

# PODAR NEWSLETTER

APRIL EDITION 2025



Students of AS Level

# THE START OF SOMETHING

## SPECIAL

Embarking on the A-Levels journey marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter in life. It is a time filled with anticipation, curiosity, and a touch of anxiety. With new schedules, dedicated instructors, and a deeper dive into subjects we are truly passionate about, this phase goes far beyond being just another academic year. It is a transformative period—one that allows us to redefine who we are, take ownership of our learning, and strive for greater accomplishments. We, at Podar International School, provide a stimulating, safe and supportive environment, in which all our students can aim for success. It is our mission to impart information, skills and processes which prepare students to function effectively in a rapidly changing world.

### **STUDENT EXPERIENCES**

I am really looking forward to the extraordinary extracurricular activities that await us, especially PMUN. I am also excited to collaborate with my peers on the new AS Level Newsletter Initiative!”

— ***Rhea Kanojiya (AS Science)***

“During the first few weeks, learning is an adventure. Every lesson is brought to life through discussions, hands-on experiments, and interactive challenges. Think-Pair-Share encourages collaboration, while digital tools and storytelling make concepts unforgettable.”

— ***Neil Ray Choudhary (AS Commerce)***



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians

The new academic year 2025–26 stands before us as a horizon waiting to be explored—filled with dreams, dedication, and the promise of achievement. To all my A-Level students: this is your moment to embrace new challenges and discover the incredible potential within you. Success is not merely about reaching the finish line, but about becoming stronger, wiser, and more confident with every step of the journey. This newsletter stands as a testament to the vibrant learning experiences and the unwavering support you receive at Podar. It is a glimpse into the exciting educational journey that lies ahead. Believe in your ability to excel. Stay focused on your goals, and never underestimate the power of perseverance. As a community of learners and future leaders, we have the strength to make this year one of remarkable accomplishment.

Let us begin this journey with unwavering enthusiasm, unending zeal, courage, and a shared vision of greatness.

Warm regards,

**Dr. Mrs. Vandana Lulla**

*Director/Principal, Podar International School*



# THE IMPORTANCE OF MORNING ASSEMBLY-THE POWER OF A PURPOSEFUL START

Daily themed morning assemblies at Podar, such as those held for Earth Day, strongly reflect the school's mission and vision by fostering a stimulating and collaborative environment. These gatherings encourage students to actively participate in public speaking and presentations, enhancing their confidence and communication skills. Beyond skill-building, the assemblies raise awareness about global issues aligned with the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals. They also nurture essential values such as cultural appreciation, environmental responsibility, and respect for diverse traditions. By promoting student involvement in these assemblies, the school reinforces its core values—prioritizing learning, encouraging ownership, and fostering resourcefulness. These experiences help students cultivate the critical skills needed to become globally competent, ethical, and responsible citizens of the 21st century.

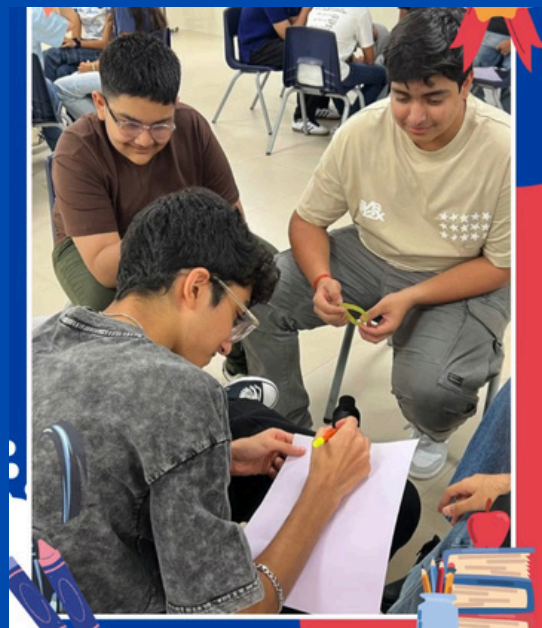


# DEDUCE, DISCOVER, CONNECT: A SHERLOCK HOLMES ICEBREAKER

On the very first day of school for AS Level students, the halls of Podar International School were transformed into the scene of a thrilling murder mystery. Students were invited to investigate the crime, ask questions, and ultimately solve the mystery by identifying the culprit.

This immersive activity sparked students' creativity and critical thinking. Divided into groups of four, each team had one and a half minutes to carefully observe the crime scene and gather clues—ranging from accessories and passports to subtle hints about the perpetrator's identity. From the moment the observations began, students were fully engaged, and theories began to emerge. Some believed the victim was involved in a shady smuggling ring, while others suspected the victim was the mastermind behind it all.

But this activity wasn't just about catching the criminal—it was a lively display of teamwork, sharp observation, and imaginative reasoning. The corridors buzzed with spirited discussions, reflecting the lasting impression the event had on the students. Be sure to mark your calendars for more thrilling experiences at Podar International School!



# EVERY DROP COUNTS, EVERY EFFORT MATTERS-CLEAN WATER CHALLENGE- SDG6- SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



In a powerful gesture of commitment to environmental responsibility, AS Level students participated in the Clean Water Challenge, pledging to conserve water as responsible stewards of Mother Earth.

Throughout the day, students expressed their reflections in diverse creative forms—ranging from fine art and poetry to essay writing. The atmosphere was filled with thoughtful discussions, as students gathered around tables, choosing colours, debating ideas, and exploring meaningful ways to highlight the importance of water conservation.

The fine art theme, “The Colour of Tomorrow is Blue,” inspired profound visual interpretations of water’s impact on our environmental, economic, and emotional future. Poets penned heartfelt odes to the lifeblood of our planet, capturing humanity’s deep connection with this essential resource.

Meanwhile budding essayists shared insightful perspectives on how circular economies can help combat plastic pollution and create sustainable solutions. This activity served as an eye-opening experience for both students and teachers, setting a tone of awareness, responsibility, and purpose on the very first day of school.







# EXPERT INSIGHTS: MEET OUR GUEST SPEAKERS

## Insightful Guest Sessions at Podar

Dr. Gopal Kalkoti, Director of Podar World College, conducted a captivating and engaging conference that brought the principles of research to life. Using a dynamic mix of interactive visuals and videos, Dr. Kalkoti explored the core elements of research—discovery, innovation, invention, inquiry, and enquiry. The session didn't just inform—it inspired. Dr. Kalkoti challenged students with fun yet thought-provoking tasks that sparked lively discussion and deep reflection. The session left many students motivated to further explore the world of research, a field that continues to challenge the mind and drive innovation.



## Student Voices

“The economics sessions organized by the professors of Podar World College were incredibly helpful. As someone new to commerce, the information they shared gave me a solid understanding of the subject.”

— **Hannah D'Souza**

“I personally loved the session we had with the Snapchat employee. The issues she addressed are crucial in today's world. She helped me realize just how important it is to stay safe on social media.”

— **Rhea Kanojiya**  
(AS Science)





# A MOTHER'S LOVE LIBERATES



At the heart of the celebration was a stylized Mad Hatter's Tea Party, where our beloved mothers were treated to a lavish spread of delicacies. Intricately crafted pastries, dainty finger sandwiches, and whimsical treats, seemingly plucked straight from the Queen's royal garden, were served to delight our guests. The presentation, combined with imaginative games and activities, made for a truly unforgettable Mother's Day celebration, honouring the special bond between mother and child.

In celebration of Mother's Day, the venue at Podar was artfully transformed into a whimsical Wonderland, bringing to life the enchanting charm of Lewis Carroll's beloved tale. From teapots to towering mushrooms and fantastical décor, every detail was carefully curated to immerse our mothers in a world of playful fantasy and magic.



To add to the enchantment, all attendees embraced the theme, with floral dresses inspired by Wonderland's curious flora. There was laughter, conversation, and moments of warmth that made this celebration not just an event, but a cherished memory for all. It was a day that captured the true spirit of Alice in Wonderland, and more importantly, the immense love and joy that mothers bring into our lives.







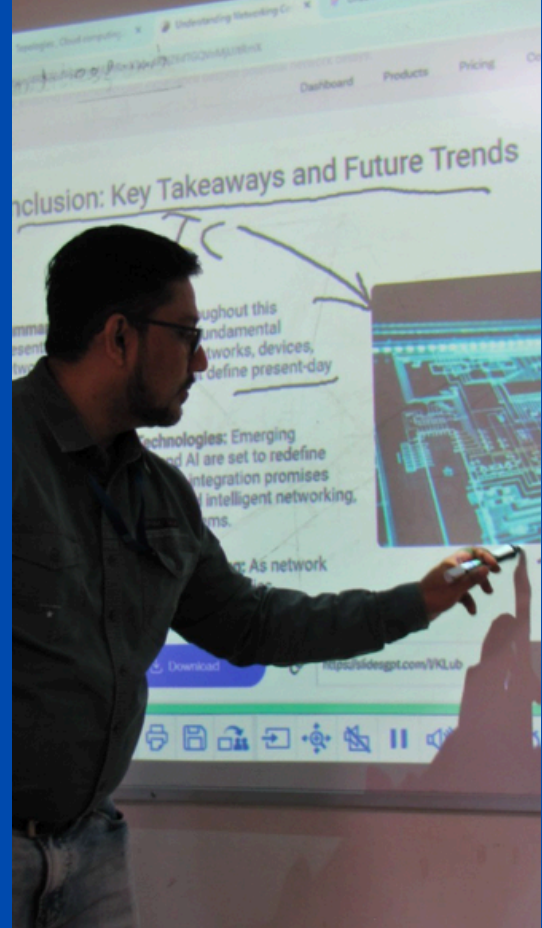


# REGULAR CLASSES – CONSISTENCY IS KEY!





# REGULAR CLASSES - EMPOWERING SUCCESS



# SUBJECT SAFARI: EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

**Computer Science:** Step into the digital world with AS Level Computer Science, where you'll not only learn how machines think but also how to make them smarter. Through hands-on coding, exploring algorithms, and understanding data structures, you'll sharpen your logical thinking and problem-solving skills. Whether you dream of building apps, diving into AI, or becoming a tech innovator, this course is your launchpad into the future of technology.

**Physics:** If you've ever wondered what makes the universe tick, AS Level Physics is your invitation to explore. From falling apples to rocket launches, this subject connects everyday experiences with the laws of nature. You'll engage in experiments, calculations, and real-world applications—perfect for curious minds aiming for engineering, space science, or advanced research.

## **Chemistry**

Curious about what things are made of and how they transform? AS Level Chemistry is your gateway to uncovering the secrets of atoms, molecules, and reactions. Through lab experiments and deep theoretical discussions, you'll build the foundation needed for careers in medicine, pharmaceuticals, and environmental science.

## **Biology**

Explore the beauty and complexity of life with AS Level Biology. From DNA to ecosystems, this course helps you understand how living things function and interact. Whether you see yourself as a future doctor, biotechnologist, or conservationist, Biology nurtures both your curiosity and compassion for the natural world.

## **Mathematics**

Sharpen your mind with AS Level Mathematics, a subject that teaches you how to think clearly and logically. You'll dive into algebra, calculus, and trigonometry—tools that are not just for exams, but for solving real-world problems in fields like engineering, finance, and data science. If you enjoy patterns, precision, and progress, this course is for you.

**Accounting:** Love working with numbers and making sense of finances? AS Level Accounting gives you a strong grip on how money flows through businesses. Learn how to manage financial records, make strategic decisions, and build the foundation for a career in finance, management, or entrepreneurship.

**Business:** If you're a natural leader or fascinated by how companies operate, AS Level Business offers insights into marketing, finance, HR, and strategy. You'll explore real business scenarios, develop decision-making skills, and prepare to be a thoughtful, future-ready leader in any industry.

**Economics:** Do you question how prices are set or why inflation happens? AS Level Economics helps you understand the forces that shape our world. You'll explore global and local economies, learning how choices affect people, businesses, and governments. Perfect for future economists, policy-makers, and consultants.

**English General Paper:** Strengthen your voice and sharpen your thinking with AS Level English General Paper. Through debates, essays, and global issues, you'll learn to analyze perspectives and communicate your ideas with clarity and confidence. It's a skillset that will serve you across all subjects—and in life.

**Art and Design:** If you express yourself best through colours, sketches, or visual storytelling, AS Level Art and Design is your creative sanctuary. You'll explore various mediums, refine your techniques, and develop your own artistic identity. Ideal for aspiring designers, architects, or anyone with a passion for visual expression.

**Psychology:** Ever wondered why people think, feel, or behave a certain way? AS Level Psychology takes you on a journey into the human mind. You'll explore psychological theories, conduct small-scale research, and gain insights into emotions, memory, and social behaviour. This course is perfect for those considering careers in mental health, education, or human behaviour analysis.



# THE HELIX EFFECT: THIS MONTH'S MUST-READ

**Higashino's Latest Masterpiece: A Gripping Tale of Murder, Memory, and Mystery** Higashino's latest novel centres around a chilling case of murder and disappearance. The body of Ryota Uetsuji, a young man, is discovered floating in Tokyo Bay after an extensive search. A bullet wound confirms it was no accident—he was murdered. Yet the mystery deepens when his girlfriend, who had reported him missing, vanishes without a trace. With almost no clues for the authorities to pursue, the case appears unsolvable until the brilliant and enigmatic Detective Galileo takes charge. As he investigates, Galileo is forced to confront his own past, revisiting memories from his childhood and even examining the lives of his parents. What begins as a detached inquiry soon becomes deeply personal, as he discovers unsettling connections between himself and the case. In this fifth instalment of the Detective Galileo series, Higashino masterfully guides the reader through a maze of unexpected twists and emotional revelations. True to his style, the narrative is laced with suspense, psychological depth, and a strong focus on the theme of familial bonds and their lasting impact. Though the story occasionally slows in pace and stretches plausibility in parts, it remains a rewarding and thought-provoking read. The emotional finale ties together the threads of mystery and memory in a way that is both satisfying and haunting.

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