

VISta



WHERE VISION MEETS REALITY

Official Newsletter of Vellore International School, Chennai



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Dear Parents and the VIS Community,

We are thrilled to welcome you to the first edition of the school newsletter for the academic year 2026–27.

As we embark on this exciting journey together, we wanted to share the thought behind the name of our publication: VISTa. A vista is defined as a beautiful, sweeping view—a perspective that opens up to look toward a bright horizon.

For you, our parents, this newsletter is designed to be a literal window into the vibrant campus life of Vellore International School, Chennai.

Every month, VISTa will bring you deeper insights into your child's world away from home. Through photo essays and stories, you will get a front-row seat to their academic growth in the classrooms, their daily routines and friendships in the hostels, and the energy of our weekend events and campus milestones.

We invite you to step through this window with us each month to celebrate the moments, big and small, that make our school a true home away from home.

- Editorial Team

Leadership Insights



As Vellore International School (VIS), Chennai, proudly enters its fifth year, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our students, parents, teachers, and staff who have been an integral part of this remarkable journey. Over the years, VIS has evolved into a vibrant learning community dedicated to nurturing excellence, character, and innovation.

Our vision has always been to provide an education that seamlessly blends international pedagogy with strong Indian values, preparing students to thrive in an ever-evolving global landscape. At VIS, we believe that education extends far beyond academic achievement. It is about shaping confident individuals who embody integrity, compassion, critical thinking, and lifelong learning.

Guided by our mission, we strive to create an environment where every child is empowered to discover and develop their unique strengths and potential. Through holistic learning experiences, and a strong foundation in values, we equip our students with the skills and mindset needed to become responsible global citizens and leaders of tomorrow.

Our endeavour is to inspire young minds to dream boldly, think creatively, and contribute meaningfully to society.

As we celebrate this significant milestone, we look ahead with confidence and optimism. Together, we will continue to foster a culture of learning, leadership, and service, ensuring that every VISionary is empowered to make a positive impact on the world.

Five years mark a milestone; the journey of shaping tomorrow has only just begun.

Dr. G.V. Selvam
Chairman

From the Desk of the Principal



Education is a lifelong journey that transforms a child into a responsible and confident adult. In today's rapidly changing world, our children sail through challenging and uncertain times, facing both opportunities and obstacles that shape their character and future.

Every child who enters our campus becomes part of a vibrant living and learning community where growth takes place academically, emotionally, socially, and morally. Throughout the year, our students have participated in numerous activities that encouraged leadership, resilience, compassion, and self-discovery.

At our institution, we believe that education must extend far beyond the four walls of a classroom. True learning happens through experiences, relationships, values, teamwork, creativity, and participation in community life.

This newsletter captures some of the beautiful memories, achievements, celebrations, and milestones we have shared together as a school family. It reflects the spirit of togetherness, learning, and joyful experiences that continue to make our community special and meaningful for every child.

K.Prabhakaran
Principal

Student open orientation day

After a long slumber of nearly two months, the campus of VIS has finally awakened with the echoes, chatter, and laughter of incoming students and parents. The campus is dynamic once again as new students are welcomed and introduced to dorm life and the academic environment. On June 8th and 9th, the VIS campus welcomed a new pool of students along with their parents.



Students and parents were accompanied by student leaders and faculty members to gain a glimpse of boarding and academic life. It was truly a busy day for all teachers and students as documentation, verification, and orientation activities were in full swing.

The programme also provided an opportunity for students to interact with one another through engaging ice-breaking activities and games, helping them build new friendships and feel at ease in their new surroundings. Parents were introduced to the school's facilities, values, and vision, while students explored the vibrant campus that will soon become their second home. Orientation Day marked not only the beginning of a new academic year but also the start of countless experiences, friendships, and memories waiting to be created.



As the day drew to a close, students left with more than just information about the school—they left with excitement, anticipation, and the first glimpse of a world that would soon become their second home. For many, Orientation Day marked the beginning of a new chapter and the first step on a journey filled with learning, friendships, growth, and unforgettable memories.



First Assembly

The first formal assembly of the academic year 2026–2027 marked a warm and inspiring beginning for the VIS community. Addressing students and faculty, the Principal extended a heartfelt welcome to both returning and newly admitted students encouraging everyone to embrace the opportunities and challenges of the year ahead with enthusiasm and determination.



The assembly reflected the spirit of a new beginning, fostering a sense of unity, purpose, and belonging among the school community. The Principal also acknowledged the dedication of the faculty in shaping a nurturing and enriching learning environment for all.

As the new academic year unfolds, the inaugural assembly served as a reminder that every new beginning brings fresh aspirations, meaningful experiences, and countless opportunities for learning, growth, and excellence.



Morning P.E



At VIS, the day begins with a focus on health and well-being through the morning PE programme, which encourages students to stay active and energized. Surrounded by fresh air and open spaces, students participate in physical activities that promote fitness, discipline, and teamwork. Teachers also play an active role, fostering a culture of wellness across the campus. By prioritising physical activity, students are encouraged to nurture not only their physical health but also their mental and emotional well-being, creating a balanced and positive start to each day.



STEM Activity



As part of the academic year's STEM orientation programme, students participated in an engaging team-based activity designed to foster collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Working in assigned groups, students were challenged to develop solutions to a given problem, encouraging them to share ideas, communicate effectively, and think creatively. The activity provided an excellent opportunity for students to experience the collaborative nature of STEM learning while building confidence and teamwork. It was inspiring to witness the enthusiasm and innovative thinking displayed by the students, making it a meaningful and exciting start to the new academic year.

- Sarvesh
Chemistry Facilitator



Nature Walk



On the 14th of June, the students of Grades 5 and 6 took a stroll through the lush and verdant landscapes of the neighbouring forest led by our teachers. They were greeted by dense fog that gently enveloped the route, making the journey as memorable as the destination itself.



The day was filled with engaging activities that offered a glimpse into the lives of farmers and the importance of agriculture. Under the guidance and supervision of experienced instructors, students enjoyed bird spotting and nature walk.



The adventure continued with deeper appreciation for nature, sustainable farming practices, and the dedication of the farming community. It was truly a day of learning, discovery, and unforgettable experiences beyond the classroom.



IAYP - Orientation

Students of Grades 9 to 12 attended an insightful orientation session on the International Award for Young People (IAYP), conducted by Ms. Poojitha Goswami. The introductory session familiarised students with the history and purpose of the programme while highlighting its emphasis on holistic development beyond academics.



Ms. Goswami explained the various components of IAYP, the enrolment process, participation requirements, and the valuable skills students can develop through the award. From community service and skill development to physical recreation and adventurous journeys, the programme encourages students to challenge themselves, build resilience, and become well-rounded individuals.

The session inspired students to look beyond the classroom and explore opportunities for personal growth, leadership, and service. It served as an encouraging introduction to a globally recognised programme that empowers young people to discover their potential while making meaningful contributions to society.



Movie night

The first movie night of the academic year brought together students from all grades for an enjoyable evening at the school amphitheatre. The screening of Michael was met with great excitement, anticipation, and enthusiastic applause from the audience. Adorned with lights and accompanied by a cool evening breeze, the amphitheatre provided the perfect setting for the event. Laughter, cheers, and shared moments of enjoyment filled the atmosphere, making the evening a memorable beginning to yet another year of this cherished school tradition.



International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking



During the recent House Assembly, students witnessed a thought-provoking mime performance in observance of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. More than just a regular assembly, the event served as a powerful platform to raise awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and its impact on individuals, families, and society.

Through expressive actions and energetic performances, the students effectively conveyed an important message about making responsible choices and leading a healthy lifestyle. The mime highlighted the dangers of substance abuse, particularly among young people, while encouraging students to remain informed and resilient in the face of negative influences.



The performance was both engaging and educational, leaving a lasting impression on the audience and reinforcing the importance of awareness, prevention, and well-being within the school community.

VIS Swimmers Shine at CISCE Zonal Championship



Our school swimmers delivered an outstanding performance at the CISCE Boys' and Girls' Zonal Swimming Competition, held at Vaels International School on 27th June. Competing across various age categories and events, the team demonstrated remarkable determination, discipline, and sportsmanship, bringing home multiple medals for the school. Their achievements are a testament to their dedication, perseverance, and countless hours of training. The VIS community congratulates all the participants for representing the school with pride and applauds the medal winners on their commendable accomplishments. We wish them continued success in their future sporting endeavours.

Medal Winners:

- Monesh from grade 8 (under 14 category) secured 2nd place (breast stroke)
- Krissith from grade 9 (under 17 category) secured 2nd Place in 50m Freestyle and 3rd Place in 100m Freestyle
- Ojasvani from grade 11 (under 19 category) secured 3rd Place in Freestyle

VIS Girls Crowned CISCE Zonal Basketball Champions



The VIS Under-19 Girls' Basketball Team achieved a remarkable milestone by emerging as champions at the CISCE Zonal Girls' Basketball Tournament, held at Sishya School, Adyar, from 23rd to 25th June 2026.

Demonstrating exceptional teamwork, determination, and resilience, the players delivered outstanding performances throughout the tournament to secure the winner's title. Their dedication, disciplined training, and unwavering sportsmanship were evident in every match, making the entire VIS community proud. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the team and their coaches on this well-deserved achievement and wish them continued success in the upcoming stages of the competition.



VIS Under-14 Football Team Secures Third Place at CISCE Zone A Tournament



The VIS Under-14 Football Team delivered an impressive performance at the CISCE Zone A Football Tournament, held at St. Michael's Academy, Adyar, from 19th to 21st June 2026. Competing against talented teams from across the zone, the players displayed exceptional teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. Their consistent efforts and spirited performances earned them a well-deserved third-place finish, bringing pride to the entire VIS community. We congratulate the team and their coaches on this commendable achievement and wish them continued success as they strive for greater milestones in the tournaments ahead.



Talent Show: A Celebration of Creativity and Confidence



The evening featured a vibrant array of performances by students from both the junior and senior grades. From soulful musical renditions and captivating instrumental performances to impressive Rubik's Cube solving and other unique talents, each participant brought something distinctive to the stage. Their confidence, creativity, and dedication transformed the evening into a memorable celebration of individuality and self-expression.

The school amphitheatre came alive with music, applause, and boundless enthusiasm as students gathered for the much-awaited Talent Night. An informal yet cherished school tradition, the event provided new students with a welcoming platform to step beyond their comfort zones, showcase their talents, and become an integral part of the VIS community.



With teachers and students cheering on every performance, the amphitheatre resonated with encouragement and appreciation. More than just a showcase of talent, the event fostered confidence, strengthened friendships, and created a welcoming environment where every student felt valued and supported.



Talent Night was a wonderful reminder that every individual possesses unique abilities waiting to be discovered and celebrated. It marked a vibrant beginning to the academic year, inspiring students to embrace new opportunities, express themselves fearlessly, and contribute to the diverse and dynamic spirit of VIS.

A Day Amidst Nature at Semmozhi Poonga



The junior students of VIS enjoyed a refreshing and educational outing to Semmozhi Poonga, one of Chennai's renowned botanical gardens. Surrounded by lush greenery, colourful flowers, and beautifully landscaped gardens, the students had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the beauty of nature while learning about biodiversity and the importance of conserving the environment.

The visit offered an engaging experience as students observed a variety of plants and animals, gaining a deeper appreciation for the rich diversity of life that thrives around us. Walking through the serene surroundings, they explored the garden with curiosity and enthusiasm, making meaningful connections with the natural world.

The day was made even more memorable with enjoyable rides and recreational activities that filled the outing with laughter and excitement. The perfect blend of learning and fun encouraged students to appreciate the wonders of nature beyond the classroom.

The visit to Semmozhi Poonga proved to be a delightful and enriching experience, leaving students with lasting memories and inspiring them to cherish and protect the environment for generations to come.



Students corner



THE LILY IN THE ROSE PATCH

In a garden where roses reign supreme,
A lily blooms, a different dream.
Among the crimson, bold and bright,
She stands alone, a beacon of white.

Her petals pure and her fragrance rare,
She whispers softly, "I belong here".
Though the roses scoff and turn away,
The lily holds her ground, won't sway.

In a world that craves the common hue,
She dares to be herself, stays true.
Her beauty lies not in the blend,
But in the courage to transcend.

She teaches all who chance to see,
That difference is a form of beauty.
In a rose patch, she stands apart,
A lily with a lions heart.



-Nikilesh.P
Gr.12 ISC



HAPPY MOMENTS



This is a story about how easily we can mistake good intentions for bad ones. One day, my friend Isha and I decided to take up athletics; Isha wanted to practice running, and I wanted to get fit. After a year of hard work, both of our running had improved significantly.

One evening, we finished our usual training and headed back. When we returned, our coach, Steward Sir, was ready to teach us some new workouts. However, I was worried because the sky looked incredibly cloudy and overcast. Sure enough, ten minutes later, a light drizzle turned into a heavy downpour. Isha and I sprinted to find shelter. Once we were safe, we felt a flash of anger toward Steward Sir, because my yoga mat and our other gear were left far out in the open. Going back to get them meant getting completely soaked. Even so, a senior athlete and I braved the rain and ran back out to retrieve our things.

When I reached the spot where my gear should have been, it was gone! Just then, I heard another teacher shouting my name. When we asked what was wrong, she told us that Steward Sir had actually gathered up my things to save them from the rain. I felt an immediate wave of relief, and in the end, I thanked him for looking out for both me and Isha.

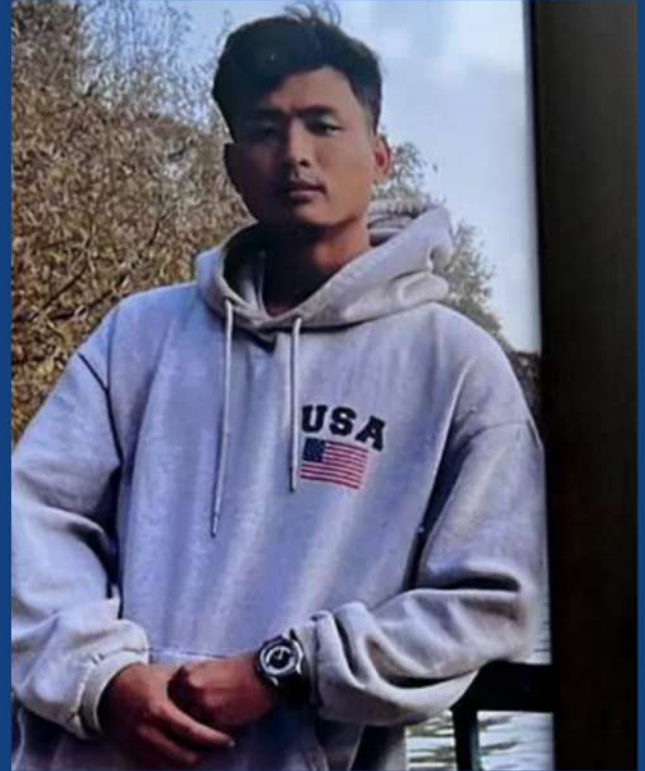


-Mr. Steward
PE Department

-Diya
G.R.7

Go back to where?

We all belong somewhere. Regardless of whether it is something as general as a country or something as specific as a backyard. But then, imagine feeling and being treated like an outsider in a familiar place. Imagine being called names filled with prejudice in your own motherland. Now, I am sure that to most people reading, this may seem like a hypothetical scenario. Though, to a north-eastern, this is a daunting challenge they have to face their whole life. The north-east is frequently described to be a mystical land with an array of astonishing aspects. Whether it is the exotic culture or the ethereal landscapes of the region, the north-east is always sure to leave a long-lasting impression on the people that visit.



Where?

Yet due to the extreme racism that the region is often subjected to or just blatant ignorance, the mainland has still been able to heavily erase the north-east's rich identity from the face of the public. North-easterns usually get treated either as some kind of extraterrestrial species or as the punchline to some chauvinist joke. This bigoted behaviour had spiked during Covid-19 when people were seen screaming offensive remarks at north-easterns instead of maintaining the etiquette required during a pandemic. Even in today's present, individuals from the north-east are still not exempt from this bitter hatred. The harrowing lynching of 24 year old Anjel Chakma remains as a heart-breaking example for everything previously stated.

Being a northeastern myself, I too am not excluded from this type of judgement. However an instance that really made this matter so prominent happened right inside my fifth grade classroom. I still remember when a good friend of mine, a classmate and I were having what began as a wholesome conversation. Though that happy aura was quickly discarded when I saw my friend's joyous expression drop as our classmate started abruptly making rude jokes about my friend's culture. Soon, the condescending laughter evolved into stinging whispers. And, soon enough, the whole thing had turned into a running joke in my classroom. Every day was a chore, with her having to juggle her studies alongside handling annoying students who kept repeating "Go back to China!"

She struggled for weeks on end, until she finally got her transfer certificate. Unfortunately, the sad part is that this bigotry is almost always forgotten or just never held accountable. Ultimately, the racism faced by the north-east is still quite omnipresent in an age of acceptance. People from that particular region are still undermined and/or straight-up treated with hostility. Even though, till now only the brutal and negative aspects were really highlighted, there is always going to be a light at the end of the tunnel. More people have begun to speak out about the prejudice faced by the north-east, with the activism on the matter becoming more ardent. Plus, the support from within is much stronger than any kind of foreign hatred. And maybe through these opportunities, this prejudice can finally come to a conclusion.

Aarna Mech
Gr.12 - A level



In Japanese culture and folklore, the koi fish is a timeless symbol of perseverance, good fortune, harmony, and prosperity. Through its graceful presence and vibrant colours, this artwork beautifully captures the essence of hope, resilience, and the promise of new beginnings.

- Adhitthi.R
Gr.8-C



Credits



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the students, teachers, staff members, and the Editorial board whose dedication, creativity, and support have made the inaugural edition of The Vista a reality. Every article, artwork, photograph, and contribution has played an invaluable role in bringing this publication to life. We sincerely thank everyone who has been a part of this endeavour.

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