



2019–2020 is a milestone year in the history of

**PODAR
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL.**

Our stalwart management and our endearing Principal Dr. Vandana Lulla announced their heroic commitment towards educating our vibrant generations. The new building has marked a long-term promise in providing an effective infrastructure as well as facilities in ensuring education for the Present of our young minds.

The joy is evident throughout students and staff as they stepped into this privileged opportunity of education.





“The purest and truest meaning of the word unconditional can be found in mother’s love.”

Motherhood undoubtedly has the greatest potential of influencing human life. Mothers are an epitome of love, compassion, warmth and sacrifice to provide human race with necessary respite and solace. To honor this unfathomed love, we celebrated **MOTHERS DAY** on the 25th April, 2019.

Our Mother Earth, with her silent compassion has nurtured us over eons. The mother child duo was creatively engaged through specially designed activities to reinforce the attitude of responsibility and care towards our mother earth.

“The heart of a father is the masterpiece of nature.” The role of a father in the upbringing of a child was celebrated through many activities which led the father child duo to team up and learn from each other. We saw the most joyous child within each father ready to explore the world of interactive games during our specially designed **‘DADZANA’** event in June, 2019.



— Student Achievements

We thrive to support our students who excel in specific skills. We take pride in sharing their achievements.

International Taekwondo Champions



Aishwarya Rautela from grade 2A was honored with a Silver medal at South Korea International Taekwondo Champions. She represented the Indian team.

Ayush Rautela from grade 4 B was honored with a Silver medal at South Korea International Taekwondo Champions. He represented the Indian team.

Arjun Shrivastava from 3A was honored with a Bronze medal at the MISA Gymnastics competition held in the Euro School, Airoli.



GYMNASTICS



Football U/10 Team made their way through to the Quarter Final in MSSA Championship

Football U/10 Team

Academic Highlights



Reading Circles



Reading mentors model reading skills and inspire their audience through 'read aloud'. This model supports in developing a passion towards reading and language as a whole. The mentors have an opportunity to present to an audience; and the audiences in turn have an opportunity in setting benchmarks as much as immersing in fictional texts.

Parent Orientation

Educating parents is a vital element of education. Parents partner the learning journey and hence an informed parent supports constructively in the child's education. Understanding the broad spectrum of varied courses available at our school and thereby having an insight into the PYP framework as well the trans disciplinary approach in education was an eye opener and a pleasing take away for our parents.





Life Skills

This year has begun with a bonanza for our learners. We have taken several initiatives to strongly support our budding learners to develop skills and excel in performing arts and sports. These life skills cater to providing learners with individualised avenues for expression along with developing significant life skills in art, drama, dance, music as well as indoor and outdoor sports.

Theme – How We Organise Ourselves

Topic - Transportation



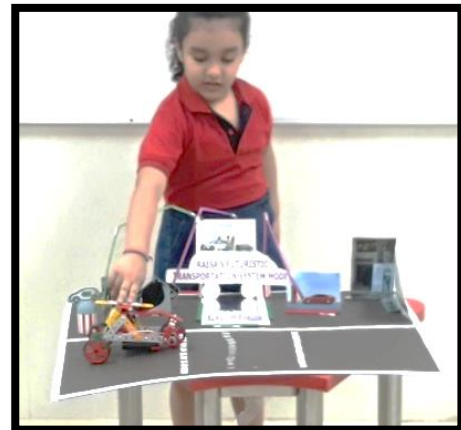
Tuning in: Learners took a gallery walk and observed the means of transport .



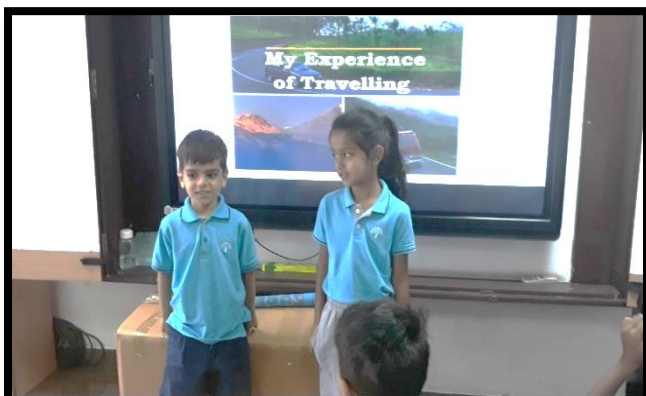
Finding out: Learners were curious and collected more information related to different modes of transport.



Sorting out: Learners classified the pictures of different modes of transport. (Airways, Land ways and waterways)



Going further: Learners created their own futuristic transportation system and were able to state the benefits of using it in future, keeping the environment clean.



Making connections: Learners shared their experience of travelling and connected it with the safety rules that are followed in different countries while travelling.



Taking action: Planned action
Learners explained the advantages and disadvantages and the rules to be followed while using different modes of transport and also created a poster for the same.

Theme – Who We Are

Topic – Body Systems

‘Young Architects in action’

Year 4 students learn about the skeletal system using different resources like puzzles and books in the Theme – Who we are. They learn the names of specific bones and their functions.



Young scientist at work:

Students perform experiments and learn about how digestion takes place in the mouth and esophagus, stomach and the intestines

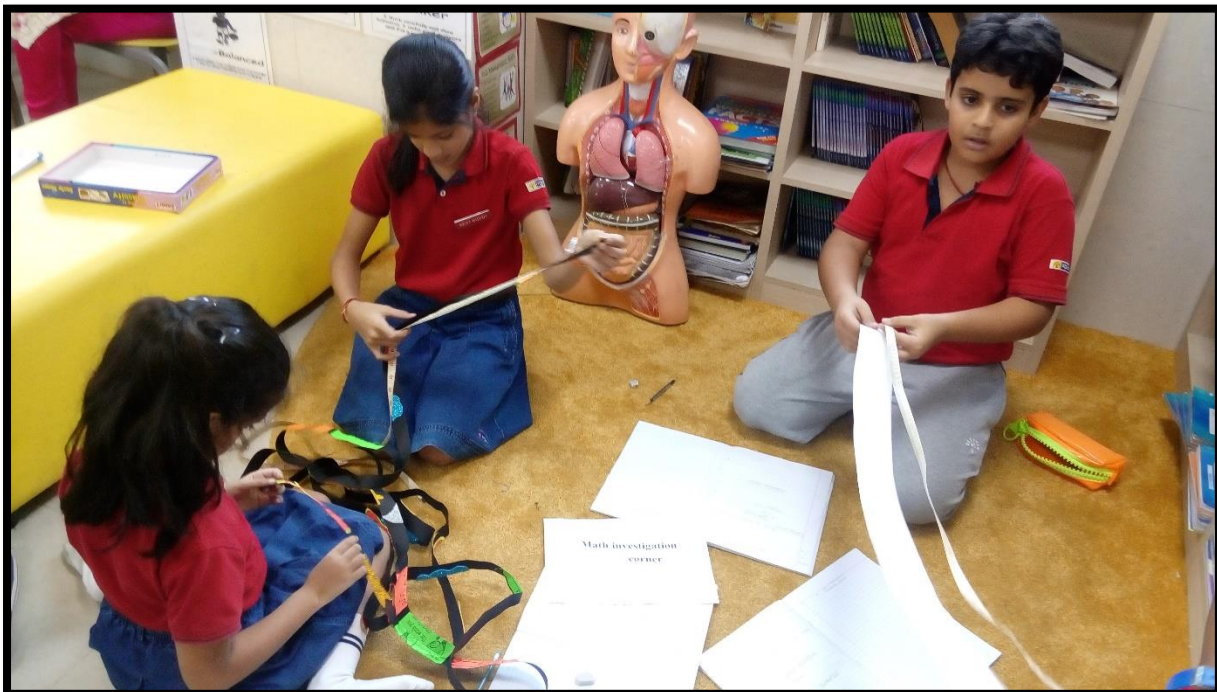


Researchers exploring:

Students inquire into the digestive system by reading different books.



Math integration: Students measure the length of the intestines by using a measuring tape.



An encounter with a pirate!

It was a bright sunny day and the sun was glistening like a ball of fire as my holidays were on and I was bored the whole day being indoor. My dad who was on his vacation (being a sailor) had planned a trip for me and my sister to an art museum, "Wonders of art" located at Khar West. As I entered into the art museum, I started browsing through the famous pieces of art work by the greatest artist.

While I was browsing suddenly my eyes got glued at one of the most stunning art work and my favourite topic "Pirates Treasure". As I was deeply engrossed into this pirate art work, having my own imagination of pirates, suddenly I saw and realised that the pirate in the portrait is waving at me saying "Hi!". Then he came out and shook his hand and gave me the bouquet of flowers as a friendly gesture. Surprisingly he knew my name "Aayush" and he knew the girl in pink dress is my sister Aishwarya. I just couldn't believe what my eyes saw and I was stunned and astonished to see the pirate coming out of the portrait (frame) in to the real world. I rejoiced with the thought that my dream of going with a pirate searching for a treasure was becoming real.

We borrowed a boat and were sailing in one of the parts of the Pacific Ocean. I could feel the heat and salt on my face. There were other fleets of sheep going for the same treasure. I must say that we had a tough competition looking as other kids were bubbling with similar excitement. One of the ships was bouncing round the tide and bashed into ours. There was a big hole in the front. We had no options but to jump out of the boat into the ocean and yucky salty water went inside my mouth. It was extremely salty. I mean

Feeling the salty water which mistakenly went inside our mouths, the pirate and I continued swimming until we reached an island. The island had a cave so we went inside and felt eerie as we saw cobwebs hanging from the wall. Few bats were fluttering around the cave making it a bit scary and we could smell the stinking swampy mud. As we went further, we started to get cold feet as it became more creepier and no one knew what next is stored up for us. At one point we fell down right into a mirror maze. Our hearts were in our mouths. The maze said "Join the pieces of this map to get out of here." and we followed the instructions. I applied my wit and easily helped the pirate, then putting some effort to the next door.

We succeeded with the tiring maze and were out within time. The bats at the next door shook us off our feet as we knew that a bat has 63% bacteria in its body. The cluttering of bats was really frightening. I could see some golden shining obstacles. I walked up to it and there was a treasure that we were looking for.

We returned to the museum happily and the pirate asked me caught sight of the treasure we were looking for. The pirate gave me a look and asked, "so my friend how was your day?". The smile on my face answered his question and suddenly he disappeared back into the portrait.

Now, I had with me a memory of a lifetime that was to be cherished.

by Aayush Rautela

Grade 4

Story from the sea

-an adventure story..

It was a dark and stormy night. I was sailing in my boat when a massive sea storm took over. In that instant it all come back to me. The lovely holiday, the peninsula of Cornwall, the breathtaking coastline, the granite cliffs, coves, sand dunes and how excitedly we embarked on a boat that promised to sail and show us some amazing wonders of nature.

Suddenly I jolted when I remembered how in an instant the blue sky had turned grey and a massive storm had suddenly sent us all into the wave of panic. I vividly realized, I had been floating on a life boat and now I was marooned on this rocky island all alone. A chill went down my spine...What was I do to? I tried to look around me, to find my friends, and most importantly, another human being. As I looked around, I noticed a light house. My hopes went soaring up. I started walking towards the lighthouse slowly trying to avoid slipping off the rocks. As I got closer, I saw the giant base that held the towing lighthouse. It was a bit intimidating!

Finally, I reached the entrance. The door was ajar. Hello is anyone there? I asked in a loud voice. Hearing no one, I ventured ahead. There was a coat and a crumpled bedsheet. 'I must go find the keeper', I said to myself. He's the only one who can rescue me from this island. I started climbing the staircase. I must have stopped many times. Sometimes, because of pure fatigue and sometimes because the air felt spooky. I could almost hear my heartbeat. I asked myself to be brave. I had to reach the lantern room. I hope so much that the service room had someone waiting there. I was still climbing the staircase. I was exasperated by now. This never-ending flight of spiral steps was making me dizzy!

Everything was going around and round and round, and I blocked out. It so happened that I had fallen off on the landing that led straight to the service room. A bunch of people had come before me and woke the keeper and told him that the light was not emitting. The keeper agreed and serviced the light. The lighthouse helped us find a boat rise that safely brought us back to the hotel.

by Avika Verma, Musab Dar, Renelle Patel, Diyaa Shetty

Grade 5, Equality House



Inauguration – Parent Feedback.....

We got an opportunity today to talk on the activities planned ahead for the children by the school. It was very interactive, with Dr. Lulla accepting ideas and suggestions with an open mind. Many of us had such positive and encouraging stories about school's faculty headed by Dr. Lulla. Going around the school, one could see how well planned it is. With designated rooms for the activities such as art room, keyboard room, drums, robotics, dance, kids have amazing time here. No wonder, they love coming to the school and enjoy all their classes - academics and co-curricular. The best part according to me is the all-inclusiveness of the school. Children get to shine in all the fields and learn in a very happy and relaxed environment. Thank you, Ma'am, for creating such a wonderful place for our kids to grow and develop.

Kiran Sharma
(Mother of Vani Sharma - 5C)

What to say

When you are jealous of our own son and daughter.....

When you blame your own destiny that why were you born 35 years earlier.....

Trust me, this is called a "SCHOOL", in the real sense; where you can live LIFE

Thanks for making me a part of this journey.

It's phenomenal. Salute to your vision and hard work Vandana Ma'am. Congratulations!

Rahil Qazi
(Father of Nayel Qazi 7B and Aayat Qazi 3A)

What an amazing infrastructure! Only wished I was a student rather than being a parent... Learning can't get more fun than this.

Parent of Yash Lulla 4B

Happy with the infrastructure! Glad to know that kids will be exposed to so much! Proud that my daughter is a Podarite!!

Parent of Nidhi Menon 5E

Gave an insight as to the usage of new advanced technology in teaching method which was quite inspiring and an appreciative aspect. Also, the classrooms were well airy and made lively with reading corner feature being added. Thumbs up 👍 experience. Thanks,

Saloni n Tathagat Bhardwaj
Parents of Aarav Bharadwaj 2C

Give students lead in learning: Experts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Giving students the lead in learning is the way ahead, feel city principals and academic experts, who met on Friday to discuss innovations, teacher education and safety in schools at the Times of India and Maharashtra Times Principals Conclave, Mumbai edition.

The first discussion started off with a focus on teacher development and curriculum framework. Pramod Mahajan, principal, Sharjah Indian School, UAE, Mythili Ramchand, professor at Centre for Education, Innovation and Action Research, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Swaroop Sampat Rawal, educationist, and Mayank Vahia, dean of School of Mathematical Sciences, NMIMS, discussed ways to brace changes and adapting to new age requirements of learning. "When we allow students to decide what they want to learn and when, they are more interested in learning. Teachers need to unlearn and relearn to adapt to this," said Mahajan.

Francis Joseph, head of development and strategy, Maharashtra International Education Board, said, "Professional deve-



Some of the panelists at the Times of India and Maharashtra Times Principals Conclave

lopment is not a workshop, it's a mindset. Before setting the professional development plan, correct the mindset and school culture. It is important for teachers and principals to strengthen the present times, before imagining and working on the unknown future."

The second set of panelists — Bhavin Shah, CEO, Education World, Vandana Lulla, director and principal, Podar International School, Pratibha Jain, founder, Eduabroad, Sanjay Salunkhe, managing director, Jaro Topp-scholars, Kavita Aggarwal, director, head of school, D G Khe-

tan International School, and Amit Verma, director, Makebot, discussed the need to foster innovation and collaboration in schools. Lulla said, "It is the application of the concepts and the pattern of assessment that sets one apart from the other: Today, everyone seems to be scoring high marks but what sets a student's application apart ... is the ability to apply the concepts they have learnt in real-life situations."

The final panel touched upon the safety of children in schools. Reeta Sonawat, former dean faculty of home science, SNDT Women's University, Dr Harish Shetty, clinical psychologist, Rakshanda Inam, Child Centre division, CRY — Child Rights and You, Seema Saini, CEO, NL Dalmia Educational Society, Aditi Ray, director of training & advocacy, Arpan, and Sonali Patankar, founder, Ahaan Foundation, were part of the panel. On how bullying can be resolved, Inam said, "Schools should adopt a life skills training policy that will help boost self-confidence of children. This will help them to maintain a cool composure in times of panic." Also at the conclave were education minister Ashish Shelar and Indu Shahani, founding dean of ISME.

Our Vision this year....

Giving every child an opportunity to take ownership in their learning has been the blanket approach towards every action at Podar International School this year. Whether it is in form of empowering students with independent practice on English, Mathematics and Science skills through our tech integration of Literacy Planet, Century Tech or the different learning models that are applied in every classroom by our teachers. As an educator over the years, I have seen an experienced the first hand challenges of parents in providing suitable and progressive support to their children in refining their academic skills. We trust that our endeavour to support our parents will bear its fruit in form of student success.

Developing an internationally minded young one, who is aware and cares, is the key element of today's education and at Podar we have taken mindful actions to integrate the UNESCO Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals intricately within our curriculum.

I welcome every parent at Podar to celebrate the onset of this new academic year 2019-2020 with the same enthusiasm that is visible amongst every student and educator here.

Dr. Mrs. Vandana Lulla

Director/Principal