



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026



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From the Principal's Desk

"Life does not reveal the strength of an individual when everything is calm; it reveals it when one chooses to move forward despite resistance."

Dear Readers,

Every new month in a school is not merely a passage of time; it is a collection of experiences that shape minds, strengthen character and prepare young learners for life beyond the classroom. July has been one such month—a month that reminded us that education flourishes where curiosity meets courage and where opportunities are transformed into meaningful experiences.

One of the defining milestones of the month was the School Council Election. It was inspiring to witness our students participating with remarkable enthusiasm, confidence and maturity. They presented their ideas, respected differing opinions and exercised their democratic rights with responsibility. Leadership, after all, is not measured by the position one holds but by the values one practises. The election became a living lesson in integrity, accountability and service—qualities that define responsible citizens.

Another memorable chapter of the month unfolded in the swimming pool. Water has a remarkable way of teaching resilience. It does not yield to hesitation, nor does it reward impatience. Every stroke demands persistence, discipline and self-belief. Watching our students participate enthusiastically in the Swimming Coaching Programme, I was reminded of the guiding philosophy of our academic session:

This timeless message from the Bhagavad Gita finds its true expression in every child who chooses to face a challenge instead of avoiding it. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field or in the swimming pool, resilience is not merely the ability to endure—it is the confidence to rise every time we encounter resistance. This is the essence of our annual theme, "Resonating Resilience with Absolute Confidence."

Our students also continued to make us proud by securing commendable positions in various quiz competitions. Their achievements are a testimony to the power of curiosity, disciplined preparation and the joy of learning. Excellence is never an accident; it is the outcome of consistent effort guided by purpose.

Adding another dimension to experiential learning, our visit to the Science Centre transformed scientific concepts into living experiences. Observing, questioning and experimenting encouraged our learners to appreciate that science is not confined to textbooks—it is woven into the world around us. Such opportunities nurture inquisitive minds that are prepared not merely to learn facts but to discover possibilities.

As we reflect upon the events of July, one thought becomes increasingly evident: education is far more than academic achievement. It is about cultivating leaders who serve with humility, learners who question with curiosity, competitors who strive with integrity and individuals who possess the courage to rise above every challenge.

As we move ahead together, let us continue to inspire our children to replace fear with faith, hesitation with action and limitations with possibilities. For every challenge they overcome today becomes the foundation of the confident, compassionate and resilient citizens they will become tomorrow.

Sincerely,

A. Awasthi



EDITORS SPEAK

Dear Reader,

The month of July creeps silently within all our lives, just after a refreshing month long summer break and scorching heat, the slight change of weather seems to have an effect both metaphorically and literally. However, amidst rewinding back to our academics and extras, its time for our student council body that gives all the students a platform to showcase their talent and abilities to see a fresh, enthusiastic set of new faces as this month is the month for elections.

True leadership is not about authority; it is about inspiring others through integrity, empathy, and dedication. A good leader listens, works collaboratively, and strives to bring about positive change for the benefit of the entire community. The election process encourages students to develop confidence, accountability, and decision-making skills while preparing them to take on responsibilities with sincerity.

As the nomination and screening rounds take place this month, let us appreciate the enthusiasm and courage of every candidate who has stepped forward to serve the school. Regardless of the outcome, each participant gains valuable experiences that contribute to personal growth and character building.

May this election inspire all of us to uphold the values of fairness, respect, and responsible leadership, remembering that true leaders are defined not by the positions they hold, but by the positive impact they create.

Yours truly,
The Edit Team



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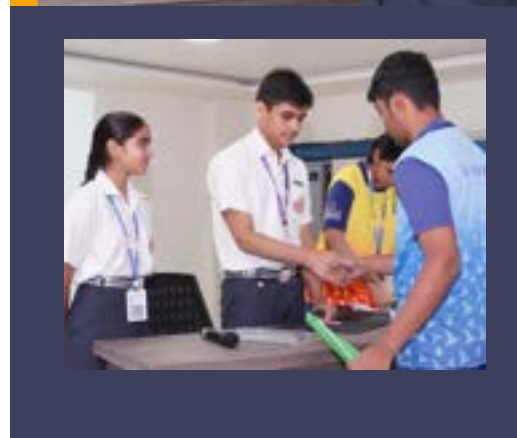


Rishav Raj
Associate Editor



ELECTION NOMINATION

THE BALLOT BEFORE THE BADGE



The democratic pulse of the school began to quicken as the Student Council Election process moved from announcement to action. Following the formal declaration of elections on 1st July 2026, nominations opened on 3rd July, inviting students to step beyond aspiration and accept the responsibilities that accompany leadership.

The proceedings were guided by the Chief Electoral Officer and his associates, supported by members of the Student Leadership Funnel. With students assuming a central role in conducting the process, the election acquired a particularly meaningful character: democracy was not merely being discussed in classrooms; it was being practised by the learners themselves. Candidate details were verified and nomination forms were collected systematically, while teachers supervised the proceedings to maintain fairness and transparency.

A specially designed digital interface added authenticity to the exercise. Each candidate received a unique Electoral ID generated during the nomination process, introducing the young participants to the discipline and structure of an organised electoral system.

More than an administrative beginning, the nomination round became the first test of willingness, confidence and accountability. It established the foundation for the stages ahead and signalled that leadership at school would begin with responsibility rather than recognition.



"The function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers." - Ralph Nader



"Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached." - Swami Vivekananda



PRELIMINARY = ROUND =

WHERE LEADERSHIP FACED ITS FIRST TEST

Once nominations had been completed, aspiration gave way to assessment as candidates entered the Preliminary Round of the Student Council Elections. The stage was designed to identify students whose abilities and disposition reflected the demands of the leadership positions they sought.

Candidates appeared before an interview panel comprising the Chief Electoral Officer and other members. Their confidence, communication skills, leadership potential, decision-making ability and overall personality were assessed through interaction with the panel. Students were also given an opportunity to articulate their ideas, explain their vision and demonstrate the seriousness of their commitment to the school community.



"You have the right to perform your duty, but not to the fruits of your actions." - Bhagavad Gita



"Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life." - Swami Vivekananda

Interview Round



The round remained both rigorous and encouraging. Rather than reducing leadership to popularity, it placed character, expression and readiness at the centre of the selection process. For the participants, the experience became an early lesson in presenting ideas with clarity and carrying ambition with responsibility.



"An interview does not test perfection; it reveals confidence, character, and the courage to lead."



SCREENING BEYOND AMBITION

THE MEASURE OF A LEADER

The election process advanced to a more exacting stage with the formal screening of shortlisted candidates. Here, the emphasis shifted from the desire to lead to the competence required to do so.

Through thoughtfully designed tasks, candidates were assessed on writing skills, critical thinking, clarity of expression and their understanding of leadership responsibilities. Their responses offered insight into how effectively they could analyse situations, organise ideas and communicate with confidence.



"Leadership is practiced not so much in words as in attitude and in actions." - Harold S. Geneen



Supervised by the election committee and teachers, the screening remained transparent and merit-based. Every candidate received an opportunity to demonstrate individual strengths within a framework grounded in fairness and responsibility.

The exercise reinforced an important principle: meaningful leadership is shaped as much by judgement, integrity and clarity of thought as by visibility. The screening therefore served not simply as a selection mechanism, but as a formative experience in democratic leadership.



"Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence." - Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



WHEN IDEAS TOOK THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

With nomination and screening completed, the school campus entered one of the most vibrant phases of the Student Council Elections. Candidates took their ideas to their peers, transforming corridors and classrooms into spaces for dialogue, persuasion and democratic choice.

Aspiring leaders presented their manifestos, explained their proposed initiatives and communicated the vision with which they hoped to serve the student community. Their speeches and interactions required them to persuade without diminishing others, to compete without compromising respect, and to distinguish themselves through ideas rather than mere visibility.

Teachers guided the campaigning process to ensure that discipline, fairness and mutual respect remained integral to every interaction. The candidates responded with enthusiasm and sportsmanship, while their peers were encouraged to evaluate leadership qualities, responsibility and integrity before making an electoral choice.



"Every campaign is an opportunity to inspire, unite, and lead with integrity."



In this exchange of ideas lay a lesson larger than campaigning itself. Public speaking, teamwork, ethical persuasion and informed decision-making emerged as essential life skills, making the campaign a practical exercise in citizenship and responsible leadership.



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." — Mahatma Gandhi

The Election Day

Every Voice Counted: Democracy Goes Digital

The Student Council Elections reached their defining moment as students and teachers cast their votes to choose the new student leadership. Conducted with enthusiasm and transparency, the election combined democratic participation with technology through online voting on the Eduletics Portal, a platform specially designed by the school's CEO, Mr Ashwin Singh.

The electronic voting system enabled votes to be cast efficiently while maintaining accuracy, confidentiality and equal opportunity for voters. Technology, in this instance, did more than simplify procedure; it gave students first-hand experience of an organised and accountable electoral mechanism.



As voting progressed, the simultaneous counting of votes was presented to the students, adding another layer of transparency to the process. The results were announced on the same day by Mr Ashwin Singh, and the newly elected Student Council members were greeted with excitement and applause as they earned the confidence of the school community.



"Victory and defeat are two sides of the same coin; what matters is the integrity with which you played the game."



The conclusion of the election marked more than the declaration of winners. Across nomination, assessment, campaigning and voting, students had encountered democracy as a process requiring participation, integrity and informed choice. The ballot had ultimately become a classroom without walls.



EDUCATION BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Achievement opened the door to exploration when the Primary Wing winners of the Inter-House Quiz Contest visited the Shree Krishna Science Centre for a special educational tour. Organised as recognition of their knowledge, dedication and competitive spirit, the excursion extended the reward for success beyond medals and applause into an experience of discovery. At the Science Centre, students explored interactive galleries, engaged with hands-on exhibits and observed scientific principles taking visible form through demonstrations. Concepts familiar from books acquired movement and dimension, prompting curiosity and encouraging learners to question, observe and investigate. The visit blended celebration with purposeful learning. For the young quiz champions, it demonstrated that knowledge is not a destination reached after a competition, but a continuing journey fuelled by curiosity.

By linking achievement with exploration, the educational tour reflected a wider approach to learning—one in which excellence is recognised by creating further opportunities to discover, think and grow.



"The highest education is that which makes our life in harmony with all existence." - Rabindranath Tagore



APPLAUSE FOR ENDEAVOUR

Club Champions Honoured

The first phase of the academic session found a celebratory conclusion in the Pre Mid Term Club Awards Distribution Ceremony, where students who had distinguished themselves during the Club Presentations were recognised for their performance and perseverance.

The achievements represented more than the final moments witnessed during presentations. Behind each performance stood preparation, teamwork, creativity and sustained effort. Teachers acknowledged this commitment and encouraged the awardees to continue refining their talents through active participation in the school's co-curricular programme.



Winning students received medals and certificates before their peers and mentors. Their smiles, confident demeanour and visible sense of accomplishment gave the ceremony its most compelling expression: recognition had transformed effort into a moment of pride.

"Today we celebrate achievements; tomorrow we celebrate the determination that created them." -



The honours also carried a message for the wider student community. Healthy competition acquires lasting value when it inspires learners to improve, participate and persevere. The ceremony thus celebrated both those who had achieved distinction and the culture of learning that made such achievement possible.



"Every certificate you earn is not just a piece of paper; it is a reflection of your commitment, discipline, and growth." - Sri Aurobindo



Every medal tells a story of countless hours of effort, unwavering commitment and the courage to never give up."

EXCELLENCE EARNED OLYMPIAD ACHIEVERS TAKE THE STAGE



Academic endeavour received its moment of recognition during the SOF Medals and Certificates Distribution Ceremony, which celebrated students who had excelled in the Science Olympiad Foundation examinations.

The awardees were felicitated with medals and certificates amid appreciation from teachers and fellow students. Their performances reflected academic ability strengthened by curiosity, discipline, perseverance and sustained engagement with learning.

Beyond honouring individual achievement, the ceremony presented competitive examinations as opportunities to deepen conceptual understanding and develop the confidence to engage with challenging academic tasks. The success of the winners therefore became an invitation to other learners to test their abilities and pursue higher standards.



As medals and certificates marked accomplishments already attained, the larger significance of the occasion lay in what they represented: effort sustained over time, knowledge pursued with purpose and the confidence to attempt the next challenge.

"When you do something with all your heart and soul, success becomes inevitable." — Swami Vivekananda



WHERE SPEED MET STRATEGY

The Inter-House Sporting Arena

The school grounds became an arena of energy, strategy and collective endeavour as the Middle Wing students participated in the Inter-House Kho-Kho and Kabaddi Competitions. Representing Legacy House, Ambition House, Discovery House and Spirit House, the young players entered the contests with enthusiasm and a strong sense of House pride.

Both games demanded far more than physical strength. Kho-Kho tested agility, alertness, speed and split-second coordination, while Kabaddi brought together endurance, tactical thinking, presence of mind and teamwork. As the teams competed, every chase, escape, raid and defence demonstrated the importance of trusting teammates and responding decisively under pressure.

Students from all four Houses participated enthusiastically, displaying determination while maintaining the spirit of healthy competition. Victory remained an important pursuit, but the larger achievement lay in learning to compete with discipline, respect opponents and stand together as a team.

The competitions gave the Middle Wing students an opportunity to experience sport as a powerful classroom beyond walls—one that taught resilience, cooperation and courage through action. The Inter-House Games ultimately celebrated more than athletic ability; they reflected the energy of young learners discovering that individual effort becomes stronger when it moves with the purpose of a team.

	KHO-KHO	KABBADI
DISCOVERY	24	16
SPIRIT	26	13
LEGACY	27	06
AMBITION	20	09

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships."

- Michael Jordan

KNOWLEDGE AS A SHIELD

LEARNING THE LANGUAGE OF SAFETY

Personal safety became the focus of an important awareness initiative for Primary Wing students when the school organised a Safe Touch Awareness Session conducted by SENCOMs Shikha Asthana.

Using age-appropriate language and interactive discussion, the session introduced students to the concepts of safe, unsafe and confusing touch. Children were guided to recognise discomfort, trust their instincts, say no when necessary, move away from unsafe situations and seek assistance from trusted adults such as parents, teachers or guardians.

Equal emphasis was placed on communication. Students were helped to understand that speaking about an uncomfortable experience is an act of courage and that trusted adults can provide support. Relatable examples and interactive activities allowed essential safety messages to be communicated without losing the sensitivity required by the subject.

The session demonstrated how awareness can become a form of protection. By giving children an accessible vocabulary for boundaries, choice and help-seeking, the initiative strengthened the foundations of a safe, secure and caring learning environment.



“Empowering young minds with the knowledge of safe touch is building a foundation of trust and self-respect.”



"Education is the most powerful tool to protect and empower." - Inspired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



"A child's safety is the foundation of learning."



"Education in self-awareness and personal safety is not a luxury; it is a fundamental right of every child." - Dr. Ambedkar



DONATION DRIVE

SMALL GIFTS, LARGER POSSIBILITIES

A collection of notebooks, pencils, pens, crayons and school bags came to represent something larger than stationery when Open Minds – A Birla School, Kankarbagh organised a Stationery Donation Drive in collaboration with Manav Utthan Seva Samiti.

The initiative invited students to contribute pre-loved stationery that could continue its usefulness in the hands of children from economically weaker sections. Learners across grades responded enthusiastically, donating notebooks, pencils, pens, erasers, sharpeners, crayons, geometry boxes and school bags.

The collected materials were intended for distribution among underprivileged children, helping provide educational resources that could support their continued learning. For the donors, however, the exercise carried an equally significant lesson: resources acquire renewed value when they are shared.

The drive connected education with empathy and social responsibility. In giving away something small, students encountered a larger idea—that meaningful citizenship often begins with recognising another person's need and choosing to respond. The initiative thus turned ordinary school supplies into symbols of opportunity, dignity and shared hope.



"The smallest act of giving can become the biggest step toward someone's education."



"A simple pen in a child's hand can script an extraordinary future."



Exceptional Performer of the Month

We are delighted to announce the Exceptional Performer of the Month for their exemplary performance and unwavering commitment to quality education.



Awardee:
Mr. Rohit Raj



Awardee:
**Mrs. Rachna Bhaskar
Shringi**



