

VOLUME II | ISSUE 2

The Alumni Central

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR TBS ALUMNI

Thrive Believe Succeed



DEAR ALUMNI

We ended 2024 on a high note, with our Director, Vanita Uppal OBE, being elected to the Round Square Board of Trustees, South Asia and Gulf region—a matter of great pride for us. December was also an action-packed month for the school, as we played host to the FOBISIA Senior Drama Festival—an explosion of creativity, energy and pure theatre magic.

In 2025, we are celebrating 20 years of the IB Diploma Programme at TBS—a significant milestone of academic excellence and student success. We also recently had the honour of welcoming His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Duke of Edinburgh to TBS. As the patron of IAYP (International Award for Young People) India, HRH spent time with our students, learning about their projects and the impact they have made in the community.

Do not forget to buy your tickets for International Day in February and save the date for the TBS Social taking place on 7 March—so much to look forward to!

We are also pleased to introduce the Alumni Class Reps Programme, designed to strengthen alumni connections. The class reps will serve as the point of contact between the school and their old classmates; you can check out our list of current reps in this newsletter. If your graduating class does not have a rep, you can sign up to be one.

In this edition of the alumni newsletter, you will find inspiring stories and updates from both our alumni community and the current student body. You can catch a glimpse of alumni events from the previous semester, read all about the fantastic work done by our alumna Vicky Talwar in the Spotlight interview, and click on the link on the last page to buy TBS merchandise (show off your school spirit!).

To our most recent alumni: we encourage you to share your contact details with us to stay updated with the latest news and events from the school. To our old alumni: thank you for the support we have received from all of you.

Happy reading!

Warm regards
The Alumni Office

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*Come join our
biggest event of the year!*

A stylized illustration featuring a dark blue world map on a light blue background. Numerous translucent, light blue bubbles of various sizes float around the map. In the foreground, two children are shown from the waist up, looking at the map. The child on the left is a boy with spiky brown hair, wearing a blue shirt, holding a magnifying glass. The child on the right is a girl with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing a blue dress, also holding a magnifying glass. They are standing on a white, cloud-like base. The background is a light blue sky with white clouds.

International Day 2025

**BUY YOUR
ENTRY & RAFFLE
TICKETS!**

**Sunday, 16 February 2025
12 noon to 5 pm**

[Purchase your tickets here](#)

ALUMNI EVENING (London)



Our Director, Vanita Uppal OBE, hosted the second edition of our alumni evening in London. The event brought together alumni spanning generations—from seasoned professionals to fresh graduates. It was incredible to see our global TBS family reconnect and celebrate their shared journey.



ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION



Our Annual Alumni Reunion was truly an unforgettable evening! Amidst dinner, basketball matches and school tours, everybody took a trip down memory lane. The event beautifully showcased how strongly the TBS community is tied together.



MILESTONE ALUMNI REUNIONS



CLASS OF 1994

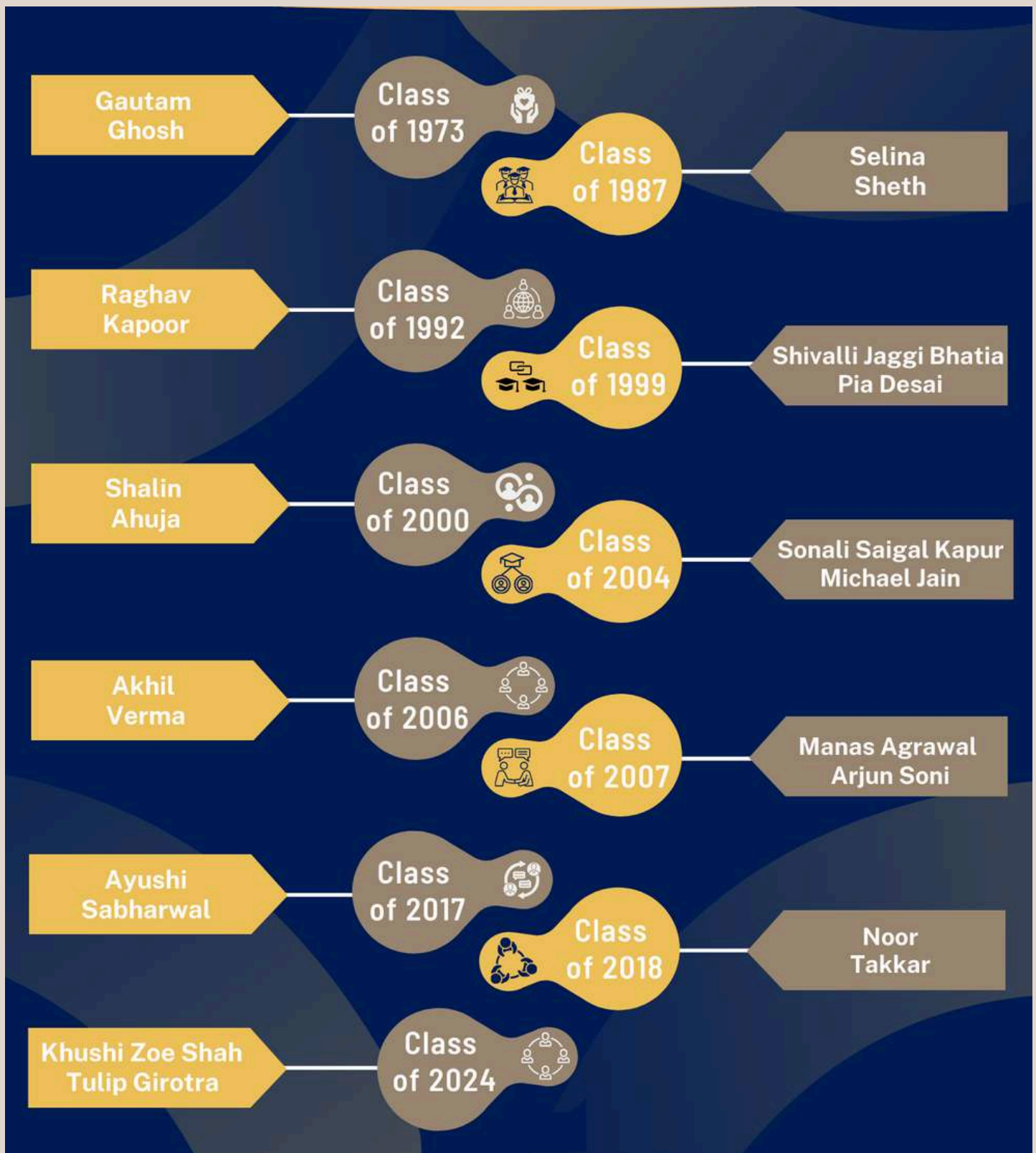
Displaying love for their alma mater, the Class of 1994 returned to TBS for their 30-year milestone reunion. They walked the corridors of the new building, reminiscing about their school days and sharing old stories. A definite highlight of the visit was meeting our Director, Vanita Uppal OBE, who once taught them history!

CLASS OF 1999

The Class of 1999 made their 25-year milestone extra special at this year's Annual Alumni Reunion. In true TBS spirit, they took over a classroom and turned it into a time capsule, reliving their school days through a screening of old photographs. Laughter filled the room as they looked back on the moments that shaped their journey.



ALUMNI CLASS REPRESENTATIVES



If you enjoy coordinating events, building connections, and staying in touch with your old classmates and alma mater, sign up to be a Class Rep! Write to us at alumni@british-school.org to register.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EVENTS



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MIXER

The Alumni Association Mixer brought together alumni for an evening of great company and meaningful connections. With a laidback setting and conversations flowing, graduates from different years exchanged stories, professional insights and fond memories of their time at TBS.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EVENTS



PICKLEBALL PALOOZA

The association's first Pickleball Palooza was an absolute smash! Hosted in the school premises, the tournament was a perfect mix of competitive spirit and good old-fashioned fun. Alumni of all ages showed up—some ready to play, others happy to cheer from the sidelines—but everyone left with great memories.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



VICKY TALWAR

Class of	2000
Education	BFA and MFA in Art, Media & Design Bachelor of Education (B.Ed)
Profession	Interdisciplinary Artist & Teacher

Help us follow the trajectory of your career.

I am an interdisciplinary artist who draws upon my personal experience as a Hindu Canadian to create painting, mixed media, performance and installation artworks. I hold a BFA and MFA in Art, Media and Design from the Ontario College of Art and Design (OCADU), as well as a Bachelor of Education from York University.

Currently, I serve as an educator with the York Region District School Board and have exhibited my work nationally and internationally, including Toronto, Canmore, Los Angeles, New York, and the UK.

You can see my work on my website (vickytalwar.com) and on Instagram (@vickyspaintings).

How did TBS help you in your journey to become an artist?

My journey in Visual Arts, from Year 9 to Year 12 at TBS, was pivotal in shaping me as an artist. These classes provided a foundational understanding of different mediums and techniques. My teachers encouraged me to take risks and experiment with materiality and colour—key elements that continue to influence my work. The thrill of bringing my ideas to life, often through mixed media and unconventional materials, was profoundly enriching.

Additionally, field trips to culturally and spiritually significant sites, such as the Ajanta and Ellora caves, were especially inspirational. Observing the intricate art, vibrant history, and spiritual depth of these places firsthand instilled in me an appreciation for art that is both monumental and deeply rooted in cultural and spiritual meaning.

These experiences fostered a lasting sense of exploration and freedom in my work, encouraging me to delve further into themes of cultural identity, social displacement, and spirituality.

What advice would you give to emerging artists, especially those navigating multiple cultural identities like you.

For emerging artists, especially those navigating multiple cultural identities, my advice is to embrace your unique perspective; your diverse background is a valuable source of inspiration. Use it to inform your art and express your story, as authenticity resonates with

audiences. Don't hesitate to experiment with materials and techniques; exploration often leads to unexpected discoveries. Surrounding yourself with a supportive community of fellow artists helps engage in meaningful conversations. You can cultivate curiosity by exploring different cultures and art forms, which can deepen your understanding of your own identity. It is important to be patient and persistent, as artistic growth takes time, and regularly reflect on your journey and remain open to evolving your style. Ultimately, trust in your voice—your experiences and creativity are invaluable contributions to the art world.



How has your style and approach to art evolved over time?

My style and approach to art have evolved significantly over time, shaped by personal experiences, cultural influences and ongoing experimentation. Initially, my work was more focused on traditional techniques and representations, primarily exploring themes related to identity and personal narrative. However, as I delved deeper into my artistic practice, I began to embrace an interdisciplinary approach.

Living in India profoundly impacted this evolution—my time in the country helped me understand the significance of art as a means of both personal and collective expression, a perspective that continues to shape my artistic journey today. The country's cultural heritage, vibrant colours, intricate textures and rich spiritual traditions inspired me to incorporate elements such as sacred threads and symbolic motifs like mandalas into my work. I also work with flower species reminiscent of those found in the floral garlands traditionally used in Indian rituals. Incorporating natural elements and a variety of flora has been a healing source for me, helping me navigate the cultural disruptions I have experienced throughout my life as both a Hindu and a Canadian.

The connection to spiritual traditions also inspires me to explore themes of energy, purification, and transcendence in my work, utilising materials like salt, threads and mala beads to communicate these ideas. Over time, my artistic process has also become more introspective—I have learnt to view my work as a means of healing and connection, both for myself and for others. The inclusion of sensory elements, such as sound and texture, reflects my journey towards creating immersive experiences that resonate on multiple levels.



Do you have a favourite memory from your time at TBS?

Visual Art classes at TBS hold a special place in my memories. I spent countless hours in the art room, where I could fully immerse myself in the process of creating, exploring new techniques and expressing ideas. It was like a sanctuary where I felt free to experiment with different materials.

My teachers played a vital role in nurturing this journey, fostering an environment that balanced self-expression with thoughtful critique. Learning alongside my peers was equally rewarding; sharing our work and exchanging feedback allowed us to grow together, sparking inspiration and pushing us to refine our artistic voices.



F1 Teams Open-House



Panthers Sports Festival



Back to School Dance



Teacher's Day Celebrations



TBS Got Talent (Music)

TERM IN PICS



Halloween Celebrations



Christmas Celebrations



TBS Got Talent (Art)



Entrepreneurs in Action



FOBISIA Senior Drama Festival

NOTICES



Go TBS!

T-shirts, bottles, tote bags, jackets, badges – so many ways to carry your alma mater with pride! Head to the TBS merch store [online](#) for purchasing.

Please write to us at alumni@british-school.org to update your details in our database.



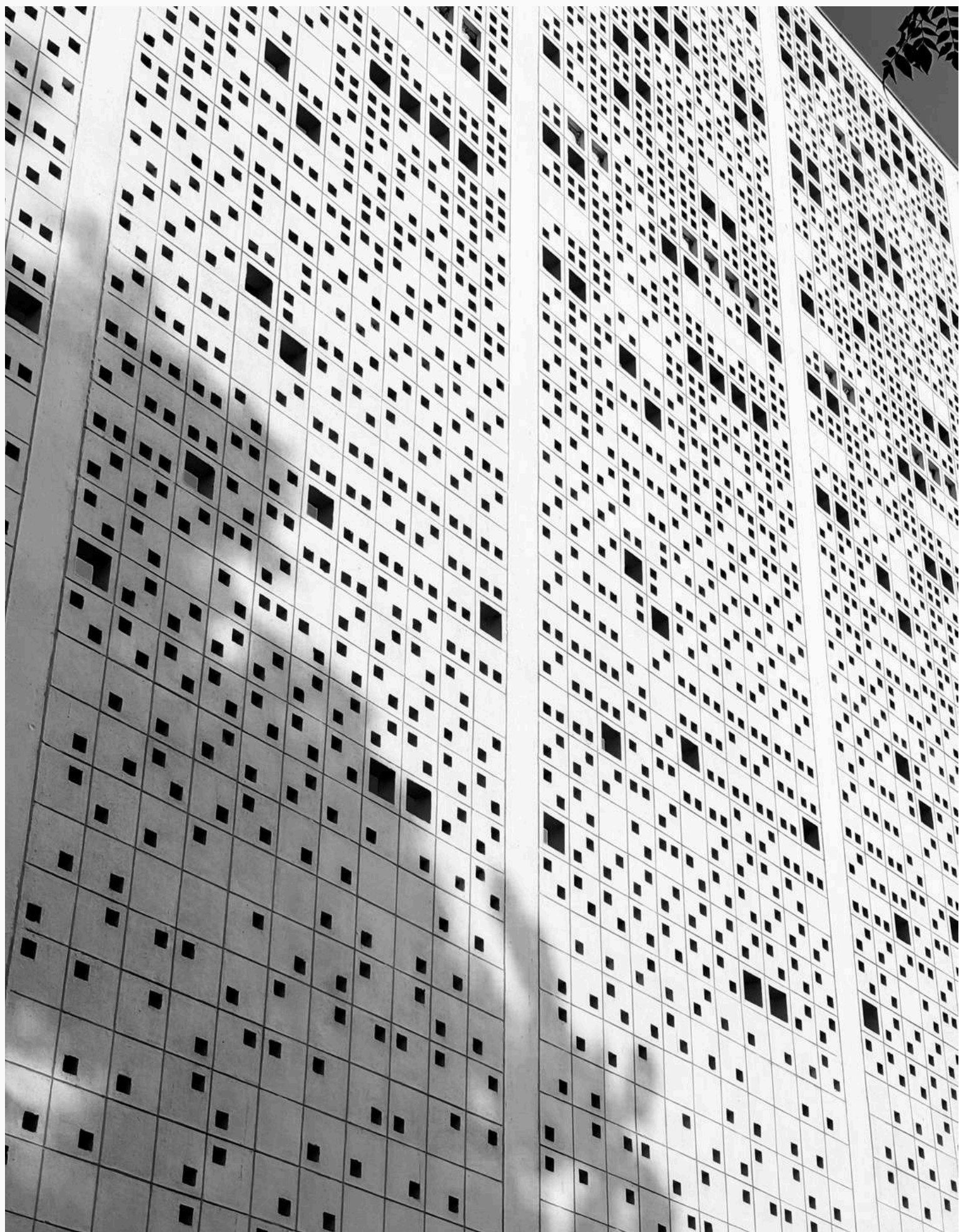
If you are interested in organising an alumni get-together on a personal level (maybe a group of your old classmates wants to get together for a BBQ!), the Alumni Office would be glad to assist you in making the event a success. Please write to us at alumni@british-school.org

If you are receiving this newsletter as a parent of a former student, it could be because we don't have an email address for them. Please share their contact details so that we may write to them directly.



Follow us!





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