FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR LEARNING, NORTH AN OVERVIEW OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24

Dear Parents,

We would like to extend warm greetings to all members of the NAFL North family. As we move towards the end of another busy, fulfilling and productive academic year at NAFL-North, we take this opportunity to communicate with you the journey of the year 2023-24, at school.

Our students and teachers put in dedicated team-effort in all endeavours - academic and co-scholastic - to keep the NAFL-North flag flying high! The curriculum is carefully designed to foster intellectual curiosity, creativity, and critical-thinking skills among the students. We feel proud to inform you that Design Thinking, Artificial Intelligence and Robotics are also being initiated into our curriculum through various STEM classes.

We strongly believe, that to make education a nurturing and wholesome experience for the child, parent participation is a vital aspect. It ensures an empathetic and collaborative environment, conducive to better learning. We thank all the parents for their active involvement and encouraging support for all the initiatives undertaken by the school during this academic year.

NPS/NAFL has its in-house Teacher Training Academy (TTA), which works towards professional development of all our Principals, Middle Leaders and teachers. This is an initiative of our Vice Chairperson, Dr Bindu Hari, to keep the staff suitably motivated. Workshops and activities conducted by TTA, enhance and upskill the knowledge, skills and expertise in teaching practices, among all the staff of NPS/ NAFL, continuously and consistently.

Dr Bindu Hari has introduced yet another event, to encourage sports among students and faculty members! Esprit De Corps – has been initiated to bring together the spirit of competition, sportsmanship, and camaraderie. The participation of the eight enthusiastic NPS/NAFL branches helps in fostering an atmosphere of unity and teamwork.

It is a testament to sportsmanship, the collective spirit that binds students and schools together.

We stand by the NPS motto to 'Reach Out, Reach High and Reach Beyond' and inspire our students to maximize their academic, creative, social and emotional skills. It gives me great pleasure, to bring to you this year's most noteworthy accomplishments of NAFL-North, and of our students.

1.Batch of 2022-23 placements in prestigious universities

Most of our students of the batch of 2022-23, have been placed in excellent courses in prominent universities and colleges in India such as Manipal University, Jindal School of Law, Christ University, St. Joseph's College, P.E.S College of Engineering, Bangalore School of Design, Symbiosis Institute of Technology- Pune and R V College of Architecture.

2. School Events 2023-24

A detailed list of events conducted through the year is shared through the school newsletter. The last edition of the newsletter for this academic year will be shared shortly.

https://naflnorth.com/pdf/2023-2024/newsletter/Buzz-Vol-3-Issue-1.pdf

3. Faculty Professional Development

Capacity Building Programme on Art Integration:

An Art Integration workshop was organized by the CBSE Centre of Excellence, Bengaluru, with skilled resource persons. Teachers handling all subjects attended the interactive session that had hands-on DIY activities. The workshop helped enhance the teachers' methodologies in pedagogy.

Understanding Learning difficulties in Children:

The Madras Dyslexia Association conducted a workshop for early years' teachers on identifying learning disabilities in young children with emphasis on Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and hyperactivity. The workshop also focussed on inclusion strategies.

Day out with Dr. Bindu Hari:

On a sunlit Saturday morning, teachers were treated to a day of enrichment, relaxation and camaraderie as they embarked on a rejuvenating training excursion in the serene ambience of Eagleton Golf Resort. The Vice Chairperson of the NPS/ NAFL group of schools took the stage to delve into the essence of school culture. Through case studies and hands-on activities, she illustrated how every moment of student-teacher interaction is an opportunity for a teachable moment. The learning continued with an address by the Dean, Dr. Mrs. Santhamma Gopalkrishna, centering on the power of words, emphasizing their influence on mindset and behaviour.

Faculty Fitness:

The importance of fit teachers can never be emphasized enough, as a fit body is required to maintain a high level of mental health. A fitness test was administered, and our PE teachers were individually evaluated on different tasks that tested their agility, resilience, and stamina.

4. Summer Vacations and Date of reopening

The school will close for the summer vacation, following the dates given below:

Grade	Last Working Day
Grades 1 to 8	Thursday, 28 th March 2024
New Grade 10	Thursday, 11 th April 2024
New Grade 12	Thursday, 11 th April 2024
KG 1 and KG 2	Thursday, 28 th March 2024
Montessori	Thursday, 28 th March 2024

Following is the detailed schedule of re-opening of school, after the summer vacation:

Grade	Re-opening Date
Grades 1 to 8	Wednesday, 5 th June2024
Grades 9 to 12	Friday, 24 th May 2024
KG 1	Thursday, 6 th June 2024
KG 2	Thursday, 13 th June 2024
Montessori (Freshers)	Thursday, 6 th June 2024
Montessori (Juniors and Seniors)	Thursday, 13 th June 2024

(These dates are subject to change based on the Government notification at that time.)

5. Books

On the request of the parents, school has made arrangement for availability of books and materials from different agencies at school. These will be distributed to the students, in order to avoid any academic hitch or delay. The prescribed cost and schedule of issue of books will be notified to the students separately.

<u>6. Application for Transfer Certificate</u>

In order to help us plan, it would be appreciated if parents who are planning to withdraw their wards from the school for the next academic year could inform us of the same, latest by **Monday**, **18th March 2024**. From the school website, you can obtain the "Annexure F" application form under the "Resources" section and submit it to the school bursary.

http://www.naflnorth.com/pdf/2023-2024/Annexure-F.pdf

<u>7. Fees</u>

Annual fees for the academic year 2024-25 may please be remitted from 20th March 2024 to 5th April 2024, in the Acadamis parent-portal. We presume that the students who do not remit the fees by the due date will not be continuing in the school for the next academic year.

We are sure that all the parents are aware that an escalation in the fee is due to various components like staffsalary; government increase in property taxes - four times; increased water and electricity charges; infrastructure maintenance and material expenditure; laboratory, computers and AMCs upkeep etc. An annual fee-increase of 7.5% to 10% is effective to offset the increasing expenditure, as NAFL-North is a private selffinancing institution. As a school policy, we do not collect any donations or capitation fee.

We are eagerly awaiting to walk into the next academic year and experience everything it has to offer. Wishing you and your wards a great summer vacation!

Warm Regards DR K P GOPALKRISHNA Chairman, NPS Group of Institutions, NAFL and TISB