

NEWSLETTER



August – December 2025



The August – December 2025 semester at NDIE has been a vibrant season marked by professional synergy, academic rigor, and a deepened sense of community. This edition of our newsletter captures the essence of this journey, from a diverse array of NDIE events to student-led initiatives through our student society events and beyond. Together, these milestones underscore our mission to nurture responsible leaders and innovative educators.

Director's Foreword

Indulge yourself by browsing through the August to December 2025 issue of the Newsletter which highlights various events including the *Teachers' Day* and *Staff Service Awards* ceremonies. A significant milestone in the history of the institute is achieving the 'X' category rating for the 2022-2025 NACTE evaluation cycle, made possible by the dedicated efforts of our Institutional Accreditation committee members led by Gillian Rodrigues, and ably supported by the faculty and staff. This issue also showcases faculty and alumni accomplishments as well as provides glimpses of the academic and co-curricular activities of the ECCE 2025 batch.



Dr. Sherwin Rodrigues

Inside, we explore...

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NDIE EVENTS



Independence Day Celebration

Students held a vibrant Independence Day celebration on August 13th to express their deep patriotism and love for Pakistan. The program commenced formally with a salute and the singing of the national anthem. Following the opening, the event featured a variety of heartfelt tributes, including speeches, poetry recitations, patriotic songs, and a tableau act. A lively quiz on national songs also engaged the audience. The program concluded meaningfully with an inspiring message from the Director, followed by prayers for the nation's continued prosperity.

Students' Research Interest Presentations

Students from the B.Ed. 2.5 years Cohort (2024) conducted a special assembly regarding their final research assignments. This dedicated forum was designed to encourage open discussion and the sharing of diverse perspectives, with the assembly room brightened by colorful charts, showcasing the students' initial ideas. Faculty and peers engaged in thoughtful conversations, fostering a productive environment that successfully built confidence among the future educators. The session concluded after each student received valuable, constructive feedback, solidifying a strong foundation for their upcoming research.



NACTE 2022-2025 Evaluation



The Notre Dame Institute of Education recently hosted the National Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (NACTE) for the formal accreditation of its B.Ed. 4-year and 2.5-year programs. Over a productive three-day visit, Secretary NACTE Dr. Shamsa Aziz, accompanied by evaluators Dr. Mian Hamid Hassan and Dr. Abida Nasreen, conducted a thorough evaluation of the institute's academic offerings for the 2022-2025 cycle. The external evaluators engaged the faculty and administration in a rigorous yet constructive process designed to ensure high educational standards. Their appreciation for the institute's hard work and unwavering commitment to the education community served as a significant motivator for all involved. This visit highlights the institute's ongoing dedication to excellence in teacher education within Pakistan.

The accreditation exercise provided the institute with valuable insights and clear pathways for future growth. Rather than being viewed as mere scrutiny, the process served as a collaborative opportunity to strengthen existing programs and further uplift the quality of teacher training. The feedback received will be instrumental in refining pedagogical strategies and administrative frameworks. Such professional evaluations are essential to maintaining the institute's legacy of providing quality experiences for its student body. The leadership expresses deep gratitude to the entire staff and the dedicated team whose tireless efforts made this successful review possible.



Climate Action Assembly

Sheryll, a student of the B.Ed. 4 years (2025) programme, delivered an inspiring presentation during the morning assembly focused on "Climate Action and Youth". Her presentation highlighted the critical role of young people as powerful catalysts for positive environmental change. The session served as a poignant reminder that youthful voices are instrumental in driving global awareness and action. Such reflections in the assembly room continue to foster a vibrant atmosphere of shared learning and empowerment within the NDIE community.



Foundation Day

NDIE celebrated its annual Foundation Day auspiciously once again this year on October 1st, 34 years after its inauguration. The day began with a heartwarming gathering of all faculty and staff members. Demonstrating their commitment, individuals expressed their wishes for NDIE's continuous growth and development using sticky notes. The celebration featured a traditional cake-cutting ceremony followed by a unifying group photo session. This truly incredible day was celebrated as a pivotal moment for all members of the institute.



Certificate of Appreciation Distribution

The Notre Dame Institute of Education proudly recognizes its prospective teachers, whose commitment to excellence has been honored with Certificates of Appreciation. These accolades celebrate a diverse range of academic and professional milestones, including achieving the highest marks in specific courses, maintaining the highest GPA within a semester, and demonstrating exemplary commitment through full attendance. By excelling in these areas, these future educators demonstrate the professional dispositions and persistence necessary for their upcoming roles in the classroom.



Teachers' Day



NDIE's Assembly Room buzzed with reverence and vibrant enthusiasm as the community gathered to honor its educators. The special Teacher's Day celebration became a powerful moment of unity, graced by eminent guests and principals from various cooperating schools who gathered to share in a deep appreciation for the teaching profession. Such celebrations reinforce the institute's culture of gratitude and its recognition of the pivotal role educators play in shaping society. By celebrating these milestones together, the NDIE community continues to strengthen its professional network and institutional spirit.



Service Awards Ceremony

A formal ceremony was held to honor the committed staff members who have reached a significant milestone of serving a decade or more at the institute. Their exemplary teamwork and dedication were instrumental in the successful completion of another national accreditation cycle, ensuring the continued quality and recognition of the institute's academic programs. All recipients were presented with commemorative shields as a token of appreciation for their sustained efforts and professional excellence.







NACTE Accreditation Committee Awards Ceremony

The service awards ceremony concluded with the celebration of the efforts of our Institutional Accreditation Committee members for the NACTE 2022-2025 evaluation cycle. Their unwavering commitment and meticulous preparation played a pivotal role in NDIE achieving the prestigious rating of "X" for this accreditation cycle. Members were presented with commemorative shields as tokens of appreciation for their dedication. We are immensely grateful to the team for their role in enhancing the quality of NDIE's B.Ed. programmes and uplifting the standard of education in Pakistan.



GGHS gets STEAMed up!

A team of our science prospective teachers visited a Government Girls' High School to conduct interactive sessions on STEAM education – integrating Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. The sessions aimed to spark curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving among the students through hands-on activities and collaborative learning. Learners enthusiastically engaged in design challenges, and discussions that linked classroom concepts to their real-life applications. The visit not only enhanced students' understanding of STEAM but also provided the prospective teachers with valuable experiential learning, reinforcing the importance of innovation and inclusion in modern teaching practices.



Open House 2025

Our Annual Open House delivered a powerful start, bringing together some of the most respected voices in education for a thought-provoking panel discussion on *The Changing Identity of Teachers in a Digital World*. We are extremely grateful for the deep insights shared by our esteemed panelists: Professor Dr. Farid Panjwani (Dean, AKU-IED), Dr. Safia Urooj (Chairperson, DTE-UoK), Ms. Rana Hussain (Principal, Ziauddin College of Education), and Mr. Zain ul Abidin Laghari (Director – STEDA). Our very own NDIE alumnus, Munir Tharwani, skillfully moderated the session, facilitating a dialogue that challenged and inspired our community to rethink the role of educators in a technologically evolving landscape.



Following the panel, the spotlight shifted to our various student cohorts, whose vibrant displays filled the room with inspiration, creativity, and purpose.



The outgoing B.Ed. 4 – 2022 cohort presented a final showcase that served as a moving testament to their dedication and evolving teacher identities.



The 4-year B.Ed. cohort of 2024 reflected on their second year of profound academic and personal growth with engaging activities and displays.

Open House 2025



Our newest cohort, B.Ed. 4 years (2025), showcased thoughtful displays and classroom work that highlight their journey as teacher-leaders in the making. Inspiration, creativity, and purpose, all in one room!



Our 2.5-year B.Ed. cohort (2024) also displayed impactful work that highlighted their journey as teacher-leaders in the making, ranging from comparative education to English poetry and prose.



Complementing these displays, our ECCE participants beautifully showcased creative, child-centred learning materials that demonstrated a deep, innovative understanding of early childhood education.

The Open House 2025 event concluded as a resounding success, serving as a lively reflection of NDIE's unwavering dedication to excellence in teacher education. These displays were not just academic requirements; they were evidence of the collaboration and passion that define our future educators. As we celebrate these milestones, we remain proud of the professional growth witnessed in every cohort. Their contributions continue to inspire those who follow, reinforcing NDIE's mission to nurture educators who will make meaningful contributions to society.

Advent at NDIE

Students and staff alike came together for an Advent-centred assembly. This sacred time started with the lighting of the Advent candles, accompanied by Scripture reading from students and faculty. Following this the room was split into four groups to discuss the implications of *peace, joy, hope, and love* in our lives, both as people and professionals. These moments are reminders of the pivotal role that spirituality plays in our lives as individuals and as a diverse community.



Christmas Programme



NDIE celebrated its annual Christmas programme with enthusiasm and festive cheer. The gathering began with Christmas carols and Scripture readings. Afterwards students and staff participated in light-hearted Christmas-related games and activities. The celebration featured a traditional cake-cutting ceremony followed by a unifying group photo session. This final event of the semester was a welcoming end to a challenging yet rewarding year.



Student Society Events

Shared Reading Workshop

Following a planning meeting in October, the Literary Society successfully organized a Shared Reading workshop. Held on October 11th at the Inkspired Library in PECHS, the event's central goal was to motivate parents to engage in interactive reading with their children. The session was executed by two dedicated teams: one conducted a workshop for parents, introducing various shared reading techniques, while the other team applied these methods by reading directly with the children. Although the collaboration was initially challenging, the members' teamwork ensured the seamless execution of the session. As they departed, parents were given an informative handout and a commemorative bookmark to support their continued efforts at home.



Orphanage Visit

The Wellness Society's visit to Don Bosco Orphanage was a profoundly enriching experience, marked by a warm welcome and infectious joy from the children and caregivers alike. Through shared games, dancing, and heartfelt stories, our students were deeply moved by the resilience and boundless energy displayed by the children. Ultimately, the day left our students with hearts full of humility and a renewed commitment to the spirit of giving.



Excursions and Outings

Khalikdina Library Tour + Workshop

Students embarked on an educational excursion to the Khalikdina Library in Saddar at the beginning of the Fall 2025 semester. The librarian emphasised that the wisdom of antiquity inspires us to learn about historical places, noting that the main hall has hosted key figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Lokmanya Tilak. During their exploration, students gained valuable insights into the site's history, including the causes of past revolutions and the building's infrastructure, such as its walls made of yellow Gizri stones. To further engage with local history, the group played an interactive game focused on recognising different historical places in Karachi. The enlightening excursion concluded with a thoughtful drawing activity where students reflected on practical ways to protect historical buildings.



Picnic at the Farmhouse

The B.Ed. 4-year (2022) and 2.5-year (2024) cohorts celebrated their final year with a memorable picnic at the MK Resort. Students enjoyed relaxing in nature as well as capturing vibrant moments, preserving the milestones of their academic journey. Later the cohorts played games and enjoyed biryani. In addition to deepening bonds, outings like this with both staff and students create professional relationships that last beyond their studies at NDIE. Ultimately, the excursion served as a revitalizing conclusion to the year, leaving everyone feeling refreshed and grateful for their shared journey.



Faculty Matters

NDIE takes immense pride in the continuous academic and professional milestones achieved by our dedicated faculty members. Recently, we celebrated the joint publications of two separate research papers. Parallel to this academic success, Ms. Gillian Rodrigues facilitated a meaningful workshop at the Institute of Business Management (IOBM). These achievements underscore our faculty's commitment to high-level research and contributing to the wider educational discourse.

Gillian Ann Rodrigues

Congratulations to our faculty, Ms. Gillian Rodrigues, on her recent co-published article titled "Human Rights Education in Primary School Textbooks: Insights from Pakistan." In addition, she also facilitated the workshop "Teaching Beyond Borders: Decolonizing Classroom Practices" at the 4th *International Conference on Education (ICE-2025): Integrating Curriculum, Research and Lifelong Learning into Education*. Her contributions reflect her commitment to advancing the field of teacher education and contributing meaningfully to academic scholarship and professional practice.



Munir Lalani

Congratulations to Munir Lalani for his recent joint publication with Dr. Farid Panjwani, titled "Faith, Identity, and Culture: Contextualizing Christian Religious Education in a Pakistani Setting". His research provides insightful observation into the convergence of faith and identity as it relates to lived educational experiences. As a diverse community NDIE welcomes this collaborative, research-based perspective.



Alumni Achievements

The alumni of our institute consistently demonstrate a profound commitment to excellence across a wide array of educational and professional sectors. Their successes are a direct reflection of the rigorous academic foundation, core values, and professional competencies cultivated during their B.Ed. educational journey with us. Whether through visionary leadership, the implementation of innovative practices, or a dedication to lifelong learning, they continue to embody our institutional mission of driving positive change. We are honoured to celebrate their diverse achievements and remain eager to witness their enduring impact on the global landscape of education and beyond.

Ayesha Ayaz

Congratulations to alumna Ayesha Ayaz (B.Ed. 4 years - Class of 2022) on this remarkable accomplishment. Earning the inaugural teaching license from the Government of Sindh represents a significant milestone, and NDIE takes great pride in her achieving this level of success. This licensure serves as a testament to Ayesha's diligence, dedication, and the rigorous academic foundation she built at NDIE. As she embarks on this professional journey, it is envisioned that Ayesha will be an outstanding educator and a transformative influence in the lives of her future students.



Munir Tharwani

Congratulations to Mr. Munir Tharwani (B.Ed. 2.5-years Cohort (2017)), an NDIE alumnus, on his recent achievement of the status of **Fellow of Higher Education Academy (FHEA)**. This award exemplifies the continued pursuit of excellence and scholarly impact that NDIE alumni achieve long after their formative years spent learning at NDIE have past.



ECCE 2025



ECCE Cohort 2025

The ECCE 2025 participants' journey began with two foundational sessions that delved into the core principles of the field: the complexities of brain development and the vital theories of early childhood. These initial modules are designed to provide educators with the theoretical framework necessary to understand how young minds grow and learn. By exploring these essential concepts, participants began to reflect on how to create more nurturing and effective learning environments.

ECCE in Action

Central to the curriculum was the exploration of holistic growth, emphasizing that a child's personal, social, and emotional development must be nurtured through a curriculum tailored to their maturity and individual abilities. Through group work and interactive question-and-answer sessions, students engaged with diverse subject areas, including literacy, numeracy, and creative arts. A significant milestone was the study of Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences, which enabled the student to identify unique learning styles and understand the critical role of parental cooperation in the educational process. This theoretical foundation was complemented by practical sessions on classroom management, where participants learned the importance of strategic seating arrangements and the creative implementation of low-cost teaching resources.





Kidney Hill Excursion



The Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) participants enjoyed a rejuvenating excursion to Kidney Hill, where they immersed themselves in the tranquility of the natural world. Adding significant academic value to the trip, a faculty expert in environmental sciences joined the cohort to facilitate an engaging dialogue on integrating ecological awareness into early childhood pedagogy. Ultimately, the excursion served as a meaningful step in developing the holistic teaching dispositions essential for future educators.

Joyful Learning in Action

The Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) participants undertook a series of engaging micro-teaching sessions at St. Patrick's High School's Early Years Section, marking a pivotal milestone in their professional journey. This immersive experience allowed our prospective teachers to bridge the gap between theory and practice, applying classroom concepts to a dynamic, real-world setting. This successful collaboration not only highlights the dedication of our students but also reaffirms NDIE's commitment to nurturing skilled educators who are prepared to make a positive impact in the field of early childhood education.

