

OVER THE RIDGE

VOLUME-XI



From the Chairperson



How do we as parents and educators handle change? How do we sustain momentum without getting left behind? Let us work together to anticipate the challenge that profound change will ultimately force us to face with the frequently encountered words of 'not enough time' and pressures of stress and anxiety.

Let us together empower our children to become agents of change by celebrating their intrinsic inclination towards love, justice and fair play.

Dr. Ameeta Mulla Wattal

From the Principal



As I walk through our corridors each morning and witness the energy and curiosity of our students, I am reminded why I am so passionate about what we do here. Innovation isn't just something we talk about—it's woven into who we are. When I see our children asking thought-provoking questions, showing empathy to classmates, and embracing new opportunities with excitement, I know our values of curiosity, critical thinking, and global citizenship are truly taking root.

This edition, I'm particularly excited about to share our Book Week celebration with the theme "Conflict and Peace" with you all. Watching our students dive into stories that encourage them to reflect on humanity's struggles and triumphs never fails to move me. Through reading circles, creative presentations, and art projects, I see them developing the kind of thoughtful perspectives our world desperately needs.

Our International Experiential Programme continues to transform lives in ways that fill my heart with pride. When our students return from exchanges and service projects abroad, they're different—more confident, more compassionate, more aware of their place in this interconnected world.

Every day, I'm reminded that we're not just preparing students for exams, we're shaping the hearts and minds that will heal our world. We are happy to see each day, their words finding strength as voices, and their worlds opening into new universes.

With gratitude and excitement for the journey ahead.

Regards

Nidhi Tewari

Education For Life Conference: A Global Collaboration for A Better Tomorrow

A 4-day grand collaboration of EFL educators from across India, Italy, Slovenia and the USA unfolded its wings on 25 July 2025. This extraordinary and transformative gathering witnessed an enlightening address note delivered by revered Dhyana ji which served as a poignant reminder of keeping oneself still, focused and committed. Ms. Pia Singh, Chairperson CSR Committee, DLF Pvt. Ltd. shared her inspiring journey of transformation through the practice of Kriya Yoga. Nitai Ji, Director EFL India also graced the ceremony, adding valuable inputs to the panel discussion. Dr. Ameeta Mulla Wattal, Chairperson presented a warm welcome to all the dignitaries and participants in her impactful talk. Awe-inspiring choir, mesmerising dance performance, and spectacular drama presentation, 'In Gandhi's Footsteps' took the centre stage at the Inaugural.

The conference was a thoughtful exchange of reflective practices, Living Labs, Speaking Walls, proudly hosted by DLF QEC Innovative schools.



Book Week: The Word Beyond the World

Our annual Book Week transformed into a powerful celebration of literature's ability to heal and unite, with the theme "Conflict and Peace" creating meaningful dialogue across our school community.

The week opened with an inspiring inaugural ceremony featuring a keynote address on **"Reading for Peace: Words that Heal," delivered by Ms. Chandan Singh, COO, Pengala Learning Pvt. Ltd.** Her inspiring address demonstrated how literature serves as a bridge between divided communities.

Book Week celebrated holistic learning through daily subject-specific sessions for every discipline. English explored the nuances of creative writing, while Mathematics explored Quantitative Aptitude development. Commerce investigated the psychology of business, Science analyzed new opportunities in biomedical fields. Young learners enjoyed puppet show and storytelling sessions. Excursions to Kidzania, Crafts Museum, Post Office also heralded experiential learning. Each day of the Book Week revealed fresh perspectives for the students.



Meraki: Where Creativity Meets Purpose

The Book Week culminated in "Meraki"—our spectacular exhibition showcasing student holiday homework transformed into powerful artistic expressions. Classrooms and corridors turned into exhibition arenas, portraying the spirit of creativity and collaboration, as enthusiastic students put forward multimedia peace-building presentations, dance performances, inspirational speeches, and an MUN. To foster community collaboration, parents enthusiastically participated in initiatives such as a podcast on the theme of exploring peace, a fashion show on the theme of Sustainable Living, along with Yoga sessions. The spectacular Art Exhibition, graced by the presence of renowned artist, Ms. Mona Sikka, witnessed creative art installations and paintings by students symbolizing harmony.



Safety in Action at Ridge Valley

At Ridge Valley School, safety is a priority woven into every aspect of campus life. A Comprehensive Fire Safety Demonstration and Evacuation Drill was conducted in April, ensuring that both students and staff are well-prepared for emergencies.

The session included hands-on learning, from the correct use of fire extinguishers to practicing swift and orderly evacuations. The drill not only equipped everyone with practical skills but also reinforced the importance of presence of mind, teamwork, and responsibility in times of need.



Euphoria 2025: Bringing Culture to Life

Ridge Valley came alive with the vibrant sounds and colors of Euphoria 2025, our spectacular Inter-School Performing Arts Festival celebrating music, dance, and theatre. Students captivated audiences through three enchanting themes: Echoes of Joy, Echoes of Tradition, and Echoes of Bharatvarsha. Each performance was a mesmerizing journey through India's cultural tapestry, as young artists masterfully brought the ancient Navarasa—the nine classical emotions—to life with breathtaking passion and skill. From traditional folk dances to contemporary interpretations, Euphoria 2025 proved that the arts transcend boundaries, connecting hearts and celebrating our shared heritage in truly unforgettable ways.



STEM Expo 2025: Innovation Takes Flight!

The school successfully hosted the inter-school STEM Expo on May 1st, welcoming students from across the region to showcase their creativity and passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The expo featured impressive projects including smart city models demonstrating sustainable urban development, eco-friendly fashion designs promoting environmental responsibility, hands-on mathematical investigations, artificial intelligence demonstrations exploring future possibilities, and an exciting drone racing competition highlighting piloting skills and engineering innovation.

Students displayed remarkable talent and dedication throughout the event, proving that young minds are capable of extraordinary achievements when given the opportunity to explore and create. The expo successfully celebrated the intersection of curiosity and innovation, inspiring participants to continue pursuing excellence in STEM fields.



Declaverse 3.0: Voices of Impact

Declaverse 3.0—a vibrant celebration of speech and thought leadership brought together 28 speakers from 14 top schools who showcased compelling perspectives on today's most critical issues. With clarity, conviction, and confidence, students turned the stage into a platform for powerful, purposeful dialogue. More than a competition, this event was a celebration of bold ideas and fearless expression.



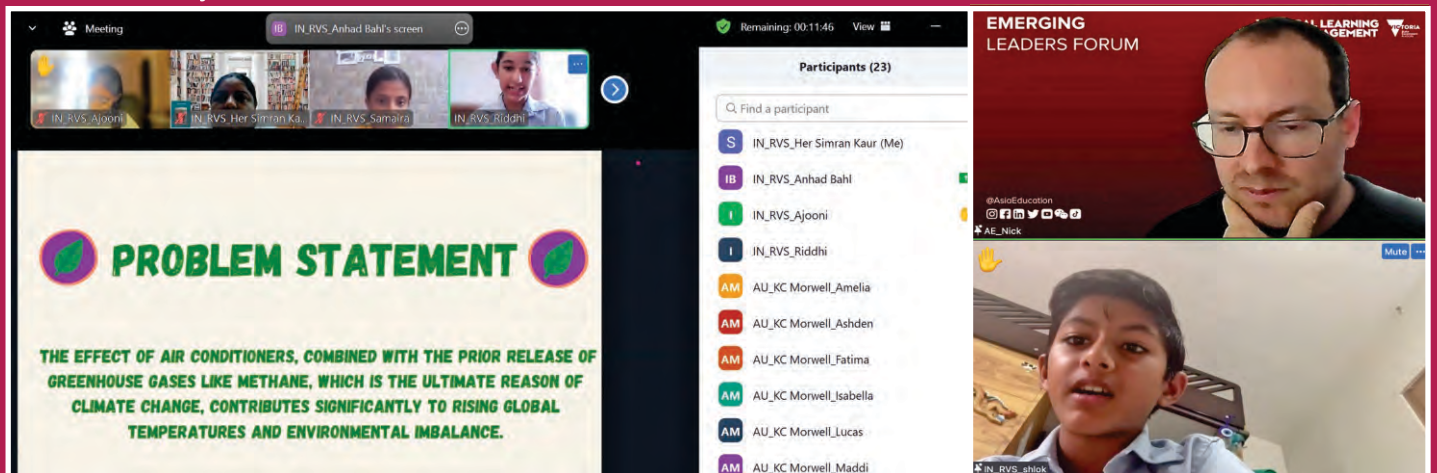
TED-Ed Talks@RVS: Being the Voice, Ushering in Change

The proudly hosted its first TED-Ed Talk, where our young changemakers spoke with passion, and delivered with impact. From tackling public speaking fears and digital friendships to exploring Mandala art, empathy for strays, and finding order in chaos — each talk sparked curiosity.

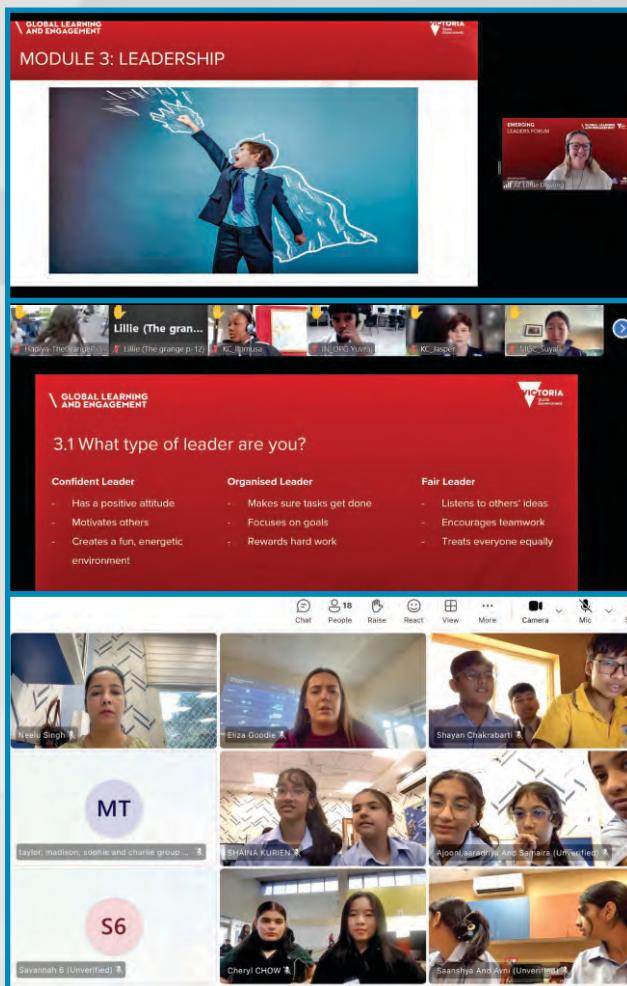
Learning Beyond Borders, Building Bridges Across Continents

The school's transformative Student Exchange Program with SP1 School, Poland, made the students visit-Konstancin-Jeziorna from June 3-12, 2025. Our students experienced authentic Polish hospitality through homestays, attended classes alongside Polish peers, and embarked on meaningful cultural explorations. Highlights included visits to historic Radom and Lublin, a profound experience at Majdanek Concentration Camp Memorial, and peaceful moments in botanical gardens.

The program resumed with renewed enthusiasm after pandemic challenges, creating lasting friendships and deepening global perspectives. Students immersed themselves in Polish traditions, cuisine, and daily life while participating in collaborative academic projects. This exchange proves education truly knows no borders.



When Ideas Take Wings: Our International Collaborations



Our students of Grades 7 and 8 expanded further the horizon of their experience with Victorian Emerging Leaders Forum, an exclusive platform. The three-day online event from May 19th to May 23rd 2025 provided by the Victorian Department of Education, in partnership with the Asia Education Foundation, part of Asialink at the University of Melbourne, made students explore real-world issues, encouraging them to work together to develop solutions using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The final presentation on SDG 13: Climate Action, allowed our young change makers to share creative ideas to tackle climate change. Global Youth Forum brought together bright young minds of Grades 9 and 10 to explore, express, and engage in issues of global importance and relevance. The unique experience blended learning of different forms- industry expert led sessions, interactive workshops, and Mentor Circles helped in collaborating with various experts to acquire a host of skills.

Extending our partnership further with Pakenham Secondary College, Victoria, Australia for the students of Grades VIII-IX for a unique program that aims to broaden our students' perspectives, enhance their understanding of global cultures, and foster meaningful connections with peers worldwide. Ridgeans worked in close collaboration with students from Pakenham, fortifying our understanding of monuments.

Early Years, Big Wonders: Rainy Day and Messy Play

Splish, splash, splatter away, Fun and learning filled the day! Tiny hands at work and play, Wrapped the term in a joyful way.

Our Early Years students championed the heat of May with faces brimming with exploration and creativity. The morning began with Messy Play, where children enthusiastically engaged with play dough, sand, and paint, discovering textures and forms through hands-on activities. What a fun way to develop motor skills and learn collaboratively!

Adding to the excitement, the much-awaited Rain Dance had our young learners swaying and moving to lively rhythms. The activity combined fun with movement, strengthening coordination while giving children the freedom to express themselves joyfully.

It was a day that perfectly captured the essence of the Early Years—learning through discovery, play, and pure delight.



Summer Camp 2025 A Week of Joy, Creativity, and Discovery!

Our school buzzed with laughter and creative sparks as students from Nursery to Grade 8 came together for an unforgettable week at Summer Camp 2025! The campus transformed into a vibrant hub of energy where every corner echoed with curiosity, excitement, and fun-filled learning.

From splashes of color in painting, clay modeling, and craftwork to the thrill of nature walks, obstacle courses, and team games, each day opened new doors of exploration. Beyond the smiles and laughter, every task encouraged teamwork, resilience, and imagination—nurturing not only creativity but also essential life skills. The camp was a perfect blend of joy and growth, leaving children with lasting memories, new friendships, and valuable experiences. Truly, it was a celebration of learning beyond classrooms!





Heart of Learning: Community Outreach Programmes

The Community Outreach Programme this term saw students, parents, and staff unite in diverse initiatives that combined learning with service. From the “Rise with Ridge 2.0” Bake Sale, which raised funds to support local charities, to the DLF Engage Program, where student volunteers empowered underprivileged children with literacy, numeracy, and life skills, each effort reflected the school's ethos of giving back.

Awareness-building took center stage with the World Earth Day Assembly, featuring a thought-provoking street play, “Plastic se Azadi”, and the Plastic Warriors Drive, through which the community collected 51 kilograms of plastic waste—an achievement recognized by Rotary District 301. Students also celebrated Labour Day with heartfelt gestures of gratitude for the support staff and promoted sustainability through Vanmahotsav, engaging in sapling plantation, composting projects, and creative poster-making. In addition, senior students benefited from the BNI Session, gaining invaluable insights into architecture and design from industry expert Ms. Chandrika Sahay.

These initiatives not only strengthened ties within the community but also nurtured empathy, awareness, and responsibility among students—values that Ridge Valley School continually strives to uphold.





Orientation Day: First Steps to a Journey of Lifetime

“Every child is a new flower in the garden of life, full of promise and joy.”

We warmly welcomed our youngest learners and our vibrant parent community at the Early Years Orientation, marking the beautiful beginning of their school journey. With smiling faces, gentle guidance, and excited hearts, children and parents stepped into a nurturing space filled with learning, laughter, and endless possibilities. School Principal, Ms. Nidhi Tewari shared curriculum, and other guidelines which will help parents and students to navigate their way through this journey of a lifetime! The session also apprised learners across all levels about the recent changes in the curriculum and the assessment pattern. Here's to new beginnings and bright tomorrows for our little stars!

Labour Day Celebrations Small Actions, Big Impact

This Labour Day, our students showed their appreciation for our dedicated support staff with a special celebration. They prepared a delicious meal, served refreshing drinks and handmade sandwiches, and created thoughtful cards. It was a heartfelt day filled with gratitude, reminding us that every role at our school is important.



Learning for Life: Summer Staff Seminar and Trainings

The Summer Staff Seminar, an enlightening journey on "THE ANXIOUS GENERATION: FROM CONFLICT TO PEACE" held on Monday, 30 June 2025, witnessed many industry experts sharing their powerful insights into the age of anxiety and its ramifications for our learners. The Chairperson, Dr. Ameeta Mulla Wattal delivered the inaugural address, followed by keynote by Ms. Lata Vaidyanathan. Dr. Pawan Duggal, a renowned cyber lawyer, addressed issues of cyber wellness and digital empathy, followed by breakout sessions by Mr. Sandeep Sethi on mental well-being and Mr. Abhinav Singhal on experiential learning. Brig. Ajoy Mukherjee spoke on conflict resolution and resilience, and Mr. Bhaskar Basu, Director at Microsoft, concluded with a valedictory address on Artificial Intelligence in the age of anxiety. Reinforcing the understanding of anxiety and the path forward to developing avenues for peace, the staff members gained insights into the complexities of the age, and the value of resilience.

The school Principal, Ms. Nidhi Tewari conducted a hands-on workshop on the essentials of formatting documents for the faculty members. Junior School Headmistress, Ms. Shalini Batra conducted a session on portfolio management.





Annual Athletic Meet 2025

A Day of Passion and Performance

The Annual Athletic Meet 2025 at Ridge Valley School was a resounding celebration of energy, enthusiasm, and sporting excellence. The day commenced with a spirited march past, a symbolic torch relay, and the solemn oath of fairness — setting the stage for the thrilling events ahead.

Our youngest learners charmed the audience with the Green Footprint Parade, creatively blending joy with the message of sustainability. From energetic early years' races to the awe-inspiring drills by junior and middle school students, every performance reflected talent, discipline, and teamwork.

The track events kept spirits soaring, while the Parents vs. Teachers Tug of War filled the grounds with cheers and laughter. The grand finale, Tricolor Rhythms, painted the field with colour, unity, and patriotic pride.

Special congratulations to Amazon House for winning both the March Past and Best House trophies — a truly remarkable achievement!

The Meet stood as a shining reminder that every participant is a champion, and together, we created a day etched in memories — one of passion, performance, and pure joy.

