

VISTA

Issue 5



IN THIS EDITION

Dear Parents and the VIS Community,

Welcome to the fifth edition of VISta!

This past month at VIS was filled with learning, creativity, and celebration. From the vibrant festivities of Ayudha Pooja and Garba and Dandiya Night to the friendly rivalries of VISFEST, our campus was alive with cultural pride, teamwork, and talent.

Learning extended beyond the classroom through educational visits to Tambaram Air Force Station and the Madras High Court, a Russian language and culture session, and an introduction to MUN by our seniors. The Isha yoga session encouraged mindfulness, while FAT 1 examinations and the Parent-Teacher Meeting reflected our continued focus on academic growth and student well-being.

Initiatives such as the school clean-up drive and Fire Safety Awareness Day reinforced the importance of responsibility and safety within our community.

As you explore this edition, we invite you to revisit these memorable moments and celebrate the experiences that continue to shape our VIS family.

Happy reading!

Warm regards,
The Editorial Team

A JOURNEY OF EXCELLENCE

The entire Vellore International School community warmly congratulates our esteemed Principal on receiving the "Principal of the Year 2026" award at the Chennai Education Conclave. In just four years, your visionary leadership has propelled VIS to become Tamil Nadu's Best Residential School and India's 4th Best International Residential School.

Your dedication to holistic growth and academic distinction continues to inspire students, teachers, and parents alike. We take immense pride in celebrating this milestone with you and look forward to scaling even greater heights together.



DRIVEN BY VISION

I feel truly honoured and privileged to receive the “Principal of the Year 2026” award at the Chennai Education Conclave 2026, held on 18 October 2026. This recognition is a reflection of the collective efforts, commitment and dedication of my colleagues, students, parents and the entire school community. I sincerely thank everyone who has been part of this journey. This honour inspires me to continue striving for excellence in education.

In just four years, Vellore International School (VIS), Chennai, has made remarkable strides in establishing itself as a leading institution in the field of education. We are proud to share that VIS has been ranked the Best Residential School in Tamil Nadu and the 4th Best International Residential School in India. This recognition reflects our collective commitment to academic excellence, holistic development and providing students with a truly global learning experience.

- Mr. K. Prabhakaran



JUSTICE IN SESSION

As part of the Legal Studies programme, Vellore International School organised a visit to the Madras High Court, Chennai, on 25 September 2026. Eleven students from Grades XI and XII, representing the ISC and Cambridge curricula, took part under the guidance of the Legal Studies faculty.



Students observed proceedings across civil, criminal, arbitration, family, labour, and drug-related matters, and visited the Chief Justice's Courtroom, the judges' library, and the court registry, gaining insight into how cases are filed and handled. They also interacted with the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and members of the Madras Bar Association, along with several practising and senior advocates.

Conducted with the High Court's permission and in compliance with its instructions, the visit gave students a comprehensive view of the legal ecosystem and strengthened their interest in careers in law.



A CLEANER TOMORROW

Marking Gandhi Jayanthi, grades XI and XII stepped out of the classroom and onto the school grounds for a clean-up drive. The Initiative was taken by the NSS and Deputy Boarding Co-ordinator Mr.Renjith. Most students arrived expecting to find little to no trash, so the sight of nearly 10 bags filled by the end of the morning came as a genuine surprise to everyone involved.





Armed with gloves and bags, the students worked their way across the campus, clearing wrappers, plastic, and litter from corners that usually go unnoticed. The effort turned into an eye-opening lesson in just how quickly waste builds up around us.

The morning also carried a message close to Gandhi's own values — that cleanliness is a shared responsibility, not a one-day task.



LEARNING TAKES FLIGHT

Making meaningful use of the national holiday on 2 October 2026, grades VI to IX and five escort teachers visited Tambaram Air Force Station, Chennai, on an educational trip aimed at broadening their understanding of aviation and the Indian Air Force.





Students viewed an exhibition of aircraft, fighter jets, and their models, gaining insight into the development of aviation technology and the different aircraft used to safeguard the nation. The visit also helped them appreciate the discipline, technical expertise, and dedication required to serve in the Air Force.

By using the holiday constructively, the school offered a learning experience that fostered curiosity, broadened perspectives, and deepened respect for the nation's defence services.
Air Force.



CARNIVAL WARS II



The day's events ranged from cup stacking and dance battles to guess-the-movie-by-the-poster, keeping participants on their toes and the crowd thoroughly entertained. Every round brought loud cheers, quick thinking, and plenty of friendly rivalry between the houses.

Carnival Wars returned for its second edition on October 3, and the school buzzed with joy and enthusiasm as all four houses — Pioneers, Explorers, Voyagers, and Innovators — went head-to-head in a packed lineup of games.





With house pride on the line and spirits running high, Carnival Wars Part II lived up to its name, leaving students already asking when the next edition would arrive.

FIREWISE FUTURE

On October 9, students took part in a fire safety awareness programme led by Mr.Chandrasekar of the fire department, who visited the school to conduct a hands-on workshop on fire safety and equipment.



Held on the Fire Safety Day, the programme gave students practical experience rather than just theory, leaving them better prepared to respond if a fire ever breaks out. The interactive session was both informative and engaging, helping students develop greater awareness of fire prevention and the importance of staying prepared in unexpected situations.



The session walked students through the various tools firefighters rely on, explaining how each one is used and why quick, calm action matters in an emergency. The most anticipated part came afterwards, when many students got their turn to put out a live fire using extinguishers under expert supervision.



THE ASSESSMENT PHASE

Students sat for FAT 1, the final assessment test, covering everything taught across all subjects so far this term. With the syllabus stretching back to the start of the year, the exams called for revision that went well beyond the last few chapters.

The run-up saw students revisiting old notes, working through practice papers, and comparing doubts with classmates, while teachers held revision sessions to help consolidate the material. The tests themselves spanned every subject, testing both recall and the ability to apply concepts under time pressure.

More than a scorecard, FAT 1 gave students and teachers a clear picture of where they stand before the next stretch of the term. The results highlighted strong areas and flagged topics that need another look, setting the stage for focused study in the weeks ahead.



A RUSSIAN RENDEZVOUS

Two visitors from a Russian university stopped by the school for a short session on the Russian language and culture, giving students a glimpse of a part of the world most had only read about. Their visit offered a unique opportunity to explore a new culture through direct interaction and shared experiences.



The session introduced students to the basics of the language, from the Cyrillic alphabet to everyday greetings, along with insights into Russian traditions, food, and daily life. Students were quick to try their hand at the new sounds, filling the room with laughter and curiosity.



The visit ended on a sweet note, with the guests distributing Russian candies to the students — a small taste of the country that left a lasting impression.



BEYOND THE REPORT CARD

Parent-Teacher Meetings were held on October 16 for the junior grades and October 17 for the seniors, bringing parents onto campus to discuss their children's progress with teachers.



Teachers shared academic feedback, discussed classroom participation, and offered suggestions for improvement, while parents raised questions and gained a clearer picture of how their children were settling into the term. The one-on-one conversations helped both sides align on what support students need going forward. Beyond academics, the meetings also provided an opportunity to discuss students' overall development, helping parents and teachers understand their strengths and areas that need attention. These discussions encouraged closer collaboration between home and school, ensuring students receive the guidance they need to grow and succeed.





CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE



Ayudha Pooja was celebrated on campus with traditional fervour, honouring the tools and instruments that play a part in everyday learning and work.

The celebrations were marked by prayers and a sense of togetherness across the school community. The occasion served as a reminder of the importance of gratitude and respect for the resources that support our daily efforts. It also offered students an opportunity to connect with cultural traditions and appreciate the significance of the festival.

A special traditional lunch was served, with students and staff sharing a festive meal that became the highlight of the day. The celebrations brought everyone together in a warm and joyful atmosphere, making the occasion a memorable part of campus life.



STEPPING INTO MUN

Juniors were introduced to Model United Nations by seniors Catherine and Jeeth, who led an engaging session on the basics of debate, diplomacy, and representing a country's stance on global issues in an international forum.





Drawing on their own MUN experience, the two seniors walked students through how conferences work, how resolutions are drafted, and how delegates build arguments and negotiate. The peer-led format made the introduction feel approachable, with juniors asking plenty of questions along the way.

The session aimed to build early interest in MUN and prepare younger students to step into their first conferences with confidence, while encouraging them to develop their public speaking, critical thinking, and diplomatic skills.



MIRACLE OF MIND

In observance of World Mental Health Day, students from Grades V to XII took part in a Miracle of Mind session conducted by a Hatha Yoga teacher and volunteers from the Isha Foundation.



The 90-minute programme highlighted the importance of mental well-being and introduced students to simple practices promoting mindfulness, self-awareness, and inner balance. Through Upa Yoga, breathing exercises, and guided meditation, students explored practical ways to manage stress, improve focus, and nurture emotional well-being.

The initiative reflected the school's commitment to fostering a supportive environment where students can build healthy habits, emotional resilience, and a balanced approach to life, emphasising that mental health is an essential part of holistic development alongside academics and physical fitness.





DANCING INTO TRADITION

VIS hosted a vibrant Garba and Dandiya Night on 15 October at the school auditorium, celebrating India's rich cultural traditions and the spirit of togetherness.





The evening opened with an energetic performance by the prefects, followed by group Garba and an exciting Dandiya session. Dressed in colourful traditional attire, students filled the auditorium with festive music, energy, and joy.

The school administration, teachers, House Parents, and the security teams made the night possible, and their cooperation made the celebration memorable for everyone.



VISFEST: BATTLE OF TALENTS

VISFEST brought the school together for a packed lineup of games and competitions, with all four houses — Pioneers, Innovators, Explorers, and Voyagers — battling it out across a range of creative and performance events.





The competitions spanned everything from rebranding and newsletter cover page making to shipwreck, short film, dance, music, and JAM. Each event gave students a different stage to shine, whether through quick thinking, artistic flair, or stage presence, while houses cheered their teams on through every round.

The day was filled with energy, teamwork, and friendly rivalry, with participants pushing themselves to give their best for their house. VISFEST once again proved how much talent the school holds — and how much stronger it feels when everyone competes together.



THE JOY OF LETTERS

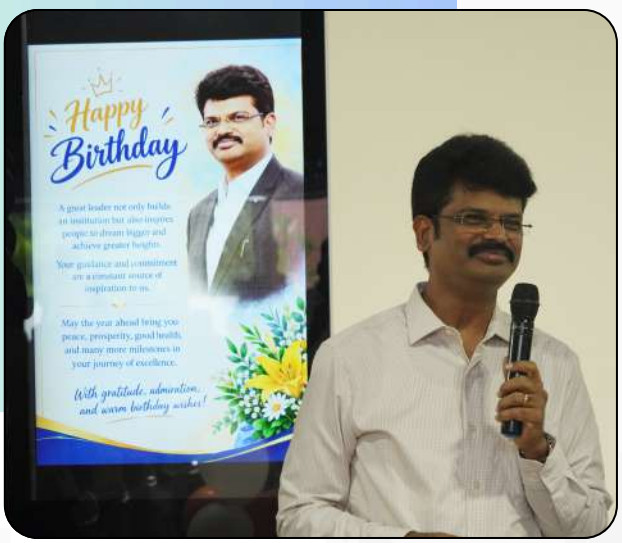
A simple idea writing letters brought smiles to our boarding community. The children came up with the idea of writing letters to their parents, friends in the dorm, and teachers, giving a fresh purpose to our letter box.



To ensure every letter reaches its intended recipient lead students will be taking charge of the collection and delivery of letters with timeliness and integrity. Sometimes, it takes something as simple as a handwritten letter to slow down, connect, and make someone's day a little brighter.



A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY



The VIS community came together to celebrate the birthday of our Chairman, Dr. G. V. Selvam, in a warm and cheerful gathering on campus. Accompanied by a group of little ones, he cut the birthday cake as the school band played a lively rendition of the birthday song, filling the occasion with joy and excitement.

The celebration continued with a short, heartfelt speech from Dr. Selvam, after which he distributed chocolates to the children before leaving. The Student Council also presented him with gifts as a token of appreciation and warm wishes. The simple yet memorable celebration was a lovely opportunity for the school community to express their gratitude and make the day special for their Chairman.



DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

The Model United Nations (MUN) at Billabong brought together students for two days of debate, diplomacy and collaboration. The first day began with an opening ceremony, followed by committee sessions where delegates discussed pressing issues, exchanged perspectives and worked towards possible solutions. The second day continued with committee sessions before concluding with a closing ceremony that celebrated the participants' efforts and achievements.

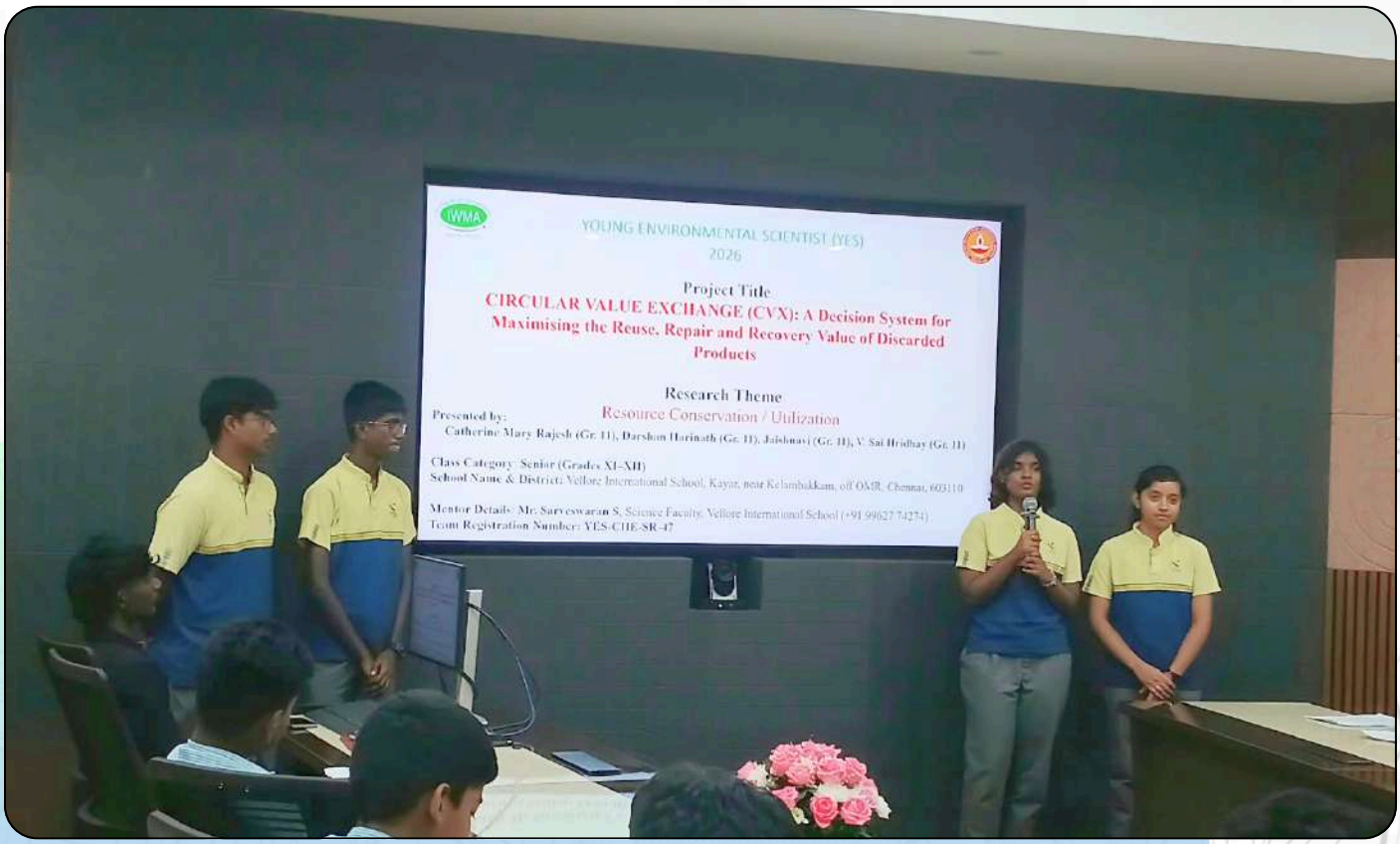
VIS students delivered commendable performances, with Jeeth, Megan and Shravan receiving the Best Delegate awards, while Loshini earned a High Commendation a few other students from VIS also recieved special mentions and verbal mentions. Their achievements reflected their research, confidence and debating skills, making the conference a rewarding experience for all involved.



GREENER TOMORROW

Vellore International School was selected to participate in the Young Environmental Scientist Programme, organised by the Industrial Waste Management Association (IWMA) in collaboration with IIT Madras. The initiative brought together young minds to explore environmental challenges and develop innovative solutions, encouraging students to think critically about sustainability and responsible waste management.

As part of the programme, our students represented the school by presenting their ideas and solutions to pressing environmental issues. The experience provided them with an opportunity to apply scientific thinking, explore practical approaches to environmental conservation and engage with research-oriented learning beyond the classroom.



NAVARATHI DECOR

Students of VIS enthusiastically celebrated Navaratri by decorating the school notice board with vibrant colours, intricate designs and creative artwork. The display highlighted the colour associated with each day of Navaratri, reflecting the significance of the festival and bringing a festive touch to the school environment.



Students worked together to bring their ideas to life, contributing thoughtful designs and artistic elements to create a colourful and engaging display. The activity encouraged them to express their creativity while appreciating the cultural traditions associated with Navaratri.



COCHIN-MUNNAR TRIP

Students of Vellore International School from Grades VII and VIII embarked on an educational trip to Cochin and Munnar from October 25 to 29, exploring the region's natural beauty, cultural heritage and maritime history.





The trip began with an overnight train journey from Chennai to Cochin, followed by a drive to Munnar. Students visited tea gardens, the Tea Museum and the Botanical Garden, gaining insights into the region's ecology and tea heritage. They also explored Mattupetty Dam and Echo Point, taking in the scenic beauty of the hills.

In Cochin, the group visited Fort Kochi, the Chinese Fishing Nets, the Indian Naval Museum, Mattancherry Palace and the Pardesi Synagogue. These visits offered students a closer look at the region's maritime connections, architecture and cultural influences. The journey concluded with a return to Chennai, leaving students with valuable learning experiences and lasting memories.



HAMPI-BADAMI TRIP

Students of Vellore International School from Grades IX and X travelled to Hampi and Badami from October 25 to 29 for an educational programme focused on history, heritage, architecture and art.





The group explored Hampi's historic landmarks, including the Royal Enclosure, Queen's Bath, Hazara Rama Temple and Virupaksha Temple, gaining insights into the architectural legacy of the Vijayanagara Empire. Their journey also included the Badami Cave Temples, Aihole and Pattadakal.

On their final day, students visited Kadale Kalu Ganesha, Badavilinga Temple, Vijay Vittala Temple and Lotus Mahal, further exploring the region's rich cultural heritage. The trip offered a meaningful opportunity to connect classroom learning with real-world experiences, leaving students with a deeper appreciation of India's history and architecture.



A WINNING INNINGS

Vellore International School is proud to celebrate the sporting achievements of Sai Hridhay of Grade 11 and Amrish P of Grade 10, who represented the CISCE Tamil Nadu Cricket Team at the CISCE Cricket National Championship 2026–2027. Demonstrating exceptional teamwork, determination and sporting spirit, the team secured the Runner-Up position in the national championship.





Adding to this achievement, Amrish P of Grade 10 was also selected to represent CISCE at the School Games Federation of India (SGFI) competition. These accomplishments reflect the students' dedication, perseverance and passion for cricket. Their achievements have brought pride to the school and serve as an inspiration to their fellow students.

RACING TO VICTORY

Three students from Vellore International School represented the school at the International Schools Sports Organisation (ISSO) competition, showcasing their athletic abilities and determination across various sporting events. The competition gave them the chance to showcase their skills on a larger platform.



Ranadheer secured 1st place in the Under-17 Speedwalking category, while Yeswanth brought home two podium finishes, earning 3rd place in both Under-19 Javelin Throw and Under-19 Speedwalking. Their achievements are a testament to their hard work, perseverance and dedication to athletics. The students' performances brought pride to the school and highlighted the importance of discipline, consistent effort and sportsmanship.



FOOTBALL FINALS

The grounds of Vellore International School came alive with excitement as the inter-school football tournament reached its much-awaited final in the boys' under 15 division. After a series of competitive matches, Don Bosco and Velammal faced off in the final.





With every pass, tackle and attempt at goal, the players kept the spectators engaged, making the final an exciting conclusion to the tournament. Both teams demonstrated commendable sportsmanship and a strong competitive spirit throughout the match.

Ultimately, Velammal Matric emerged victorious over Don Bosco, securing the title and bringing the tournament to a memorable close. The event celebrated not only the teams' footballing abilities but also the values of discipline, perseverance and camaraderie that make inter-school sporting events so meaningful.



CREDITS

From the cultural vibrance of Ayudha Pooja and Garba and Dandiya Night to the spirited competitions of VISFEST, explorations beyond the classroom, and moments of mindfulness and learning—this issue celebrates the creativity, curiosity, and community spirit of VIS!

We extend our sincere thanks to the students, teachers, house parents, and staff whose energy, stories, and photographs made the fourth edition of VISta come alive.

The Editorial Board gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following individuals:

Dr.Ajay Vissnu M.Nair
Editor-in-Chief
Department Of English

Hasinishree Sivasankar - Gr.11 AS Level
Editorial Head

Loshini Matha - Gr.11 AS Level
Copy Editor

Mathiyazhagan
Digital OutreachExecutive



Kayar, Near Kelambakkam, Off
OMR, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 603110
Contact: 1800-208-9555 - Toll-Free
admissions@vischennai.ac.in
Instagram- @vischennai
Facebook- @vischennai.in
Website-https://vischennai.ac.in