



THE BULLETIN

2024



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Teachers' Day Celebration

On September 5th, 2024, students celebrated Teachers' Day to show their love, respect, and gratitude. They requested teachers to dress in attire representing "the times of change from the 90s to today." Two second-year PU students had the opportunity to be "Teacher for a Day" for the first-year PU students, showcasing their passion for teaching.



Parent-Teacher Interaction

This month also included the Parent-Teacher Interactions. Teachers and parents discussed students' performance and how support classes can help improve their grades. These in-person meetings with the parent community are crucial for fostering healthy and strong relationships. Such collaboration between teachers and parents significantly enhances student success, as we work together towards the common goal of student development.





Field Trip to MEG Centre

On September 11th, the students visited the MEG Centre to learn about the journey of becoming army personnel. They witnessed the evolution of uniforms over the decades, the pride, the parade, and the rigorous exercise regime. The museum at the Centre displayed battlefield weapons and gallantry awards.





LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Leadership Bootcamp Cohort 2024

This month, our student council members traded their usual classrooms for an epic Student Leadership Bootcamp at Ekya Nava on the 13th of September. From creating vision and mission statements for their campuses to brainstorming catchy jingles that capture the campus spirit, our future leaders did it all! It wasn't just about sitting through lectures – oh no! They were in for an action-packed experience filled with group challenges, real-life leadership tips, and a whole lot of team bonding. One of the coolest parts? The alumni panel, where past students shared their inspiring leadership journeys. Plus, the keynote speaker brought a mix of serious wisdom and fun insights on ethical leadership. We also had one speaker even sharing stories from her time in the army! By the end of the bootcamp, these students were more than ready to take charge, armed with new ideas, leadership skills, and a whole lot of confidence. We can't wait to see what they accomplish next!



Field Trips

Our CMR NPU students recently embarked on a whirlwind of exciting and educational field trips, making real-world connections with everything they've been learning in class. Our students from PU BTM embarked on a fascinating journey into history at the Rezwan Razack Museum, where they discovered the rich heritage of currency. From rare and ancient notes to more modern ones, they learned how money tells the story of a nation's evolution. Who knew paper could hold so much history? Curiosity ruled the day as our students from CMR NPU HRBR explored cutting-edge exhibitions that combined science, art, and technology. From interactive installations to mind-blowing scientific concepts, they got a fresh perspective on how science shapes the world around us. It wasn't just about seeing cool stuff; it was about thinking deeply and asking the big "what if" questions. Stepping into the shoes of soldiers, our students from CMR PU HRBR & PU Byrathi got a behind-the-scenes look at military life. From learning about the latest in defense technology to getting a glimpse of the rigorous training process, it was an experience filled with pride, respect, and a lot of excitement. The students even had the chance to try out some army drills – and let's just say, salutes have never looked sharper!



Wellbeing Initiatives

As PU students prepare for exams following the Dussehra break, our wellbeing department is committed to providing essential support. We recently held wellbeing sessions focused on practical exam tips and strategies for managing exam stress. These sessions offered students valuable advice on how to effectively prepare for their upcoming exams. We covered topics such as time management, effective study techniques, and maintaining a positive mindset. By equipping students with these tools, we aim to help them approach their exams with confidence.

In addition to the wellbeing sessions, the general check-ins continued, with a particular focus on gauging how students were feeling about their exams. These conversations provided a safe space for students to express their concerns and emotions, helping us better understand their individual needs during this critical time.

To further support our students, an awareness session, led by the Assistant Commissioner of Police, on crucial topics relevant to students like underage vehicle use, bullying, eve teasing, smoking, and substance abuse was conducted on our campuses. By raising awareness around these issues, we hope to foster a safer and more supportive campus environment.

Recognizing that teachers play a vital role in student wellbeing, we also conducted awareness sessions on stress management for educators, along with information on the POCSO Act. These sessions aimed to equip teachers with the knowledge and skills needed to support not only their students but also themselves effectively.

As we approach the exam period, our commitment to supporting both students and teachers remains strong. By providing practical tips, fostering open communication, and raising awareness on critical issues, we strive to create a supportive environment for everyone.

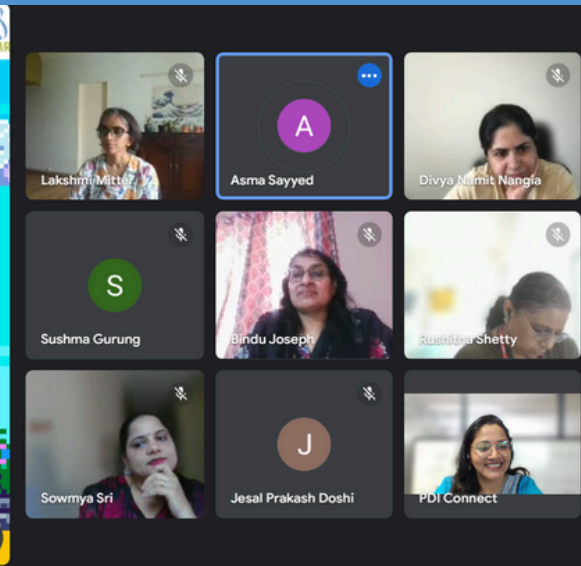


College and Career Guidance Initiatives

Job Shadowing: Students were excited about the job shadowing experience. They found the hands-on experience of understanding organizational work culture fruitful. They gained insight on the importance of networking and communication. The host professionals greatly appreciated the enthusiasm and eagerness demonstrated by the young learners.

Webinars: The webinars on “**Think outside the box: Unleash your potential in the design industry**” and “**Mind matters: Understand the fascinating world of psychology and its career paths**” were a resounding success. Held on September 28th for parents and students across all campuses, these informative sessions provided valuable insights into the exciting fields of design and psychology. Attendees were captivated by the engaging presentations and the opportunities to explore potential career paths in these dynamic industries.

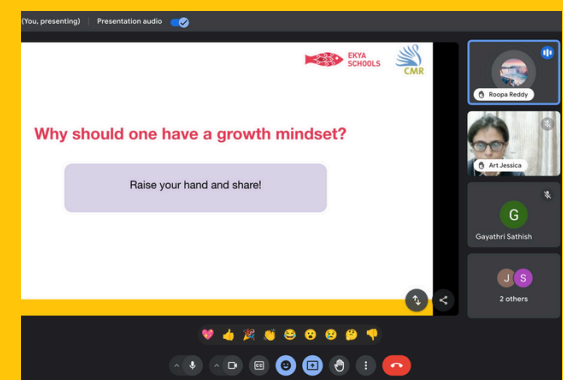
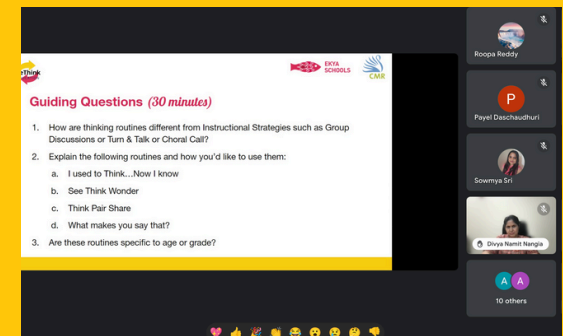
These initiatives are part of our ongoing commitment to providing comprehensive support and guidance to our students, helping them navigate their academic journeys and prepare for successful careers. The CCG department will continue to offer a range of activities and resources to ensure our students are well-equipped to achieve their aspirations.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We began September with a training session for our coordinators on Stakeholder and Parent Engagement, followed by a Design Thinking workshop for central team members. Our Head of Schools also gathered to discuss strategies for working with multiple stakeholders. As part of our ongoing commitment to providing learning opportunities for educators, school leaders, and systems, the [Ekya Professional Development Institute](#) continues to run workshops and certification programs tailored to the needs of both aspiring and in-service educators.

This month, we successfully wrapped up the fourth cohort of our three-month ReThink Educator Certification Program and conducted various online workshops, including sessions on AI for Teaching, Game-based Learning, and Cultivating a Growth Mindset in the Classroom.



STUDENT EDGE

Your Step-by-Step Guide to Choosing the Perfect College

Picking the right college is a huge decision, but it doesn't have to be overwhelming. Here's a simplified guide to help you find the perfect fit:

1. Define Your Dream College Before you start researching, think about what you want. Do you prefer a big city or small town? Is academics more important than campus life? Write down what matters most to you—location, campus vibe, class size, extracurriculars, sports, etc. This list will guide your search.

2. Prioritize What's Most Important Not every college will check every box. Identify your non-negotiables (e.g., strong academics, financial aid) and rank your preferences. This way, you'll know where you can compromise and what's essential.

3. Create a Rough List of Colleges Now, research colleges that meet at least 60% of your top needs. Focus on schools that align with your priorities, like academic strength, location, and campus life. Don't worry about making this list perfect—it's just a starting point.

4. Do Your Homework Dive deeper into your options. Key factors to research include:

- **Academics:** Does the school offer your major? Are there interesting electives or special programs?
- **Campus Life:** What's the vibe? Are there clubs, sports, and activities you'd enjoy?
- **Internships & Jobs:** What are the job placement rates? Do they offer strong internship connections, especially abroad?
- **Cost & Financial Aid:** Can you afford it? Look into scholarships and financial aid options.
- **Location & Distance:** How far from home do you want to be?

5. Narrow Down to the Best Fit Once you've researched, focus on colleges that meet most of your top criteria. Don't stress about finding the "perfect" school—look for ones that align well with your priorities.

6. Visit Campuses (If Possible) If you can, visit the campuses you're considering.

Walking around, meeting students, and seeing the facilities will give you a better sense of whether you'd be happy there.

7. Check Entrance Exam Requirements Make sure you know the required tests (e.g., SAT, ACT, NEET, KCET) for the colleges you're interested in and prepare accordingly.

8. Compare Your Stats to Admission Requirements Finally, compare your academic scores to the college's requirements. Apply to a mix of safety schools (where you're likely to get in), target schools (where you have a good chance), and a few reach schools.

Final Thoughts Choosing a college doesn't have to be stressful. Follow these steps, trust yourself, and focus on finding the best fit where you'll thrive academically and personally!



Arav A Raghoji
II PUC Commerce stream

TEACHER BLOG

From Idea to Reality: Tackling Startup Struggles

Starting a startup is exciting but full of challenges. Whether you're new to entrepreneurship or have experience, understanding these obstacles is key to turning your idea into reality.

1. Market Demand:

One of the most critical steps is ensuring there's demand for your product. Many entrepreneurs get caught up in their own enthusiasm, assuming others will share it. Without proper validation, this can lead to wasted time on a product nobody wants. Testing your idea early by asking, "Do people need this, and will they pay for it?" is crucial to avoid failure.

2. Securing Funding:

Finding money to get started is another hurdle. Relying on personal savings or borrowing from friends can work temporarily, but securing external funding is often necessary. However, banks and investors typically want proof of profitability. Without solid financial backing, startups risk running out of money before gaining momentum.

3. Managing Cash Flow:

Even with funding, managing cash flow remains critical. Startups often underestimate expenses and overestimate how quickly they'll generate revenue. Without a solid financial plan, businesses can struggle to cover day-to-day costs, even if they seem to be growing.

4. Building a Team:

A strong team is vital, but limited budgets may force startups to hire less experienced employees or rely on friends. While this can work short term, it can lead to inefficiencies as the company grows. Hiring strategically and offering incentives like equity can attract the right talent without overspending.

5. Product Delays:

Developing a product takes longer than expected. Delays due to technical issues or design revisions can hurt momentum. Launching a minimum viable product (MVP) and refining it based on user feedback can help mitigate these delays.

6. Attracting Customers:

Finding customers is often harder than expected.

Many startups underestimate the cost of customer acquisition. Relying solely on organic growth is slow, so investing in targeted marketing is essential. Startups must ensure that customer acquisition costs don't exceed the revenue they generate.

7. Legal and Regulatory Issues:

Startups face various legal challenges, from intellectual property to tax regulations. Failing to address these early can lead to costly penalties. Investing in legal advice to ensure compliance can save trouble later.

8. Competition:

Competition is inevitable, and established companies can quickly enter your space. Startups must differentiate themselves, build customer loyalty, and act fast to succeed.

9. Time Management:

Founders often wear many hats, leading to overwhelm. Effective time management and delegation are key to avoiding burnout and staying focused on long-term goals.



Ms Shakshi Dewan
Economics lecturer