

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



## Forever, in our hearts...



With immense reverence we bid farewell to our Founder Chairman, Prof. M H Dhananjaya, an inspirational leader and a beacon of wisdom in the realm of education. Prof. Dhananjaya embarked on his journey to the heavenly abode on 8 January 2024, in Mysore.

During his more than six decades of invaluable service in education sector, he was principally involved in establishing many technical institutions both in India and abroad. During his illustrious career, he founded and served as the revered Chairman of Excelsoft Technologies and Excel Public School.

He was a compassionate human being and a visionary educationist. He loved children and understood what made them propel. His vibrant

presence and limitless inspiration during school programmes radiated joy, casting a glow upon the very essence of our school. He brought to fruition his quote, "Education brings social harmony along with wealth to the society we live in." His legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of everyone with whom he interacted and will irrefutably influence his acquaintances.

As we celebrate fifteen years of growth and achievement, we honour our beloved Founder and Chairman, Prof. M H Dhananjaya's steadfast legacy by continuing to uphold his principles and values in everything we do. His visionary leadership laid the foundation for an educational institution with social relevance and aimed at the holistic development of the young generation. Inspired by his vision, we remain committed in providing a nurturing environment that fosters academic excellence, character development, and social responsibility.



Excel Public School was incepted in the year 2009 with 29 students and 6 teachers. From that humble beginning we stand here today, preparing to celebrate fifteen years of excellence! As we reflect on this significant landmark, we invite you to delve into our Annual Report (2023- 24), offering a comprehensive overview of the remarkable achievements and milestones attained by our vibrant school community.

In the realm of academics, our students have demonstrated exceptional dedication and determination, achieving remarkable success in various examinations and competitions. Their commitment to excellence not only brings honour to our institution but also embodies the spirit of scholarly pursuit we instil in each student. We take pride in the unwavering dedication of our faculty members, who uphold the highest standards of teaching and mentorship. Their passion and expertise play a pivotal role in nurturing young minds, fostering a love for learning and shaping the academic landscape of our institution.

Beyond academics, our students excel in a diverse array of extracurricular activities, including sports, cultural events, and community service initiatives. These achievements highlight our holistic approach to education, emphasising the development of accomplished individuals with diverse talents and interests. Furthermore, we are delighted to announce the expansion of our school's infrastructure with new facilities and amenities designed to create an enriching environment that supports the academic, social, and emotional growth of every student.

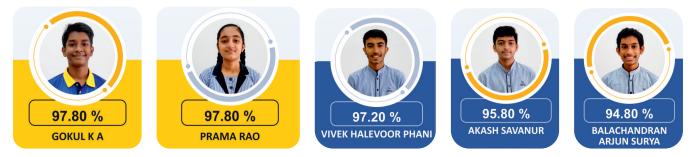
As you peruse this report, we invite you to share our pride and excitement for all that our school community has accomplished. We extend a heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated students, committed faculty members, supportive parents, and esteemed stakeholders for their invaluable contributions to our school's success. Your continued support and encouragement empower us, as we strive to nurture the next generation of leaders and innovators.

## Strength of Students and Staff

Excel Foundation School and Excel Public School, put together, have 2427 students on our roll, from Playschool to Class 12. The strength of the staff stands at 340, which include 152 teaching, 23 administrative and 165 ancillary staff.

Unified in their commitment to professionalism, dedication, and discipline, our cohesive team of teaching, administrative, and ancillary staff ensures the highest standards of service and support to our students' holistic development.

## **Results of AISSE and AISSCE (March 2023)**



It is with immense pride and joy that we share the remarkable achievements of our students in the CBSE Examinations 2023. Gokul K A and Prama Rao stood as the toppers of Class 10, securing 97.80% and Vivek Halevoor Phani stood topper of Class 12, securing 97.20% in the Science Stream and Balachandran Arjun Surya topped the Commerce Stream with 94.80%. We also had 23 students securing 100 out of 100, and 22 students securing 99 out of 100 in various subjects in Class 10. Class 12 results were remarkable with a significant number of students securing commendable scores in various subjects, whereby the average score of the Class was a whopping 81%. I congratulate our students for having exhibited exceptional dedication, hard work, and perseverance which reflected their commitment to academic excellence. Their success is a testament to the quality education and nurturing environment we strive to provide at EPS.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the students for their accomplishments, to their parents and our dedicated faculty for their unwavering support and continued guidance.

The EPS family also lauds Akash Savanur for his outstanding performance in the JEE Mains with a percentile score of 99.3. He is currently pursuing his Engineering at NTU, Singapore.

The 11th cohort of 138 students of Class 10, and the 6th cohort of 69 students of Class 12, have appeared for their Board Examinations this year. I am confident that they will bring pride to themselves, their families and the teachers by faring exceptionally well in their Board exams.

## **Professional Development Programme for Teachers**

Regular in-service programmes for teachers are indispensable for nurturing professional development, enhancing student learning outcomes, cultivating a supportive and dynamic learning milieu and an effort towards a constant alignment to the vision of our school. Throughout the Academic Year 2023-24, a comprehensive array of seminars and workshops were organised for our educators, covering a diverse range of topics. These sessions, facilitated by both internal and external experts, were meticulously designed to empower and refine our teaching staff, equipping them with the updated requisite tools and knowledge to facilitate an effective teaching and learning experience.

Topics covered for these programmes included Emotional Objectivity, creating a Positive Workplace, LMS Training, Institutional Values, Embracing Change, Effective Lesson Planning, Language Teaching Strategies, Counselling Skills, Understanding Emotions, Innovative Math Teaching Methods, Financial Literacy, and Digital Tools. Additionally, our teachers participated in various professional development programmes organised by the CBSE (CoE), the NCERT, and other institutions.

These Professional Development Programmes had a profound impact on our teaching- learning practices. Our classrooms have become more dynamic and learner-centric, fostering greater engagement, critical thinking, and academic success. The dedication of our teachers towards their continuous professional growth and our management's readiness to invest on these programmes, reflect our commitment towards providing the highest quality education and ensuring the success of every student.



#### **Investments on Upgradation and Infrastructure Development**

In our continuous efforts to provide cutting-edge facilities for fostering innovation and creativity among our students, we have significantly upgraded our Innovation Centre. The valuable investment made in this endeavour reflects our commitment to providing the best resources for our students' holistic development.



A substantial portion of this investment, has been allocated towards acquiring desktops and laptops. Among these are Dell Mobile Precision Laptops with graphic cards, Dell OptiPlex 3000 SFF Desktops with graphic cards, Dell Latitude 3540 Laptops, and Lenovo Tab Mainstream Tab M88505X Android 10. These devices are equipped with the latest technology to support various innovative projects and research endeavours undertaken by our students, helping them to be at par with the world of technology.

Additionally, we have procured a range of equipment, learning kits, and other materials with a fundamental investment. These include Interactive Display Boards, robotic kits, and flight lab kits for students from Class 4 to 9, HAM Club materials, an additional 3D printer, an all-in-one A4 printer, a lamination chine, screen printing kit, and various IoT (Internet of Things) and electronic components. These resources are aimed at providing the students with hands-on experience and opportunities to explore their interests in the field of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM).

Furthermore, our PCBM Labs have undergone significant upgrades, with a considerable investment. This includes the acquisition of Dell OptiPlex 7410 AIO Desktops and a range of equipment and lab wares such as electronic weighing machines, binocular microscopes, hot air ovens, water baths, digital pH meters, vacuum pumps, conductivity/pH meters, and specialized lamps with transformers. These resources are essential for conducting experiments and practical sessions in subjects related to Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, providing students with a comprehensive learning experience.

We believe that these upgraded facilities will empower our students to unleash their full potential and make meaningful contributions to society through innovation and scientific inquiry.

Moreover, the grandstand overlooking the school sports ground has been covered with tensile fabric roofing at a significant costing, to enable students to carry out outdoor activities and also to sit and view various sports events under shade.



## **Elevating Excellence: Recognitions at the State and National Level**

Our school takes great pride in the remarkable feat of receiving Proud moment for Excel Public School & Excelsoft prestigious awards in the current academic year. The All India Rank -7 and the State Rank- 2 in STEAM Education at the EducationWorld School Rankings 2023-24, recognised our institution's exceptional dedication to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.

Excel Public School was also rated as the Top 1 School in Mysuru in the EducationWorld School Ranking 2023.

The ET TECH X School Excellence Award 2023-24, presented by Brainfeed Educational Magazine, is in the esteemed category of Top 500 Schools



of India. The 'Brainfeed Trailblazer Schools 2023' ranked Excel Public School as the number 1 CBSE School in Mysuru.

We are honoured to receive this award which results from the hard work and dedication of our entire school community, demonstrating our unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation. We strive to create a nurturing, stimulating learning environment and empower students. Our school's success and growth have been attributed to the passion and dedication of our educators, students, and parents.

#### Major Milestones and Achievements of the Year



Our students have made remarkable strides in various fields showcasing their talent and innovation on national platforms.

The 'ShePreneur' team is being funded by DELL Technologies for their project 'Nutrition Vending Machine', which is in the developmental phase. Ashmitha Rao, Deeksha G, and Gahana of grade IX, mark the start of their adventure for being chosen as one of the top teams. As they progress through their project's development with DELL Technologies' support, it would be a great opportunity for girls/women in the STEM field. These students are now trying to patent their invention.

The Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell has chosen to advance our project,

'Anytime Education Machine', conceived by Eshanvi Nandeesh Preetham and C B Swarna of grade XII, for additional funding through the School Innovation Contest. This programme actively encourages and supports creative ideas generated by school students, aiming to cultivate scientific growth and development among young learners.

#### Achievements Under the Aegis of ATL and Innovation Centre

National Technology Day, observed annually on May 11th, commemorates India's technological advancements. In honour of its 25th anniversary, the Technology Development Board, in collaboration with 12 Ministries/Departments, organised the National Technology Week 2023. This week- long event, inaugurated by our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, aimed at spotlight innovations across various sectors under the theme 'School to Start-up, Igniting Young Minds to Innovate.' Excel Public



School was recognized as one of the forty distinguished schools nationwide and was invited to participate in this event. Represented by three Grade IX students - Gahana H Prasad, Deeksha, and Asmitha Rao - the school showcased its innovative 'Nutrition Vending Machine,' developed for the Atal Innovation Marathon. This experience provided invaluable insights for the students as they interacted with dignitaries, scientists, entrepreneurs, and peers from diverse educational backgrounds.

The third anniversary of the National Education Policy 2020 was commemorated with a notable two-day event at ITPO, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, hosted by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. This distinguished occasion, graced by the Prime Minister, saw the inauguration of several initiatives. Excel Public School received the honour of an invitation from the Atal Innovation Mission to partake in this esteemed event. During the gathering, our school presented a project on inclusive learning, titled 'Assistive Wonders,' developed as part of the ATL Marathon. Vibha Kadlimatti and Prathush Manjunath Gowda from class VIII, represented EPS at this event.



The ATL Marathon, Atal Innovation Mission's premier innovation challenge, tasks schools with identifying community issues and devising innovative solutions through functional prototypes. Notably, our school has 7 teams placed among the top 400 out of over 12,000 innovations in the ATL Marathon 2022-23. These selected teams are currently involved in internships with prestigious organizations, companies, and incubation centres across India. This year, the ATL Marathon boasts active participation of 75 teams from Excel Public School, further highlighting its growing impact and reach.

The STEAM Fest at Excel Public School was organised on 19 August 2023, which unfolded as a magnificent



celebration centered on the theme "The Pale Blue Dot". Guided by the overarching theme of "Climate Change," our students presented an array of remarkable projects, emphasising the urgency of addressing this critical issue. From awe- inspiring engineering marvels, harnessing renewable energy sources to expressive artistic interpretations and capturing the splendour of nature, these projects,

crafted by approximately 600 students spanning Classes 6 to 12, stood as exemplary manifestations of human creativity and resourcefulness. The impactful messages conveyed within "The Pale Blue Dot" through songs and dances served as poignant reminders of our shared responsibility for the planet and its diverse inhabitants. By uniting for the STEAM Fest, we collectively embarked on a mission to foster positive change for the betterment of our world.

During a national level webinar featuring leading innovators from the ATL Marathon, Excel Public School's budding entrepreneurs were invited to offer valuable insights and guidance to aspiring ATL Tinkerers. Aditi Bhat initiated the discussion by emphasising the importance of turning passion into a career and, exploring the future of entrepreneurship. I B Srinivas delved into entrepreneurship possibilities, highlighting the concept of the infinite game. Sanvi Shankar and Divijaa Arjun discussed the growth of four start-ups in EPS amidst COVID-19 challenges. Their engaging session left the audience infused with renewed enthusiasm for innovation and creativity.

The ATL Tinkerpreneur programme is a transformative 7-week boot camp aimed at equipping students with vital digital and entrepreneurial skills, culminating in the creation of their own online venture. Ayush Shettar from Class VIII achieved recognition among the top 100 students for his



project, 'Open Mind Academy.' These exceptional students participated in a specialized 5-week mentorship programme with the Indian School of Business, where they could immerse themselves in advanced business skills. I-Venture @ ISB, in partnership with the Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog has curated a special programme called 'Atal Catalysts @ ISB'. Ayush is a part of this programme. ISB through this initiative will handhold, equip, and mould young minds to emerge as innovative and futuristic entrepreneurs.

In collaboration with AEROGO INDIA, Excel Public School organised a two-day workshop tailored for Class 8 students, aiming at providing them with hands-on experience in designing, constructing, and operating remote-controlled (RC) aircraft. Twenty students actively participated in this engaging workshop.

Additionally, students of Class VIII participated in the Flight Programme, which included a visit to the National Aerospace Laboratory in Bangalore as a part of the One Week One Lab Programme. During the visit, students explored various aerospace technologies and facilities which included wind tunnels, flight simulators, and composite materials.

Fuelled by their curiosity and propelled by an innovative report on High Altitude Platform Systems, three of our students – Tanish Tejaswi MS and Sainirnay Sanjee of Class X, and Eshanvi N Preetham of Class XI – embarked on a transformative three-day journey at the Jigyasa-Aero Fest, Bangalore. Hosted by the Jigyasa Council for Scientific and Industrial



Research (CSIR)-National Aerospace Laboratories, this national level event served as a catalyst, intensifying their enthusiasm for aeronautics. The primary goal of the event was to cultivate a scientific mindset among students in Grades IX-XII and inspire them to pursue a career in aerospace science. Surpassing all expectations, the trio not only excelled in the quiz competition but also secured a prestigious second place for their presentation, leaving a remarkable trail of brilliance behind them.

In collaboration with La Foundation Dassault Systems (Dassault Systems Foundation) in India, the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) NITI Aayog has launched the 'Student Entrepreneurship Programme' (SEP 3.0) tailored for the young innovators within Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL). Under this initiative, the Top 20 teams of ATL Marathon from each school, represented by a team of 6 students and a teacher, receive seed funding to establish a pseudo-start-up. As the programme concludes, each school's pseudo-start-up will partake in a friendly competition, presenting their marketing campaigns in front of several industry and academia experts. Currently, 5 of our students – Bhuvan PM, Nandan Hegde, Aryan Kini, Ishaan Rajesh, and Partha – are actively undergoing this training, gaining valuable insights into the process of launching their innovative product.

Excel Public School actively participated in the INSPIRE – MANAK organised by the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, in association with the National Innovation Foundation (NIF). The aim of this event is fostering creativity and innovation among students aged between 10-15. Out of the five original ideas nominated by our school, an impressive four were shortlisted for the next round. Our students Tanish Tejaswi, Sainirnay Sanjee, Lohith S (Class X), and Nandan Hegde (Class IX) showcased innovative projects such as "Blind's Eye," "Vision Drive," "Mediconnect," and "Sustainable Park," respectively. All these students are given a support of Rs 10,000 each and are selected for the State and National Level Exhibition and Project Competitions.

In collaboration with AIM (Atal Innovation Mission) of NITI Aayog, Excel Public School launched the ATL



Cluster initiative, as the first ever attempt of the country, to enhance the presence and performance of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) in the Mysore district of Karnataka. Led by Ms. Chitra Uthaya, our Learning Events team executed a series of 12 sessions aimed at empowering teachers with the skills to maximize the potential of ATL labs. This initiative not only elevates local ATLs but also positions Mysuru as a dynamic innovation hub. We extend our gratitude to Dr. Chintan Vaishnav, Mission Director of AIM at NITI Aayog, for his invaluable support in advancing innovation in our region and beyond. We are proud that the success of Mysore ATL Cluster has prompted the authorities to replicate this model in other parts of the country as well.

## Aiming at Global Benchmarks – ACER-IBT

The International Benchmarking test (IBT) is an internationally administered programme of assessments in English, Mathematics, Science, and Reasoning for students in primary and secondary schools, with tests appropriate for each grade level, conducted by Australian Council for Education Research (ACER). The IBT programme was established in 2005 to provide schools in all countries with a high-quality skill-based assessment not linked to any national curriculum. This allows students from all the countries to be fairly competitive. A select group of ACER test-writing experts uses the most recent pedagogical research to format the IBT. Once the assessments have been completed and the data has been collected, ACER's experienced psychometricians use the Rasch model of item response theory to analyse the results. ACER then produces developmental scales (bands) for each subject onto which students are placed.

IBT was administered to our students of grades 5 and 8 in four subjects where 369 students participated. While 54% of the participants (200 students) are placed in higher bands (performing above their grade level, globally), an overall 81% of the total participants (300 students) are at par with grade level band.

In comparison with national and international levels, we are proud that our students excelled in all subjects they had appeared. The eighth-grade students achieved both national and international benchmarks in all four subjects (English, Mathematics, Science, and Reasoning), with the highest and average scores exceeding these standards. The fifth-grade students achieved outstanding average scores in all four subjects, surpassing both national and international benchmarks. Furthermore, they secured top scores in the subjects of Mathematics and Reasoning.

Achieving these benchmarks is a testimony to the impact of our school's unconventional and creative teaching learning experience.

\*Please find below, the link for subject wise details/reports https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/199xc1kg4kp41XDh\_hsYG\_TN6mzyg87e8

## **Commencement of Skill Development Programme**

The introduction of skill development initiatives at the school level aims at equipping students with the essential skills and knowledge needed in the 21st century. A Skill Development Programme was initiated for the students of Classes 6 to 8, offering them a chance to cultivate skills such as critical thinking, creative



thinking, and problem-solving. The school implemented 12 clubs covering a diverse range of interests, including Nanoscience, Forensics, ISRO Space Tutoring, Robotics, 3D Printing, HAM Radio, Aviation, Sustainability, Sculpture, Theatre, and more.

#### **EPS-Amateur Radio Club**

This year, to educate and encourage our students on all aspects of Amateur Radio activities, Excel Public School Amateur Radio Club, Mysuru, was formed at our school to foster interest, education, and skill development in the field of electronics and radio communication. The club is authorised to establish, maintain, and work a wireless telegraph transmitting and receiving station, under the call sign VU2TQA. 60 students from Classes 6-8 enrolled for the skill development - Amateur Radio Club program. Students were introduced to the principles of Amateur radio communication, regulations, and Morse code for getting the Amateur Radio license. Students also learnt the basic concepts of electricity, circuits, and electronic components used in Amateur Radio communication. They also learnt about the role of Amateur Radio operators in providing communications during emergencies and disasters. Students explored the intricacies of radio communication, such as the installation of antennas, transmitters and receivers, diagnosing and

fixing common technical problems. They developed skills in making radio transmitters and receivers, enabling them to connect with fellow amateur radio enthusiasts. Our school aims at promoting, educating and encouraging students to gain knowledge on general advancement of science and practice of Electronics and Radio Communication through its 'Amateur Radio Club'. Our objective is also to organise A.S.O.C. (Amateur Station Operator's Certificate) examination and coach students for the same.



#### **Broadening Horizons- Students' Interaction with Experts**

In our continuous effort to broaden students' horizons and expose them to diverse career paths and fields of study, we organised several enlightening sessions throughout the year. Here is a glimpse into some of the impactful sessions conducted:



Padma Bhushan Dr. Ajai Chowdhry, Founder, HCL Enterprise, and Chairman, EPIC Foundation, India, along with delegates from EPIC Foundation, visited Excel Public School on the 16th of December 2023 and expressed his delight with our school's emphasis on hands-on learning and skill development in electronics and associated future skills. He appreciated the school's support in helping students to start their own enterprises and securing relevant

internships and real-world exposure, contributing to the country's vivacious future.

Mr. Aakrith Harikumar, an enthusiastic student in Humanities from the Jindal University, shared invaluable insights into various career paths during a counselling session for the students of Class 10. He emphasised how exploring humanities careers can foster social justice, cultural appreciation, and community advancement, challenging traditional stereotypes.

Dr. Manjunath G, Scientist - College of Horticulture, Mysore, shed light on the integration of technology in modern farming, focusing on enhancing crop yields and nutritional quality. His session, for our secondary



grade students, underscored the significance of innovation and research in revolutionizing agricultural practices.

Mr. Jagadish B, an agriculturist and businessman, discussed mixed farming, addressing its challenges and recounted the governmental efforts to promote sustainability. During his interaction with our Class 10 students, he emphasized how mixed farming integrates sustainability to support the global population.



Dr. Janani Venugopal, Assistant Professor-ICT in Education, RIE (NCERT) Mysore, conducted a session for our secondary students on cybersecurity to equip them with essential skills to address cyber threats. Her presentation raised awareness about creating a safer online environment for individuals and the society.

Dr. Anitha Raghavendra, Specialist Learning, Infosys Ltd, led a session on ChatGPT and AI technologies, aiming to enhance the Class 10 students' digital literacy and ethical understanding in the digital landscape.

An educative and enlightening session on the harmful effects of plastics. enlightened Class 9 students about its pervasive presence and environmental impacts. Dr. Hema Vijayan P U, Dr. Bhavani Devi L, and Dr. Srinivas S Kamath discussed the biological and chemical effects of plastic pollution.

Ms. Sridevi S, an artist and teacher, showcased to the Class 7 students, her dedication to preserving Kannada culture and language, through captivating folk singing, radio endeavours, and a YouTube channel dedicated to Kannada literature.

Mr. H D Ananda, Group Director –SPROC Systems, Hassan ISRO, shared his insights, with the Astronomy Club students, about the activities of the Master Control Facility (MCF) and about his extensive experience in popularizing space and computational science through educational initiatives.



Dr. Anjana B Ram, Assistant Professor-AIISH, Mysore, enlightened the participants of Class 8 on stuttering rehabilitation techniques and her research endeavours aimed at improving the quality of life for individuals with stuttering and autism.

The Kannada department welcomed Mr. Tejas H Badala, our alumni, currently pursuing LLB and Ms. Roopashree his mother – an artist and lawyer, to present a lesson on the "Saptakshari mantra," enriching the learning experience of Class 8 students, with their theatrical talents.

Mr. Pradeep Yuvaraj, the Managing Director and Chief Storyteller at Prezantim – a pure-play presentation strategy and design team, assured success to the students of Classes 11 and 12 and students of ATL, through the session – Business Storytelling.

The Computer Science and AI students of the Senior Secondary had the opportunity to attend a very informative session on Generative AI by Mr. Sridhar Joies, Associate Director- Learning, Excelsoft Technologies.

Mr. Kannan Balachandran, Principal Consultant- Engineering Division at Infosys Mysore, addressed the students of Class 11 on Financial Literacy guiding them to invest in ventures like share market and mutual funds.



A delegation of 8 representatives from different acclaimed universities around the world arrived at our school to aid the Class 11 students on their paths to successful careers abroad. They were led by Mr. Girish Ballolla, the CEO of Gen Next Education.

#### **Extended Learning Activities**

Throughout the academic year, we facilitated a comprehensive approach to education by conducting 42 interdisciplinary programmes for students from Classes 3 to 10. Additionally,



41 cross-curricular activities were organised specifically for Classes 5 to 8, fostering a scientific mind-set and a keen sense of inquiry among the students. These hands-on learning sessions played a crucial role in deepening the student's understanding of various subjects.



In line with our vision and mission of a holistic learning, we incorporated 15 field trips into our extended learning activities. These trips, designed for students from Classes 3 to 12, provided valuable learning experiences in diverse areas such as Life

Sciences, Mathematics, English, Social Science, and Languages. Destinations included museums, historical sites, agricultural farms, hospitals, factories, and industrial units, offered students opportunities to engage with real-world applications of their academic studies.

#### **EYE 4.0 and Pitchfest**

The Excel Young Entrepreneur programme, launched in 2020 at Excel Public School, is dedicated to nurturing entrepreneurial skills among students in Classes 8 to 12. Through workshops and mentorship, students develop essential skills like research, problem-solving, and collaboration, empowering them to turn innovative ideas into successful ventures. The annual Pitchfest provides a platform for students to showcase their projects, receive valuable feedback, and refine their business plans. Selected teams proceed to the NEST incubation phase, where they receive ongoing support from experienced mentors to transform their concepts into viable ventures. By fostering innovation and resilience, the program is shaping the next generation of business leaders and visionaries.

This year's Pitchfest was held in April 2023 at Excel Public School which featured diverse student teams presenting innovative ideas, reflecting the school's commitment to entrepreneurship and creativity. Ten talented student teams showcased their entrepreneurial skills by presenting their business



pitches to a panel of three eminent judges, comprising Dr. Chaitra Narayan, the founder of Codagu Agritech & Shivam Distillations; Mr. Adarsh Sudhindra, the founder and director of enhanzED Education Pvt. Ltd.; and Ms. Jayashree Krishna, the managing partner of Beej Learning LLP. The electrifying atmosphere brimmed with anticipation as the students strove to present their business ideas to the judges with their impeccable pitches. The jury members meticulously evaluated each pitch based on its feasibility and potential impact. The presidential address, delivered by Mr. Sudhanva Dhananjaya, Secretary of Excel Public School, emphasized the immense potential that entrepreneurship holds for the youth, lauding all the teams for their outstanding performances and wishing them luck.

Continuing the journey, the 2024 Pitchfest at Excel Public School, set for June 2024, will feature 10 teams pitching sustainable development-focused ideas. Reflecting the school's commitment to nurturing entrepreneurship, these projects will address pressing environmental and social challenges. From eco-friendly packaging to sustainable materials, students aim to drive a positive change in their communities. Anticipation is high for another inspiring showcase of innovation and commitment to sustainability.

## **Career Catalyst-A Summer Internship Programme**

As a part of our Senior Secondary programme, which focuses on career preparation, we offer an internship programme for students during their summer vacation. The programme aims to provide students with first-hand experience and prepare them for the transition to higher education and avenues of career. We are



pleased with the number of students taking advantage of this opportunity, as we had 48 students interning with 11 different organizations across a variety of fields including designing, architecture, law, finance, marketing, HR, AI, IT, programming, biochemistry, and medical research. We are grateful for the support and mentoring provided by Excelsoft, DIDACS, InsideOut, Queens School of Design, Kshidi Interiors, Ag Flex, Epidemiology Research Unit, CSI Holdsworth Memorial

Hospital, Aashritha Foundation and Skoda during the internships, which lasted for a period of 10 to 20 days.

### **School Libraries**

This year, our school libraries have continued to serve as invaluable resources for our students and staff. With a total collection of 11,000 books across all three libraries, including 3,205 reference books, our libraries offer a diverse range of materials to support academic pursuits and foster a love for reading. Additionally, we subscribe to 29 periodicals, providing access to up-to-date information and diverse perspectives on various subjects.

Throughout the year, we have invested in expanding our collection by acquiring 689 new books, demonstrating our commitment to providing relevant and engaging resources for our school community. This current academic year, we have spent a valuable amount on books and periodicals, ensuring that our libraries remain vibrant hubs of learning and exploration.

## **Co and Extra Curricular Activities**

At EPS, we believe that co-curricular and extracurricular activities play a pivotal role in nurturing wellrounded individuals. These activities provide students with opportunities to develop essential life skills, such as leadership, teamwork, creativity, and resilience, which are integral for success in today's dynamic world.

During the current year, under Literary and Cultural Competitions, we conducted a total of 106 events under 5 categories. These competitions provided our students opportunities to exhibit their talents in the chosen area along with promoting a healthy spirit of competition. We also conducted 222 Sports and Games events as a part of the Annual Sports Days, for the students from Class 3 to Class 12.

## **Sporting Excellence**

Our athletes and budding sporting talents have displayed skill, sportsmanship, and dedication, projecting the best of our school's ethos. Join us in celebrating our champions and the pride they bring to all of us.

## **Team Triumphs**

Mysore District League Basketball Tournament: Our U-16 girls' basketball team clinched victory in the Mysore District League Basketball Tournament, triumphing over 14 other teams from across Mysore.



Jo-Cup: Our U-16 football and throw ball boys' and girls' teams were declared champions in the Jo-Cup organised by St. Joseph's Central School, Yelwala, Mysuru. In the same event, our basketball team secured the runners-up position.

Christ Cup: Our U-16 basketball and football teams displayed their prowess at the Christ Cup. Both the girls' and boys' basketball teams emerged champions, with Nithin S (Class 10) and Shravani S (Class 9) being



recognised as the Best Players for their stellar performances.

Inter-school Cricket Tournament: Our cricket team emerged victorious in the inter-school cricket tournament organised by Mysore Fitness and Sports Academy, defeating 18 other schools in the U-16 category.

#### **Individual Feats**

In the CBSE South Zone Sports Competitions at Parvathamma Shamanur Shivashankarappa Residential School, Davangere, Hima Poorvi of Class 11, secured the second place in the U-17 Girls Long Jump event, combining remarkable speed, strength, and agility. Her outstanding performance has earned her a spot in the National Level Championship in Chhattisgarh.

Padmapriya R of Class 6 emerged victorious in the All India National Series of Tennis U 12 Tournament, showcasing her powerful service, forehand and backhand strokes to secure the singles semi-finals position and receive the Winners' Trophy for doubles.

Krish P of Class 3 unveiled his swimming expertise at the State Level PET Non-Medalist Swimming Competition, securing the second place in multiple categories with an impressive record time.

Eshanvi Nandeesh Preetham of Class 11 demonstrated strategic brilliance at the Karnataka State Level Inter School Chess Championship, securing the second position, in the U-17 female category.

Pavani Mutalik of Class 7 secured the first place in the Inter School Yoga Championship, exhibiting her dedication and flexibility on the yoga mat.

Rhea R. Patel of Class 9 notched the top spot in the CBSE state-level inter school badminton tournament, demonstrating exceptional volley of shots on the court.

Vibha P. Ravindra of Class 6 took part in the International Mabuni-Ha Shito-Ryu Karate Association's 29th National-Level Karate Championship and won gold in both Kumite and Kata. She took part in the Mysuru Open National Level Karate Championship and won a gold medal in Kata. Vibha also took part in the South India Interstate School Karate Championship, where she won a bronze in Kumite and a silver in Kata.



Vihaan P. Ravindra of Class 3 secured gold medals in Kata and Kumite in

the International Mabuni-HaShimoto-Ryo Karate Association's 29th national-level Karate Championship

2023 and Mysuru Open National Level Karate Championship 2023. Vihaan also participated in the South India Interstate School Karate Championship 2023 and secured a bronze medal in Kata and a silver medal in Kumite.

Aneesh of Class 9 won a gold medal at the boy's U-16, 60m race held in Mysuru, in the month of January. He has been selected to participate at the 19th National Inter- District Junior Athletic Meet 2024, in Gujarat, organised by the Athletics Federation of India.

Munjandira Nirvi Poonacha of Class 6 won a gold medal in the 50m freestyle, a silver medal in the 50m butterfly stroke, and a bronze medal in the 4 x 50m freestyle relay in the junior and senior state aquatic championships held at Basavangudi Aquatic Centre in Bangalore. She also remarkably won the overall championship in Bhubaneswar, held at Kalinga Stadium. She is representing the OCBC Aquatic Center Championship in Singapore, which was scheduled between the 6th and 11th of March 2024.

Ishana Pykera, of Class 7, won gold in the 600m and silver in the 200m races in the inter- school athletic competition conducted at KALS Kodagu. She also represented Mysore in the Karnataka State Junior Athletics Championship held in Mangalore. She secured a silver medal in the U-16 600m race at the Mysore District Athletic Association Meet 2024 for National Inter-District Junior Athletic Meet and got selected for the Nationals. She also participated in the state-level athletic meet 2024 in the U-14 races at Kanakapura, and won a gold medal in the 600m and a silver medal in the 400m events.

## **A Rising Sports Star**

Padmapriya Ramesh Kumar, a student of Class 6, has showcased remarkable talent and dedication in tennis throughout the year, bringing pride and recognition to our school. Her notable achievements include

reaching the semi-finals in the girls U12 singles category and clinching victory in the doubles category at the Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association (MSLTA), Mumbai. Furthermore, she secured the runner-up position in singles and emerged as the Champion in doubles, at the All India National Series Tennis Tournament, in the U12 category at Hyderabad. Padmapriya's success continued as she reached the finals and received the trophy at the AITA OTA All India National Series U-14 Juniors Tennis Tournament 2023 in Bhubaneshwar.



## **Literary and Cultural Feats**

The academic year 2023-2024 witnessed an array of captivating performances and remarkable feats by our students in literary and cultural competitions. Their participation in quizzes, theatrical productions, debates, recitations, art arenas, and musicals exhibited their focus, creativity, and determination, illuminating district, state, and national levels with their talent.

Class 9 student, Shreya Bharadwaj and Class 8 student Dia Ponappa unveiled exceptional analytical skills and eloquence at a debate workshop organised by Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement Mysuru and Cornell University. Their outstanding performance earned them a week-long Debate Workshop at Cornell University in New York.

Master Preetham S Rao participated in the district-level Kavighosti conducted by the Akhila Bharatiya Sahitya Parishat and won the third prize. He qualified to attend the state-level Kavighosti held at Sirsi. Preetham was the youngest poet among all participants.

In an Inter-School Online Slogan Writing Competition organized by STG Public School, as an initiative to support India's G20 Presidency, Mst. Ahyan Sait from class X won the second prize.

In the High School English Elocution Competition hosted by St. Rosello's Central School, Sharanya MC and Sreenandini Das of Class 10 won individual second prizes, impressing the audience with their confident and articulated speeches.

In the Sri V Siddharthacharry Memorial English Declamation and Creative Science Project Competition conducted by Acharya Vidyakula, our students won laurels. In English Declamation, Sreenandini Das of Class 10 won the second prize for her portrayal of Portia in Julius Caesar. In Poetry Recitation, Shamita Yenigalla of Class 9 won first prize for her recital of 'Our Casuarina Tree' by Toru Dutt, Sharanya M C of Class 10 won the second prize for her narration of 'A Psalm of Life' by H W Longfellow. In the Creative Science Project, Chiranth S and Siddharth of Class 8 won the first prize, for their prototypes focussing on sustainable environment.

In a National Level Poster Presentation organised by CFTRI, Aditi Bhat, Divija Arjun of class 12 and Srilakshmi, and Nimileetha from Class 11 won the Special Mention Award for their presentation on Innovative Food Packaging System and Rediscovery of Millets: A Review.

In the Sketching Competition hosted by the Mysore School of Architecture, Sneha Javur from Class 11 secured the first prize, showcasing her artistic finesse through techniques like shading, blending, and composition, breathing life into her artworks.

At the Inter School Science Quiz Competition held at St. Thomas Central School, Mysuru, our team comprising Vishanth Muthangere Vivekananda of Class 8, Prahas Balaji of Class 9 and Sreenandini Das of Class 10 emerged victorious, demonstrating their scientific acumen and adeptness in performing intricate calculations. EPS was honoured with the Overall Championship Trophy.



In the State Level Competition, 'Sangeeth Shatharanj 2023', organised by Kalasamhita Cultural Club of NIE Mysore, Ankush S D, a talented flautist from Class 5, enchanted the audience with his melodious flute notes, creating an ambiance of peace and tranquility and his captivating performance earned him the second prize.

At the Inter School Carol Singing Competition organised by the Carmel Catholic Association, our students from Classes 3 and 4 secured the second prize, while the students from Classes 6 and 7 dazzled the audience by clinching the first prize.



In the Inter School Essay Writing and Elocution Competition, which was a part of the 69th Wildlife Week Celebration, organised by Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysore, our school swept all the top three prizes in the Essay Writing category. Saanvi M of Class 12 bagged the first prize, and Tanish Tejaswi of Class 10 secured the second prize. In the Elocution Competition, Sreenandini Das of Class 10 emerged victorious with the first prize.

In the Inter School Literary Fest hosted by St. Joseph's Central School, Vijayanagara, Pratham Trivedi of Class 10 clinched the first prize in the Literary Character Representation category by embodying Captain Jack Sparrow from the Pirates of the Caribbean. Krishav K Urs of Class 10 secured the second prize for his portrayal of the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. In the Literary Quiz category, Amrita Biligere of Class 8 won the first prize showcasing her profound love for literature. Akshata Vinayak Pandit of Class 7 won the second in the Recitation on Nature Poems category. At the Inter School Essay Writing Competition organised by Tata Building India under the topic of Sustainable Environment, Avantika Manoj and Immanuel Kakde of Class 7 won the first and second prizes respectively in the junior category and Sreenandini Das, Bhoomi R Tavakari, and Tanish Tejaswi of Class 10 secured the first, second, and third prizes respectively in the Senior Category.

In the 42nd Dr. V. Subrahmanyan Memorial Inter High School English Debate Competition conducted by CFTRI School Mysuru, Arnav Singavi of Class 10 clinched the second prize, contributing to our school's success in earning the Runners-up Trophy.

Vishanth Muthangere Vivekananda, of Class 8 secured the 2nd Rank in the Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan 2023, earning him a spot in the National Level Camp to be held in Kolkata in May 2024.

Poorvika S Raj of Class 10 clinched the first prize in the Voice of Mybuild 2023, a singing competition organised by the Builders Association of India, Mysore.



In the Prajavani Quiz Championship 2023, Sreenandini Das and Bhuvan P M from Class 10 emerged as the State Level Champions after competing against teams from various districts of Karnataka. Their remarkable achievement was commended by the honourable Governor of Karnataka, Sri Thaawar Chand Gehlot, at a prestigious event held in Raj Bhavan Bengaluru.

In the Swami Shambhav Anandaji Memorial Golden Jubilee 50th Inter High School General Knowledge Competition, organised by Ramakrishna Vidyashala Mysuru, Arnav Singavi and Puneeth Kiran from Class 10 showcased their intellect by securing the second prize. Additionally, our school was recognized with the Third Best Institution Award.

Dhrithi R Kukreja, Chinmay J, and Immanuel Kakde emerged victorious among 30 enthusiastic participants from classes 7, 8, and 9 at the Mysore Literature Fest - Quiz Competition. Their achievements were celebrated as they received their trophies and certificates from the renowned author and social activist, Ms. Sudha Murthy.

Ten students from Classes 8 and 9 staged the play 'The Holiday' by Rabindranath Tagore, earning accolades for its excellence during the three-day-long Theatre Festival, Kalasuruchi English Play Festival 2023.

In the Inter School Science Quiz organised by SVEI School, Abhinav Sajith and Puneeth Kiran from Class 10 secured the first prize, demonstrating their profound understanding across various scientific disciplines. Additionally, our music team clinched the second prize in the Janapada Geethe Recital Competition, showcasing their deep appreciation for cultural heritage and musical traditions.

Vagish Gowda V and Yash S from Class 7 won the second prize for their innovative model addressing LED bulb and electronic waste management, promoting sustainability at the Geetha Shodana 2023.

G S Sanjeevini from Class 12 secured the third prize, showcasing her artistic talent and creative expression at the National Level Drawing Competition organised by the CBSE.

In the 'Lions Quest-'23', an Inter School Quiz Competition, Sreenandini Das and Bhuvan PM of Class 10 emerged winners, displaying their prowess in general knowledge and analytical skills.

## **Activities Under NCC**

Excel Public School established both Senior Division/Wing and Junior Division/Wing of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) in the Academic Year 2021-22, with the aim of fostering character, comradeship, discipline, secular outlook, spirit of adventure, and ideals of selfless service among young citizens. Presently, our NCC unit comprises 50 cadets in the Senior Division/Wing and 125 Cadets in the Junior Division/Wing.

In the Academic Year 2023-24, the EPS NCC achieved significant milestones. Eight cadets participated in prestigious national-level camps, including the All India Thal Sainik Camp, All India G. V. Mavlankar Shooting Championship, 66th National Sports Shooting Competition, and Nilgiri Trekking Expedition. Additionally, almost all cadets underwent training in the NCC Group Level Combined Annual Training Camps. The EPS NCC also



organised two adventure activities, eleven social service activities, and a grand parade on Republic Day, graced by esteemed dignitaries.

Junior under Officer Savi Kiran Holla represented the State in the National level Inter- Directorate Sports Shooting Competition 2023, securing the 10th position individually. She also participated in the All India level G. V. Mavlankar Shooting Competition and the 66th National Sports Shooting Competition.

Junior under Officer Vishaak Thimmaiah Kademada, Company Sergeant Major Shivaprabha, Sergeant Namasyu, Sergeant Abhinav, and Sergeant Eshanvi were part of the Directorate/State team that participated in the All India Thal Sainik Camp held at New Delhi.

Junior Under Officer Vishaak Thimmaiah Kademada and Company Sergeant Major Shivaprabha were awarded the Silver Medal at the State Level Inter NCC Group Competition held at Mysuru.

Cadet Anvika Bopiah K and Cadet Sthutya Suma Manjunath successfully completed the All India Girls Trekking Expedition in the Nilgiris Mountains in Tamil Nadu.

A grand parade was organised on the Republic Day, under the aegis of our NCC Units, in which the Group Commander, the Admin Officer of Mysore NCC Group HQ, and the Officiating Commanding Officer of 14 Karnataka Battalion NCC were present as Chief Guest and Guests of Honour.

We extend our gratitude to the Mysore NCC Group Commander, the Commanding Officer and staff of 14 Kak Bn NCC, Lt Shinto Kuriyan, Second Officer Gayatri C K Kumar, Hav Subbiah (Retd), and all EPS NCC cadets for their remarkable achievements in the Academic Year 2023-24.

#### **Special Events**

The academic year was punctuated by a series of special events at Excel Public School, each contributing to the holistic development and enrichment of our school community. These events showcased our commitment to fostering innovation, nurturing creativity, and celebrating diverse talents.

The 29th Regional Forum for IC3 was hosted at Excel Public School, providing parents and students with comprehensive insights into educational counselling and career opportunities. This forum served as a platform to illuminate diverse career paths alongside a University Fair



facilitating student engagement with 16 universities from across the globe. The event accentuated the significance of career counselling and schools' responsibility in fostering students' well-being.

Aditi Bhat, Pratham Alavandi and Sohani from class 12 orchestrated an assembly, capturing the spirit of the G20 Summit under the theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam." Their commendable efforts, in addition to Gouthami's conceptualization of a unity poster, were recognized by the Mysore Sahodaya School Complex, echoing across associated schools and fostering global awareness.

A group of 150 young activists from across the globe, in partnership with UNICEF and UNESCO, visited Excel Public School to advocate Education for Sustainable Development.



Commitment to excellence, innovation, and holistic development, which nurtured knowledge acquisition, cohesive teamwork, and enriching inventiveness.

This was a part of the 'World's Largest Lesson', an event aimed at promoting sustainable development goals and facilitating young people to contribute to a better future for all. Through group discussions, the visitors spoke to our learners on pertinent issues like Poverty, Climate Concerns, Health and Well-being, Gender Equality, Clean Water and Sanitation, Peace and Justice, Responsible Consumption, Quality Education, and Zero Hunger.

Our students enthralled the audience with their breath-taking performance 'The Greatest Showman'. Inspired by the extraordinary life of PT Barnum, this musical theatre production left an indelible impression on the audience. The musical delivered a profound message of self- acceptance and embracing one's unique identity. The show was a powerful catalyst for personal empowerment and societal acceptance.



Team Alpha, our esteemed leadership collective, embarked on a journey to Ladakh as a part of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative. This unique pairing facilitated an invaluable exchange with Sonam Wangchuk and his students, enriching our understanding of diverse cultures and promoting unity.

In the month of November, The Excelerate Club organised Excellencia, an inter-school festival that brought together pupils from 15 CBSE institutions for a vibrant cultural spectacle. This event fostered fraternal bonds and promoted excellence through a range of creative competitions and activities.

Expressions 2024, held on the 2nd of February 2024, showcased the diverse learning of around 526 students from classes 3 to 5, encompassing core academic subjects as well as co- curricular disciplines. This event reinforced the school's commitment to holistic education by featuring captivating exhibits and performances in drama, dance, and music. The Expressions 2024 exemplified the symphony of imagination, creativity, and innovation.





'Smarananjali' which was conducted on the 10th of February 2024, served as a heartfelt tribute to our esteemed Founder Chairman, Prof. M H Dhananjaya, who left us for his eternal abode on 8th January 2024. The event encapsulated his visionary words and enduring legacy, with captivating performances by students and heartfelt reflections from colleagues, teachers, and family members.

These exemplary events and achievements fills me with gratitude for the dedication and passion demonstrated by our students, educators, and administrative staff throughout the year. As we look to the future, let us continue to uphold our commitment to excellence, innovation, and holistic development, nurturing knowledge acquisition, cohesive teamwork, and enriching inventiveness.

#### A Word of Gratitude

Before bringing this report to a close, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have contributed to the success and growth of Excel Public School. Our enlightened management, led by our beloved Secretary Mr. D Sudhanva, Trustees and School Correspondent Mr H M Prashanth, have been instrumental in shaping the institution's vision and direction.

I also express my appreciation to the School Managing Committee and Advisory Board, Heads, Managers, and colleagues at Excelsoft for their unwavering support. Our committed faculty and staff, including the Administrative Officer, Vice-Principal, Head Teachers, Academic Coordinators, Subject Coordinators, Teaching, Administrative and Ancillary Staff, have been the backbone of our institution, tirelessly working towards our common goals.

My gratitude extends to our parent community, whose steadfast support has been invaluable. We are inspired by the smiles on the faces of our students, who embody the spirit of our school and uphold its values with pride.

Looking ahead, we are determined to provide a distinctive and unparalleled learning experience to our students. Guided by the principles of contemporary education, creativity, and excellence, we remain committed to nurturing young minds and empowering them to grow and thrive.

In the words of Albert Einstein, "Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think." At EPS, we are dedicated to fostering a culture of critical thinking, innovation, and lifelong learning.

I thank everyone who has been a part of our journey, and we look forward to the continued support and success in the days ahead.

Mathew K G Principal (mathew@excelpublicschool.com)

