



Photo credit -  
Aaditya, Khusal,  
Gr 11&12



Photo credit - Rahul, Gr 12

### Inauguration

The concept of innovation and resourcefulness was emphasised upon by Ms. Kiran Merchant, Principal of APL Global School, *“Synergy unleashes creativity. We must think differently, put on our thinking hats, and let our inherent artistic imagination and ideas flow free.”*

*“This beautiful event takes me back to my school days. Culturals were precious stepping stones to becoming the musician that I am today.”* These were the very words of our chief guest, Unnikrishnan, an acclaimed Carnatic music maestro and playback singer. Synergy is indeed a platform for aspiring artists, musicians, writers, debaters, and everything in between. This was clearly visible as sculptures of animals, based on Mexican piñata art form, created by the Art students of APL, were seen livening up the campus.

To kick-start our celebration of creativity, the school band performed the school song, *“Reach for the Stars”*. This was followed by the energetic performance of our Bharatanatyam dancers Ananya, Shrinidhi, Amrita, and Kavisha of senior school. After this was the lighting of the lamp, then the school prayer, *“Where the Mind Is without Fear”*, a poem which *‘exhorts each global citizen to unite, display the spirit of camaraderie and forge ahead with fortitude towards an emancipated and progressive human community’* (as stated by Neeyati Uppal, Cultural Secretary).

The ceremony came to an end with our chief guest praising APL for giving students a channel to unleash their creativity, give their best, and to -ultimately - enjoy and form memories that would be cherished much later, just like he does.

- Saleema, Sneha B Gr 11

### Inspiring Words from our Chief Guest

**Truly in awe of the humble nature of Mr. Unnikrishnan, we learned much from our short time with him. These are the titbits from that long long list:**

Life is a dicey situation – you need to have luck. However, successful people are multi-faceted, and talent without hard work reaps no return.

Showcase yourself in any situation, cater to the audience, capitalise on opportunities, and be proficient in different genres.

Know that there is no shame in self-promotion (especially through platforms such as social media). Boost your overall image, and be really, really passionate about whatever you are doing.

Surround yourself with positive people, and choose your friends wisely. It’s a competitive world out there, and there are definitely many risks involved.

Do not let negativity stop you and do everything in your power to find that guiding spark to help you navigate reality. You will see the beauty in everything.

- Saleema and Sneha .B Gr 11

### Editorial Team



**Writers:** Manasa Rao, Hannah, Srihari, Sneha B, Preston, Kavya, Amirtha, Kiran Nethra, Trissha, Slaghyashree, Aarthi, Surekha, Haemil

**Photographers:** Abhishek, Khusal, Sachin, P G Rahul, Adithya, Arfa, Sandhya

**Editors:** Sanjukta, Saleema, Shwetha **Designer:** Harish Raja **Coordinator:** Cynthia



## Rhythmic Moves - Folk



Despite the small number of performances, the energy level in the room did not decrease one bit. The audience was amazing and loud as they supportively cheered for every school participating. With only five minutes for each dance, the contestants made everyone roar with applause as they danced to popular Tamil and Hindi songs.

As the event came to an end, the three judges of the event - Mr. Subash, Mr. Manoj and Mr. Arun - came on stage to announce the winners. The **first place** went to **Omega International** for their colourful and vibrant performance. The students of **Ramaniyam Shankara** were the **runners-up** for their energetic routine. Mr. Subash closed the event by inspiring us all by saying that - "Dance comes from the heart and is a reflection of the soul".

Manasa Gr 10



Photo credit - Rahul, Gr 12

## Eco Chef- (6-8)



Photo Credit - Arfa, Gr 10

A total of eight schools participated in Cooking Without Fire. The judges were our very own teachers, Jayalakshmi ma'am and Pallavi ma'am. The timing was 1 hour.

When the event started the contestants, ironically, were on fire. They spent the whole hour concentrating on creating innovative and colourful dishes. The judges loved the determination they worked with, (as well as the food!), and said the kids were all really good and very competitive. **Pranav** from **PSBB Millennium** won the event, and **Varshini** from **RMT international** was the runner up.

Kiran Gr 10

## Quiz Up (6-8) Prelims

APL is extremely happy to see so many young and smart minds challenging their opponents in the 'Quiz up' prelims. A large number of participants from various schools around the city joined us to showcase their talent and wit! Everyone was thrilled as the question papers were distributed. They immediately put their minds to work completing the quiz. The enthusiasm was so great, they were writing answers down until the last second of the event!

- Haemil Gr 11



Photo credit - Khusal Gr 12



Photo credit - Khusal, Gr 12



## Quiz Up (9-12) Prelims

Students eagerly awaited for the quiz to begin. As soon as the quiz sheets were placed onto their tables, the students scrambled to crack it. The discussions amongst the team members started slow but soon picked up pace. After a startlingly early submission - which surprised the organisers - more submissions followed before the event finally came to a close.

- Surekha Gr 10

## Wear or Tear (Grades 9-12)



Photo credit - Abishek , Gr 11

In this lively and artistic event, duos from 12 schools excitedly took on the task of transforming a plain white T-shirt into a well-designed and striking piece in an hour's time. The topic provided was "modern take on tradition", which gave ample room for the contestants to express themselves with ease. Using a variety of materials and accessories such as paint, beads, dyed cloth, stickers, feathers, etc., the teams worked diligently to create visually stunning final products. After much deliberation, **1st place** was awarded to **Harshini and Aashika** (grade 9) of **GTA Vidhya Mandir** and the **runners up** were **Sasha** (grade 11) and **Sejall** (grade 12) of **Akshar Arbol International School**.

- Kavya Gr 12

## Media Moghuls

Media Moghuls is an event known for its enlightening and innovative ideas. Mr. Aravind. R of Fantain and Ms. Akila. V joined us as judges of this year's event. As the student volunteer was giving an introductory speech, everyone were thrilled with the program and the topics given to them. A myriad of items were announced - teleportation headphones, portal gun, telepathic locks, cloning device, and a few more!

A student from GTAVM has said "We felt that the event was fun. We enjoyed participating, but the time given to us wasn't proper. We weren't timed correctly. Yet, we had fun and it was an enriching experience. Thank you, APL."

**First Place** went to **GTAVM** and the **runners up** were **PSBB**. It was a hard decision for the judges as all the contests were spectacular.

- Haemil, Gr 11



Photo credit - Khusal Gr 12

## Rhythmic Moves (Western)

Various schools around Chennai - such as Lalaji Omega, Sri Sankara Global, Lord's International, Sacred Heart and Ramaniyam Sankara - participated in the Synergy event "Rhythmic Moves". Some displayed great style and intensity while others depicted graceful techniques and finesse.

While the judges were deciding the winning teams, who were having a very tough time indeed, a team from APL Global performed a little dance piece featuring K-pop. This filler was mind-blowing as they incorporated both complexity and cuteness to put up a superb event.

**Sacred Heart** bagged the first place and **Lord's International** came in second. To sum up the entire event - it ended with a bang, the crowd going wild!

- Hannah Gr 11



Photo credit - Aditya, Khusal  
Gr 11 & 12

## Through the Lens

Grades 9 to 12

Photography was one of the first events to take place on day one of Synergy. Students from nine schools participated nervously checking their cameras in pairs. Participants had 2 hours to snap away and capture based on the term "**Serendipity**". Serendipity is defined as an aptitude for making a desirable discovery by accident. Participants were initially confused on what to do, but once they got their flow, all that could be heard were clicks from every corner of the campus. *"More than skill, I think you got to search for the topic. It was very interesting and fun!"* said a participant from Primrose School.

The judges for this event were Thyagu Sir, an art faculty at APL and our MD, Gita Jagannathan ma'am. They truly had a tough time judging the best picture amongst the many vibrant photographs that were there. At the end, the **winners** of this event turned out to be **Vaels International** and **runner up** was **Sunshine Senior Secondary School**.

- Amirta, Gr 10



Photo Credit - Aditya & Sachin, Gr 11

## Adaptune

The event kicked off at 12:30 pm. The room was filled with excited chatter as the rules were read. All the performances captivated the audience, and rocked the APL auditorium. **Vaibhav** from **GTAVM** won **first place** and **Nudhara** from **Vaels International School** bagged **second place**, thanks to their highly compelling performances. Their performances had transitions that were well executed and they were able to adapt to all the different tunes that were thrown at them.

- Srihari Ravi Gr 11



Photo credit - Khusal, Gr 12

## Comic On

Before the event had even started, the participants were already in their seats eagerly - but patiently - waiting. The judges, Ms. Asha & Mr. Anjan, creatively chose the topic "**time**". Mr. Anjan is a well-known name who had two of his animated features up for Oscar nominations. According to Ms. Asha, art and painting are essential aspects of her existence.

There were many intriguing designs put on paper. They were humorous but also well-written. The winner of the event was **C. Karthika** of **GTA**. *"Your designs were beautiful, your piece touched the topic and it was well presented,"* one of the judges commented. *"It was nerve-wrecking but also an absolutely amazing experience,"* said the winner of Comic on. The **runner up** was from **Sunshine Senior Secondary School**.

- Slaghyashree, Gr 10



Photo credit - Rahul, Gr 12



## T-Shirt Designing



Photo credit - Khusal, Gr 12

Students of grades six to eight were expected to decorate the plain white tee shirt provided using the materials they had on hand, a time limit of one hour, and only the limits of their imagination. Judging the event was Ms. Asha, a teacher mentor and resource person at API Global School, as well as Ms. Vaidekhi, an art faculty at APL, who have experience in the arts and painting.

An hour later, the room smelt of paint and markers, the white t – shirts were covered in emblems, symbols, and brimming bright colours.

After much consideration, the judges chose **Kara Bhatia** of **GTA Vidya Mandir** to be the **winner** and **Khalid Ehsan** of **Al Fajr International** the **runner up**.

- Aarthi, Gr 10

## Quiz Up Finals (6-8)



Photo credit - Khusal, Gr 12

During this event, teams of two compete to demonstrate knowledge on a variety of subjects. The schools who took part included Primrose, Sacred Hearts, Al Qamar Academy and PSBB millennium. Which team comes out top was decided by totalling the points awarded in each round including Sports, History and Math. After vigorous rounds of quizzing,

**Al Qamar Academy** had gathered the most points with a whopping total of 60.

- Preston Gr 11



Photo credit - Sachin & Abhishek , Gr 11

## Futsal

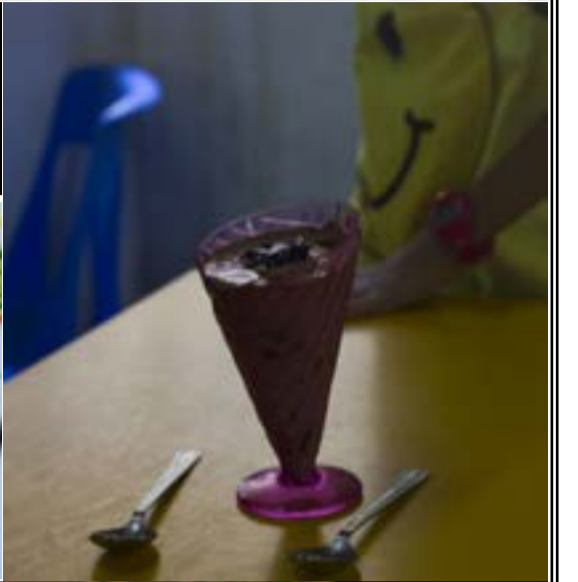
During this event 11 teams competed to win a knockout based tournament. Futsal is like football but on a much smaller scale, a 5 vs 5.

At the semi-final stage the teams really needed to pick up their pace as there is no third place match. The teams that made it to the finals in this tiring tournament are **Omega international** and **PSBB millennium**.

Anirudh of Akshar Arbor said "*The players were equally skilled and the school did a great job at managing the tournament*"

PSBB millennium and Omega international battle it out in the finals of APL's Synergy Futsal tournament. After a really close first half PSBB millennium produced a one goal advantage. During the second half PSBB millennium stole the game by scoring two more goals resulting in a three to nil victory.

- Preston Gr 11



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 ● 'It's kind of fun ●  
 ● to do the ●  
 ● impossible.' ●  
 ● - Walt Disney ●  
 ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●





## Poster It

The competition started out with posters being handed out and rules being read. The room was filled with subtle excitement once the students heard the topic "Technology taking over our lives". The judges were introduced - Sandhya Ma'am and Vaidekhi Ma'am - and they explained the criteria of the competition: uniqueness of their ideas, and their presentation. Different ideas were expressed as posters were filled with tiny cartoon gadgets and small paragraphs stating their perspectives. The interest that the contestants exhibited was notable. The winners of "Poster It" were **Anish R.** from **RMT International** in **1st place** and **2nd place** went to **Asmi Khopkar** from **Sunshine School**.

-Trisha Gr 10

Photo credit - Abhishek, Gr 11

## Corporate Tycoon

11 contestants from Grades 9-12 were demanded to speculate and respond like CEOs from major establishments such as Times Now and DC Comics.

"You can make assumptions on future actions... don't let facts restrict your line of thinking," declared Mr. Vijay Rangaraju, the Vice President of Human Resources in Intellect Design Area Ltd, who, along with Mrs. Akila Venkataram, were the judges of this challenging event.

The young, inexperienced "CEOs" handled the questions posed by fellow CEOs quite professionally, backing their understanding with quotes from their own rivals and through their accurate conclusions. Two participants proved to be exceptional. They were **Rohan** from **GT Vidhya Mandir**, our **winner**, and **Kunal** from **Vaels International School**, the **runner up**.

-Sneha B Gr 11



Photo credit - Aditya, Gr 11

"I really liked it!" - Sacred Heart

"We're definitely coming back, it was pretty good." - PSBB

"The acoustics were awesome and the students must have had great organisational skills to pull this together." - Akshara Global

"The food is really tasty and the decorations are very colourful." - Sunshine

This was really good, one of the best culturals we've been to. The volunteers are jovial and nice, the hospitality is great." - Primrose

## Sound Bytes

## Cut N' Paste



With the snip of scissors, the crinkle of newspapers, and the smell of glue permeating the air, the contestants of grades 6-8 competed for the prize of the best Cut N' Paste collage. Judging the event was Ms. Sandhya, a former APL teacher, and Ms. Krishnapriya, a practicing visual artist. The contestants were given an hour to complete their collage with the materials they had. The **winner** was **Sunshine Senior Secondary School**, and the **runner up** was **Sacred Heart**.

- Aarthi Gr 10

Photo credit - Abishek , Gr 11

## Channel Surfing

The event kicked off at three o'clock and the contestants kept the audience roaring with laughter as they performed their hilarious acts. The judges, Ms. Chandrika Iyer and Ms. Sukanya, had a tough time selecting the winners with such amazing performances but singled out **GT Aloha** as the **winners** (thanks to their great stage presence). **Akshar Arbol International School** was the **runner-up**.

- Manasa Rao, Gr 10



Photo credit - Khusal Gr 12

## Designer Hands (9-12)

The smell of henna filled the air as the students opened up their stations. Students were provided mehendi cones and scissors which heightened the excitement to a whole new level. The judges: Deepa ma'am and Thryambakama'am, started to announce the rules. The 12 schools that came for this event were given an hour to demonstrate their creativity. The **winners** for this event were **Sacred Heart** and the **runners up** were **Al Qamar Academy**

- Amirtha Gr 10



Photo credit - Rahul, Gr 12

## Food House

Let's talk about food, namely our Foodhouse. Some might think that a sandwich is simply two pieces of bread with filling slapped on – and it was – but, let me tell you, that the slapped-on filling was absolutely incredible. Oh, and the pancakes! The pancakes. They were “pan”tastic (pun intended). And then the nachos. The Nacho came in two options – dip, or no dip. Without dip, he was simply corn chips. But, cue the arrival of Salsa herself, and you have the perfect marriage! When another great invention of APL gastronomy – the Tang - was coupled with the renowned Iced Tea, inevitably quite a lot of hearts were broken (in the good way, we promise). Speaking of such APL culinary skills, the brownies sold like hot cakes -maybe because they were cakes?! This brings us to the other hot stuff such as the cookies, corn, cutlets, frankies, and pasta- a culinary treat indeed. On a more serious note, the Foodhouse is a pride for APL Synergy. Constantly ready to serve any and all customers, Foodhouse provided an opportunity for volunteers and participants alike to bond and share Synergy stories over their food.

-Saleema, Cynthia Gr 11 & Gr 12, respectively



## Quiz Up Finals (9-12)

After surviving the brutal prelims, 8 participants divided in teams of 2, awaited the quiz finals with anticipation and curiosity. A great sum of giggles was shared amongst rivals highlighting the idea of healthy competition. The quiz comprised of a variety of topics ranging from Literature to the Simpsons to World War 1. The competition ended in 20 minutes despite originally being an hour long due to the flexible intellect of the participants. The victors of this quick battle were students from **Primrose (Winner)** and **PSBB (Runner-Up)**.

-Sneha B Gr 11



Photo Credit- Khusal, Gr 12



Photo credit - Abhishek Gr 11

## Eco Chef (9-12)

The smell of delicious food wafted through the room as the participants started preparing their delicacies. The schools participating were MCTM, Al Qamar Academy, Lalaji Memorial, Yagappa School, GT Aloha Vidhyamandhir, The Lords International, Sacred Heart and Sunshine Senior Secondary. The judges, after much difficulty, chose two contestants whose food was extremely enjoyable as the winners. **Unnamalai P.** from **Yagappa won first place** with her excellent sprout salad, flavoured buttermilk, tender coconut delight, dry fruit mix and, finally, her chocolate balls. **Akshal P.** from **Sacred Heart** was **runner-up** with her yummy coconut payasam, dry fruit honey dew, garden salad and fruit kebab. Overall, all the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves whilst preparing their yummy dishes.

-Manasa Gr 10

## Rangoli (6-8)

The students at the Rangoli event were clearly consumed with enthusiasm. Their hands and fingers were working at rapid speed. Discussion filled the air and their inquisitive minds flourished with excitement.

The Rangoli event drew in a lot of audience. The judges were concerned as to whether the topic threw off the students or not. Themes were to make "colours come alive" and to ensure "utilization of colours and space". In the end, the **winner** was from **Ramaniyam Shankara** and the **runner-up** from **Sunshine Senior secondary school**.

-Surekha Gr10



Photo credit - Sachin, Gr 10

## Smart Photography



Photo credit - Sachin, Gr 11

The judges for this competition were Mr Satish and Mr Thayagarajan who have great experience in the field of photography. The topic for this competition was '*minimalism*' which is an art form using minimalistic elements such as colour, shapes or texture to tell a story. The participants were judged on the style, the technique, the sharpness and the simplicity. The **winner** of this competition was **Kustav Mehta** of **Omega International School** and the **runner up** was **Chricilla. S** from **Vael's International School**.

-Kiran Gr 10

## Nightingales (3-5)

The crowd cheered loudly as participants from different schools mesmerised the audience with their amazing voices. Contestants performed in various styles and languages such as Hindi, English, Tamil - even Israeli!

The judges, Mr. Tarun Andrew Philip and our very own Christelda ma'am, enjoyed the performances and declared **Kavya** from **Akshaya Global** as the **runner-up** for her wonderful Do Re Mi in English and Japanese and **Nandhitha** from **PSBB** as the **winner** for her melodic Carnatic performance.

-Mansa Gr 10



Photo credit - Abishek Gr 11



Photo credit - Khusal, Gr 12

## Shuffle & Solve (6-8)

Colourful cubes were brought out as participants prepared to solve the Rubik's cube as fast as they could. The contestants had 15 seconds to study their cube without changing anything. After this, the cube was placed under a cover. A bell was rung to start the competition, followed by the sound of shuffling as participants concentrated on finishing their cube. The winners progressed to the second round, where they had to solve two cubes. **First place went to Shreyans Gupta from Vaels International while second place went to Shaahid Shabu Khan from Al-Fajr International.**

-Trissha Gr 10

## Shuffle & Solve (9-12)

Shuffles and clicks amongst the silent room was all that could be heard as you entered the room where Shuffle and Solve was happening. 13 individuals from various schools sat completely immersed with their cubes. There was no judge for this event or more accurately, the timer was the judge. Participants were given 15 seconds to view their shuffled cube and then they had to solve. The winners for this event were **Jeevithesh** of **Vaels International School** with a time of 49.46 seconds who bagged **1st place** and **Rohan Rajkumar** of **Sri Shankara Vidyashram** with a time of 57.50 seconds who won **second place**.

-Amirtha Gr 10



Photo Credit- Aditya, Gr 11

## Elocution- Hindi (3-5)

Confidence, clarity and content are the qualities needed for a good speech. Judges Mrs. Jamuna Murthy and Mrs. Aruna Chandrasekhar broke their heads trying to decide whom to award the first place. They were quite well-read and very encouraging. In the end, **Nikita Munda** from **GT Aloha** snagged **first place**, and **Krishna Atul** from **PSBB** most definitely deserved her position of **runner up**.

-Slaghyashree Gr 10



Photo credit - Aditya, Gr 11

## Terra Art

Grades 3-5 participated in the 'Terra Art' pot painting event. The kids used many innovative techniques and the once-plain pots were covered in vibrant colours and designs. The room was silent as all of them seemed to be engrossed in a world of their own. We were mesmerised by their passion and dedication. Their choices in colour combination were very clever. The judges had a tough time concluding a winner and finally announced the winners. **Sishya OMR school** came **first** with **PSBB** as the **runner up**.

-Hannah, Gr 11



Photo credit - Sandhya Gr 11

## Quiz Up (3-5)



In the beginning, some of the students seemed a bit nervous but the room still shook with excitement. The questions covered a range of topics, including everything from Geography to Tamil cinema. There were a few challenging questions that the contestants struggled to answer, but they relentlessly tried to figure them out. When the quiz ended, the participants exclaimed about how fun and interesting the event was. After a few gawky dance moves from the volunteers, the results were announced. The **runners-up** went to **Team 3** from **GTAVM** and the **first place** went to **Team 2** from **CPS**.

- Haemil Kim Gr 11

Photo credit - Arfa, Gr 10

## Nightingales (6-12)

The audience were yet again very well entertained by the wonderful performances that the singers put up. The judges, Ms. Chaithanya and Ms. Christelda, thoroughly enjoyed all the fantastic singing. **Sahana Yusuf** from **Vaels International** picked up the **runner-up** trophy with a wide smile on her face and **Rakthaksh Apex** from **Pon Vidhyashram** collected the winner's trophy with his head held high. The audience were most satisfied and the cheers did not die down for quite a while.

-Manasa Gr 10



Photo credit - Abishek Gr 11



## Nothing Shady

This humorously named event is about designing sunglasses. The topic for this event was 'urban'. The judges for this event were Mr. Thayagaraja and Mrs. Anitha. The participants added a personal touch to their sunglasses and made them look as attractive as possible. The **first place** went to **Darshini** from **Sacred Heart** and the second place went to **Vishnupriya Pathi** from **PSBB Millennium School**.

- Kiran Gr 10

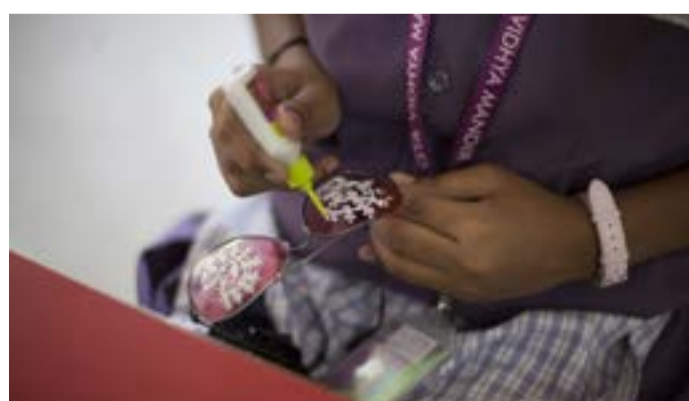


Photo credit - Sandhya Gr 11

## Creative Canvas

Grades 3 through 5 participated in the creative canvas event. The students were very interested in the event and though they appeared nervous at first, they quickly got over it once their artistic skills took over. The children were brilliant in their choice of design and technique.

Their creativity was spectacular as they captured the essence of beauty in their art.

The class was in pin drop silence as the participants were immersed in their work.

The judges finally announced the winners to be **Lord's International** bagging the **first place** and **RMT International** as **runner-up**.

-Hannah Gr 11



Photo Credit- Aditya, Gr 11

## Elocution- Hindi (6-8)

An aura of intelligence surrounded the 6 participants from Grades 6-8 as they presented their speeches with clasped hands and convincing facts. Most contestants favoured the topic "Duniya aaj ek vaishvik gaun hai" (The world is a global village today) over "Kya Matdaan Ki Aayu 15 honi chahiye?" (Should the voting age be reduced to 15 years?). The judges, Deepa S Naryanan and Chandrika Iyer, were impressed by their range of perspectives and applauded the level of awareness each contestant possessed. The **first place** was declared a **tie between Ishita (Sunshine International School) and Preethi (Yagappa School)** and the **runner-up was Adithi (Sacred Heart)**.

- Sneha B Gr 11



Photo credit - Arfa Gr 10



## Band Wars

The bands contesting in this event were from PSBB, GTA, Omega, Apex Pon Vidhyashram, Sacred Heart and Primrose. The atmosphere of the auditorium was no where like that of a school but one of a concert, where both the audience and the bands were equally engaged, encouraging the other bands and demanding encores.

The audience were in a trance as the entertaining music and electrifying voices of the bands took the event to a whole new level. All the performances could only be described as one thing—awesome sauce!

The results were announced with **Sacred Heart** securing the **first place** and **PSBB Millennium** coming in **second place**.

-Hannah Gr 11



Photo credit - Rahul Gr 12



Photo credit - Khusal, Gr 11

## BEHIND THE SCENES

*As the Editorial team saw the finished magazine, we all let out a massive – and, probably, a slightly overdramatic -sigh of relief. All so busy, we never had a breather. But, along with this tire came tremendous satisfaction and elation, for we truly enjoyed every moment of Synergy – and we hope you have too. Thank you to the photographers and editors (Saleema, Shwetha and Sanjuktha), for they were few in number, yet they all worked so hard and finished exactly on time. Thank you to our one designer - Harish - who slaved away at the computer diligently for two whole days. Thank you to our amazing reporters, covering the events to their utmost best. Shout out to Shirley ma'am, Amita ma'am, Aruna ma'am, and Fiza ma'am, for being so supportive. And, last but definitely not in the least, here's a thank you to our coordinator, Cynthia. You da best.*

