, ensemble performances, and collaborative experiences.	Mr. Manoj, Mr. Ashutosh
 Financial Literacy PULSE	Learn budgeting, saving, investing, and responsible money management through practical, real-world activities.	Mr. Ashutosh, Ms. Monica, Mr. Nimit
 Multilingual PULSE	Celebrate languages and cultures while strengthening communication skills and global awareness.	Mr. Pooja, Ms. Jinisha, Ms. Nidhi
 WWF Nature PULSE	Lead sustainability initiatives, conservation projects, and environmental awareness activities.	Ms. Nishigandha, Mr. Sanjay
 Self-Defence PULSE	Build confidence, resilience, discipline, and personal safety through practical self-defence training.	Ms. Mayur
 Dance PULSE	Learn diverse dance styles while developing creativity, teamwork, and performance skills.	Mr. Santosh, Ms. Suchana
 Arts PULSE	Express creativity through a variety of artistic mediums and showcase work in exhibitions and competitions.	Mr. Subhash, Ms. Mamta
 WOW Science PULSE	Discover the excitement of science through experiments, investigations, and hands-on exploration.	Ms. Vedanti
 Readers' PULSE	Cultivate a love for reading through book discussions, reading challenges, literary activities, and author interactions.	Ms. Shanti, Ms. Tanvi
 Journalism PULSE	Report school events, conduct interviews, and produce articles while developing communication and media literacy skills.	Ms. Binal, Ms. Zainab, Ms. Jaina, Mr. Michael, Ms. Pooja
 Photography PULSE	Learn composition, lighting, editing, and visual storytelling while building a creative portfolio.	Ms. Binal

Be Curious. Be Creative. Be You!



A Mathemagical Experience: Ecole Mondiale Interschool Competition

By Aadya Kashyap, Grade 7



Math Beyond The Classroom

On August 27th, École Mondiale World School hosted Collab with Math, an inter-school mathematics event that brought together students from different schools for a day of creativity, teamwork and mathematical exploration. The event gave students an opportunity to explore mathematics through hands-on activities rather than only through textbooks and equations. Participants took part in puzzles, patterns, geometry-based activities and creative mathematical challenges.



Math in Action

One of the highlights was building complex architectural bridges using wooden sticks. This activity required students to apply mathematical concepts while working together and finding solutions to construction challenges. Another interesting activity involved creating a football using hexagons and pentagons, allowing students to explore geometry in a practical and creative way.

Meet the Participants

Students who participated included Khush Vahkaria, Tanaya Jain and Kabir Raheja from Grade 6, and Samaira Shah and Saumyaa Gawkar from Grade 9. Miraan Shah from Grade 7 also participated and shared his experience:

“It was a wonderful and enriching event that introduced us to new mathematical concepts while teaching us the importance of teamwork, resilience, and creativity.”

Not Just Numbers

The event encouraged students to think creatively, solve problems collaboratively and approach mathematics from a different perspective. It also provided an opportunity for students from various schools to interact and learn together.

The Final Takeaway

Overall, Collab with Math showed that mathematics can be engaging and practical when students are given the opportunity to experiment, build and work together. It was an enriching experience that combined mathematical learning with creativity, collaboration and problem-solving.



Team Expansion & Role Updates

By Fravshi Patel, Grade 8

As the new academic year begins, TPH enters with an expanded team, bringing more students into the process of shaping the newspaper and contributing their own ideas and perspectives.

With TPH’s team expanding this academic year, students have taken on responsibilities across brainstorming, research, writing, interviewing and editing. The Faculty Supervisor, Ms Binal Ghelani also highlighted their willingness to take ownership of their roles and their ability to collaborate and support one another.

The size of this year’s TPH team was determined with both contribution and balance in mind. The aim was to bring together enough students to offer diverse skills and perspectives while ensuring that every member has a meaningful opportunity to contribute. At the same time, the team needs to remain manageable alongside students’ academic commitments and extracurricular activities.

The expansion has widened the range of ideas and perspectives brought to TPH. With more students contributing, the newspaper can explore a broader mix of interests and experiences, while giving students the opportunity to explore different areas of journalism and contribute according to their strengths.

Alongside these changes within TPH, the school year has also brought an important opportunity for students to choose their new student leaders through a democratic election process. After an initial nomination form, students received a document containing the different categories and the names of the candidates running for each position, including Editor-in-Chief, Heads of Departments and other leadership roles. Students then cast their votes by selecting their preferred candidates.

The announcement of the results brought a sense of anticipation throughout the paper. Students gathered and waited as the results were announced. The announcement congratulated all the contestants and recognised the effort they had put into the election process, while revealing the students chosen for the different leadership positions. Moreover we now have 2 new faculty advisors facilitating the paper, Ms. Zainab Khan and Ms. Jaina Elizabeth. These new faculty advisors will be vital in carrying our newspaper forward.

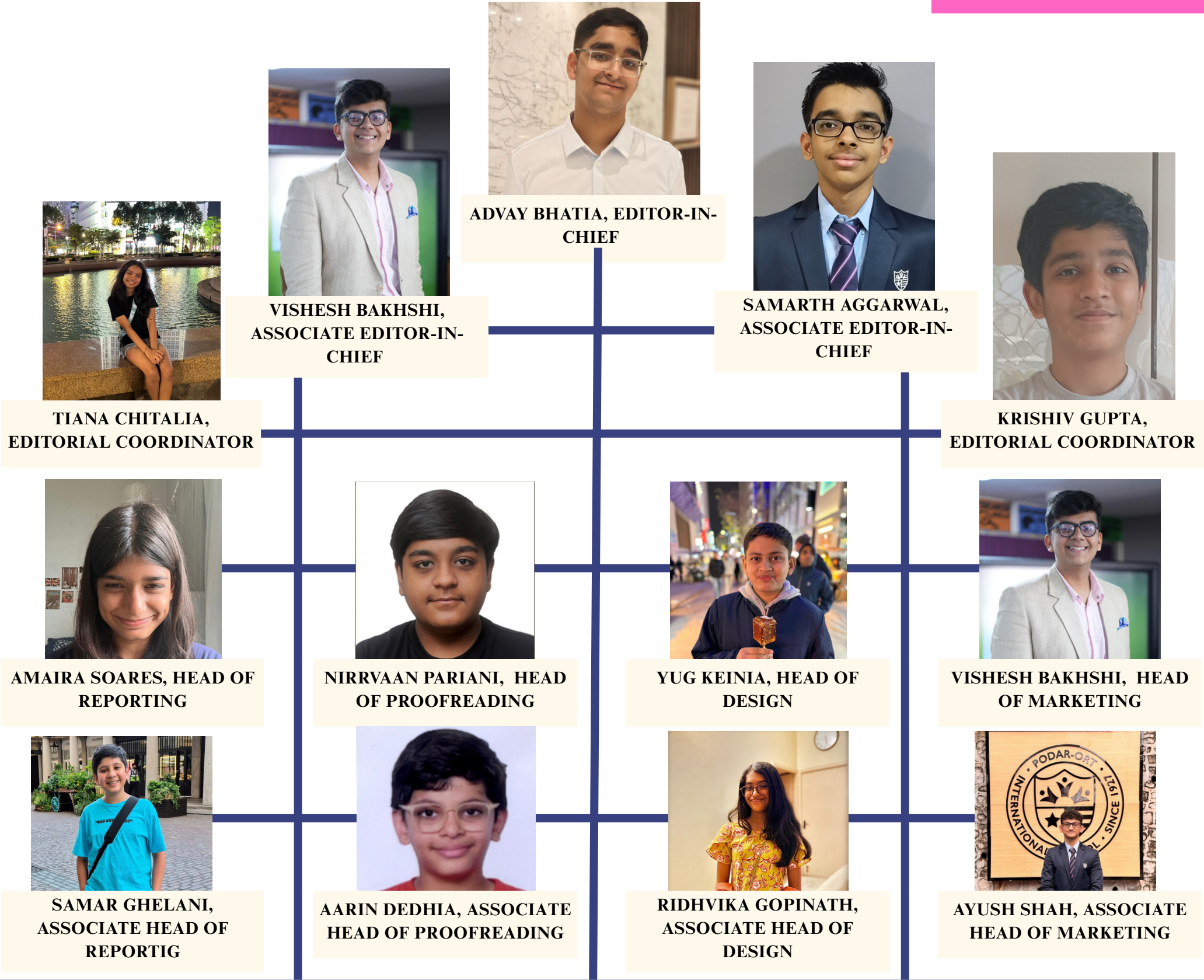
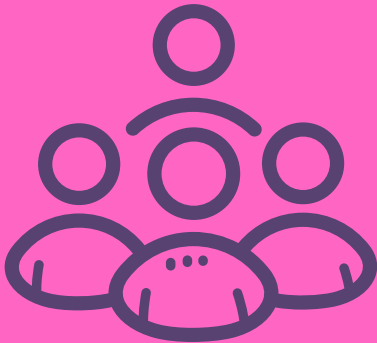
Both the expansion of TPH and the TPH elections reflect the increasing opportunities students have to take on responsibility and contribute to school life. While the new TPH members bring fresh voices to student journalism, the newly elected leaders of TPH will take on roles that allow them to represent and support the growing paper and wider school community.

With a growing team, wider perspectives and new student leaders, this academic year marks another step forward in giving students a voice within the school.



“The students have demonstrated enthusiasm, commitment, and a strong team spirit.”

– Ms Binal Ghelani, English Faculty



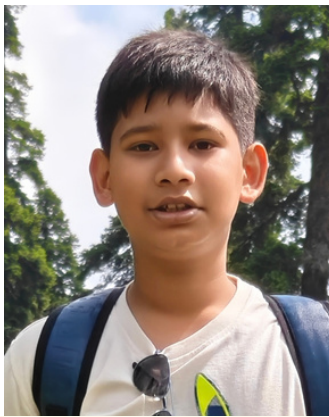
*All members on this page are new



ANANYA KULKARNI,
REPORTING TEAM



SAISHA GAMBHIR,
REPORTING TEAM



SHARVIN VADHAVKAR, DESIGN
TEAM



HIYA SHAH, DESIGN &
MARKETING TEAMS



SHEA CHUGH,
MARKETING TEAM



AYANA VARTAK,
MARKETING TEAM



KRISHAAN GUPTA,
DESIGN TEAM



FRAVSHI PATEL,
REPORTING &
PROOFREADING TEAMS



ANAAYA SHAH,
MARKETING TEAM



YADAAVI SHINDE,
MARKETING TEAM



AARYAN SHAH,
PROOFREADING TEAM



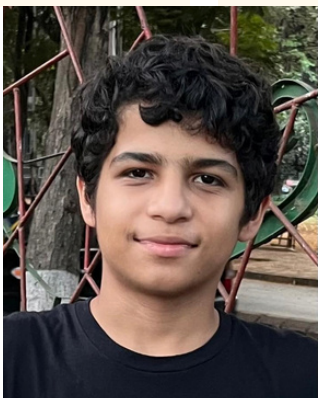
JINANG SETH,
DESIGN & MARKETING
TEAMS



RAYZE BORGOWKAR,
REPORTING TEAM



VEER MEHTA, REPORTING
TEAM



KIAN SARMA,
DESIGN TEAM



SAMARIA SHAH,
DESIGN TEAM



ARIANA GUPTA, DESIGN TEAM



SAUMYAA GAWKAR,
PROOFREADING TEAM



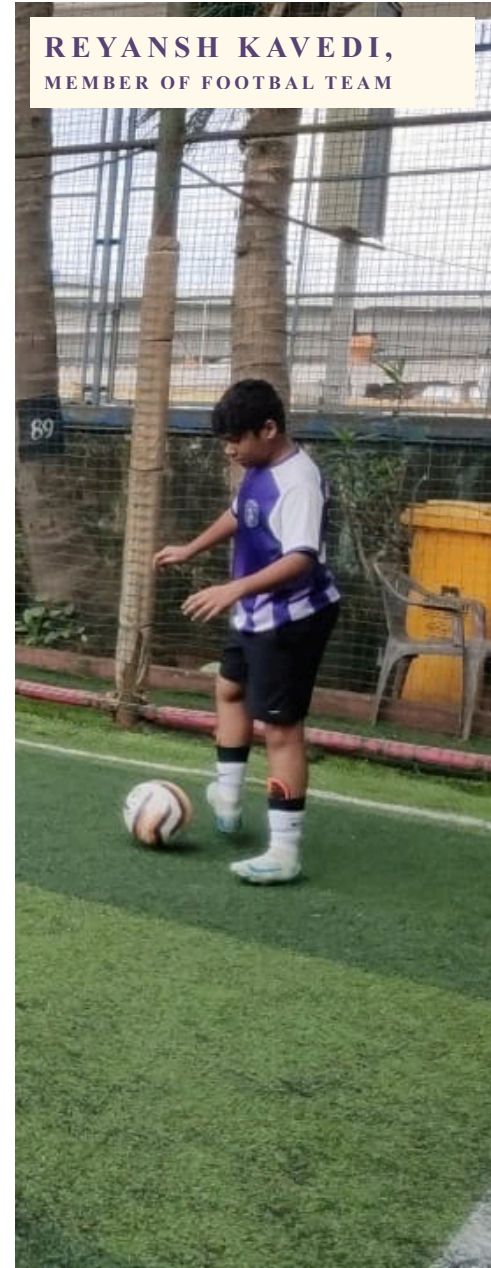
VIR DOSHI,
PROOFREADING TEAM



ANNAYA SANDA,
MARKETING TEAM



NYSHA JAIN,
MARKETING TEAM



New Season, New Challenge: U17 Teams Ready to Make Their Mark

By Rayze Borgawkar, Grade 9

New Players, New Leaders
Several U14 players have moved into the U17 category after showing growth in skill, confidence and teamwork. Senior players are also taking on leadership roles by supporting younger teammates. The school is also encouraging greater participation among girls and working towards building stronger U17 girls’ teams.

“This year, our training program follows a long-term athlete development approach. As tournaments approach, training becomes more game-specific, with an emphasis on strategy, teamwork, and performance under pressure.”
– Ms. Rima, Head of the PHE Department.



“Our preparation for the upcoming tournaments is going well, and we are improving steadily. We are practicing every alternate day, and our goal is to develop as much as we can,”
– Joshua D’Souza, Sports Captain of Podar ORT

Training with Purpose
The U17 football and basketball teams are entering the new season with a strong focus on development, teamwork and performance. The Football team train every alternate day. Their preparation includes technical and tactical skills, strength and conditioning, agility, endurance match play and injury prevention. *The training is underway. The challenge awaits. Now, it’s time to play.*



Beyond the Classroom: Making a Difference

By Kiarra Gupta, Grade 8

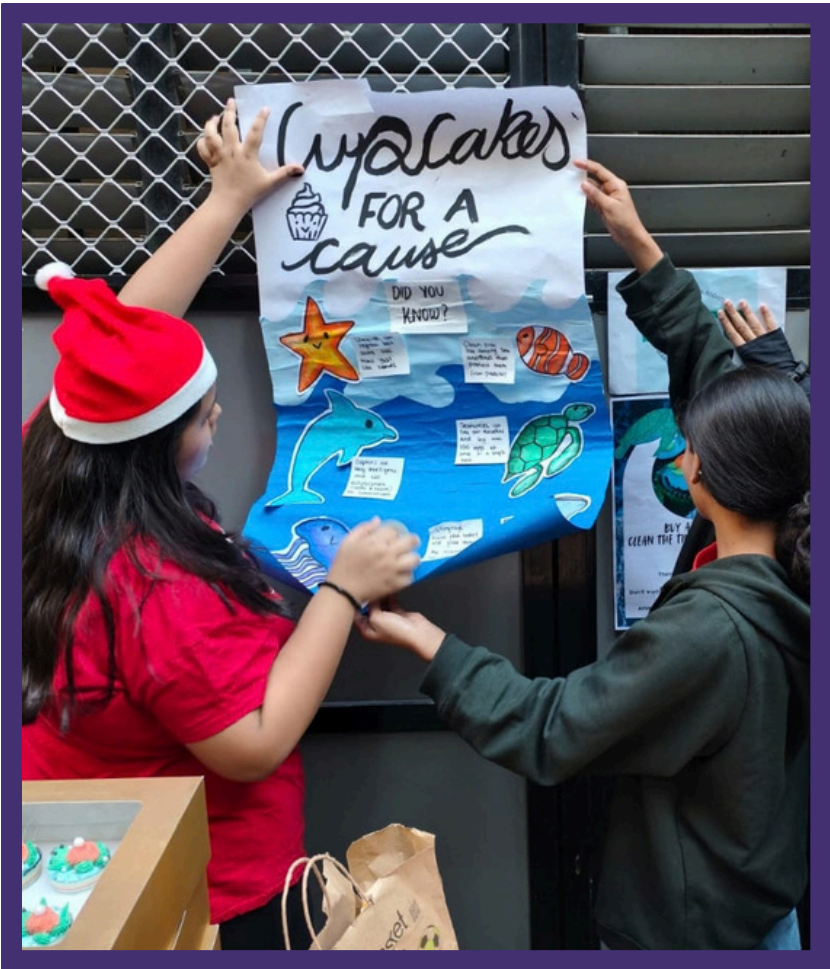
Learning Through Service
Veer, Ava, Hamza and Vihana adopted a village in Kasara, teaching english and organizing sports. Vir, Aarnav, Krish, Ronak and Vihaan helped underprivileged children improve their English through interactive activities.

Protecting Our Environment
Nishieka, Aarnah, Vaidehi and Arianna promoted marine life, through beach clean-ups, fundraising, posters, and classroom visits. Nirrvaan, Samaira, Bhavya and Shreya collected 28 kg of plastic for recycling. Advay, Advait, Kian, and Vivaan organised waste collection drives and beach clean ups as well.

Supporting the Community
Samarth, Shlok, Jai, Jainil and Prinay taught senior citizens to learn about digital safety and online scams. Jinang, Kahaan, Viren, Khush and Samarth promoted cyber safety with the Brush of Hope Foundation. Nishka, Shanaya, Annika and Gargi connected with specially abled children through stories, music, dance and activities.

Making a Difference
Rayze, Om, Manay and Reyansh partnered with OSCAR Foundation volunteering at football sessions, conducting an AI workshop, and raising over ₹1 lakh. Samaira, Riana, Ariha and Saumyaa supported stray dogs through fundraising and volunteering

A Lasting Impact
These projects helped people, animals, and the environment while making students more confident, caring, responsible, and aware of their community.



“Even small efforts can make a positive impact”
– Veer Metha



The Journey Continues: Graduation Day

By Samar Ghelani, Grade 7

The school was filled with excitement as some of us were about to graduate and start a new chapter of our lives. Students dressed in their graduation gowns gathered together for an extremely memorable day! Some were sad to leave school, while others were excited to graduate and start their journey. Now, let us get an insight into the how the event was organized, and the flow of the event.



“The Graduation Ceremony for Grades 8 and 12 is a special celebration marking an important milestone in our students' journey. The event includes a welcome address, inspiring speeches, student performances, certificate distribution, a Valedictorian speech, student reflections and a vote of thanks, followed by photographs and refreshments. It is a memorable occasion that brings together students, parents and teachers to celebrate their achievements and look forward to new beginnings.”

– Ms Pooja Shah, French Teacher & Event Organizer

“Graduation Day was a beautiful mix of pride, nostalgia and the bittersweet feeling of letting go. As I watched our Senior Kindergarten take their first steps towards PYP, I couldn't help but remember the little ones who walked into our classroom at the beginning of the year. Today, they stand taller, more confident and ready for their next adventure. My heart is full of pride for how far they have come, yet a little heavy as I let them go, carrying with them a piece of our classroom and my heart.”

– Ms Deena Bhatia, Sr. KG Teacher

“Grade 6 has come with a lot of challenges and new subjects. We have also moved to a different building but meeting our new teachers and making new friends has been exciting. Overall I am looking forward to what grade 6 has in store for me.”

– Aaira Aggarwal, Member of Grade 5 Batch of 2026



“Each stage of school whether it's your first steps into grade 5 or your final walk across the stage in grade 12 is a chapter closed and a door opened. To the classes of 5, 8, 10, and 12 carry forward not just what you've learned, but who you've become while learning it. The world is ready for you.”

– Vishesh Bakshi, Member of Grade 10 Class of 2026

“The Graduation Ceremony for Grades 8 and 12 is a special celebration marking an important milestone in our students' journey. The event includes a welcome address, inspiring speeches, student performances, certificate distribution, a Valedictorian speech, student reflections and a vote of thanks, followed by photographs and refreshments. It is a memorable occasion that brings together students, parents and teachers to celebrate their achievements and look forward to new beginnings.”

– Samarth Aggarwal, Student of Grade 8, Class of 2026

The graduation “felt like the next chapter of my life was opening up.”

– Sai Neel, Student of Grade 12, Class of 2026



Graduation marks the end of the important school journey, as students prepare for college and university. After the ceremony was over, there were many emotional goodbyes, as everyone was cherishing the friendships and bonds created over the years. The graduation ceremony may have marked a goodbye, but it was also the beginning of a new chapter of their lives.



MOVIE REVIEW:

Spiderman Brand New Day

By Nirvaan Todi, Grade 6



Spiderman Brand new day - Peter Parker is now older and has to deal with loneliness, loss, and growing up while supporting himself on a profound journey of self-reflection..

After losing Aunt May and his two close friends, Ned and MJ, in No way home (2021) as he feels more lonely than ever before.

The movie shows a more spidey side of Peter as he continues to fight crime.

The action scenes are exciting and the fighting makes the movie fun to watch and interesting .

The movie also introduces new characters like Jean Grey who was played by Sadie Sink. She perfectly expressed her emotions and struggles after a devastating loss of her sister. Overall It has a good mix of action, emotions, humor, and a strong story.

I would recommend Spider-Man: Brand New Day to Spider-Man fans because it shows a new and more spidey side of Peter Parker.





Book Review: The Wizard of OZ

Ananya Kulkarni, Grade 7



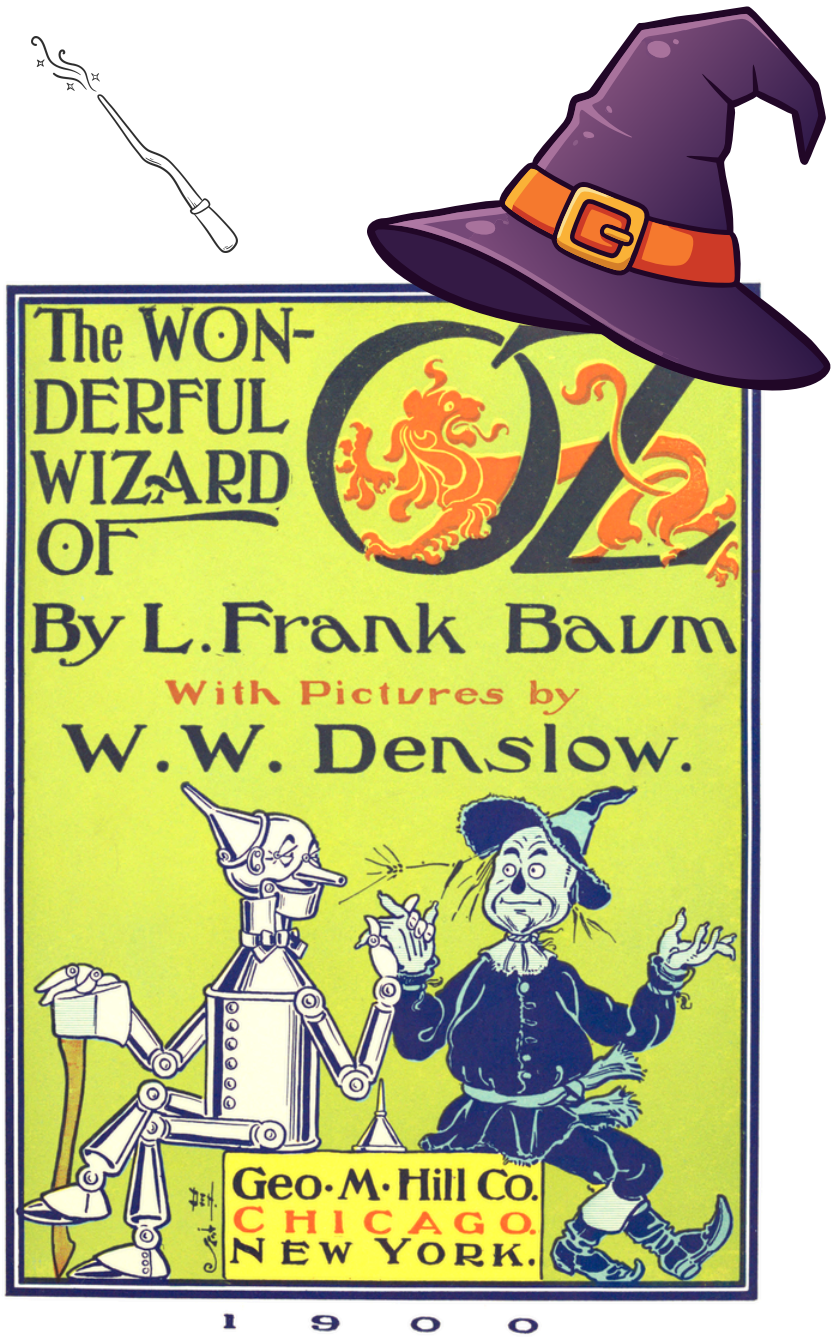
I would like to share with you my review of the book, ‘The Wizard of Oz’ by L. Frank Baum. The story begins when a little girl named Dorothy and her little dog Toto are swept away by a cyclone into Munchkinland, far away from their home in Kansas. Dorothy is at first surprised and shocked, but then the Good Witch guides her and she is given a mission to complete! Dorothy’s house has landed on the Wicked Witch of the East killing her! But the Good Witch claims that Dorothy has done a good deed as she has freed people from bondage. Dorothy wants to go back home to her family but is told that if she wants to return, she must approach the Wizard of Oz who lives in the Emerald City and ask for his help.

Dorothy follows the yellow brick road to the magnificent Emerald City. She must defeat the other Wicked Witch in order to leave this land. Dorothy and Toto travel by foot and make new friends, each one funny and smart.

The story ends when the reader finds out if Dorothy is able to defeat the Wicked Witch of the West and if she and her friends can celebrate the victory! Will Dorothy be able to save Munchkinland, the Good Witch and the Wizard of Oz?

The objective is for Dorothy to return to Kansas and reunite with her family. The story conveys to us that courage and determination can take you far and win you some great friends too.

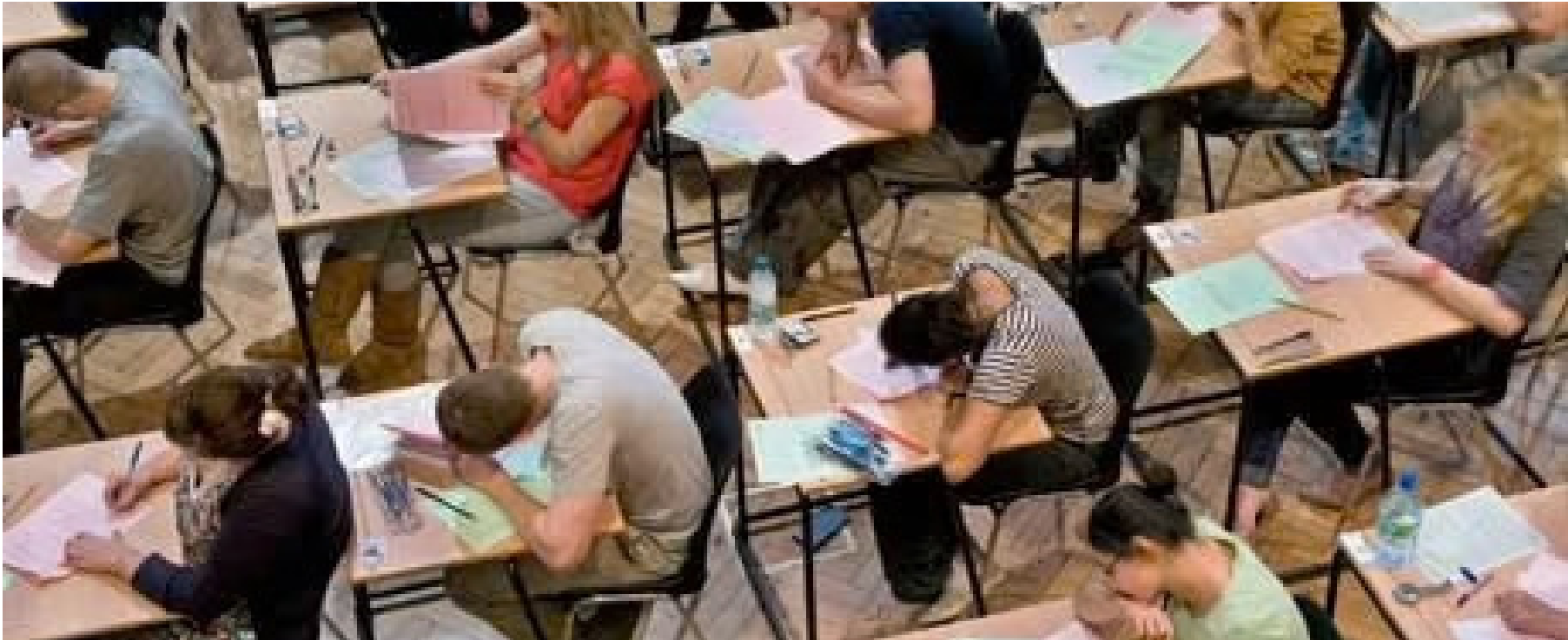
I enjoyed reading this book because I admire Dorothy for her brave decisions and I like the interesting friends that she makes. I also liked the different lands, each one more beautiful than the next. If you believe in magic, witches and wizards, then you should definitely read this book!





Just Beat It: Handling Board Exam Stress

By Ananya Kulkarni, Grade 7



The writer was also curious about balancing one’s screen-time during study time, as everyone knows that gadgets are our primary addiction! So the writer asked, “What tips would you give to your younger self regarding screen time and study time?” Prisha explained that her experience in the IBDP program taught her to spend more time on the laptop rather than a phone.

This clever thought teaches readers that since screen time can cause eye damage and severe headaches, cutting down on screen time and taking regular breaks will help students manage it while continuing with studies.

In conclusion, board exams can be a lot of pressure indeed, along with the maximum effort needed. However, the interview with Prisha gave the writer a clearer understanding of how one can manage stress and pressure by doing simple things which make one feel happy and calm.

As the academic year begins, students reflect upon last year’s exams, especially the board exams of the 10th and 12th grades. The writer had the opportunity to interview Prisha Gupta as she recently appeared for the 12th board exams.

The writer asked Prisha, “If you had to help your younger self cope with pressure for exams, what methods would you suggest?” Prisha said that one could do something to occupy oneself, such as outdoor activities or hobbies such as music or dance. But the highlight of what she said was journaling, “Journaling can help gather your thoughts.”

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