



INDIA'S FIRST SCHOOL-INTEGRATED MICROBIOLOGY CURRICULUM TAKES OFF

In a pioneering collaboration, Filix School of Education in a small village in Purulia (West Bengal), is revolutionising learning with Microbiology woven into its curriculum. Partnering with Dr. Rohwer's Lab at San Diego State University, students from 5th to 12th grades are diving into the fascinating world of bacteriophages, Winogradsky columns and more. In hands-on experiments, they collect soil, grow mould on bread with spices and peer into the micro-world under microscopes, all while donning aprons for their first-ever lab adventures.



Ms. Ankita Mahato (HOD, Science), together with Dr. Bharati Bakshi, (Working President, Nanritam), spent six weeks training at Dr. Rohwer's Lab, gaining hands-on expertise to share with the budding scientists waiting back home.

Ms. Ranjana Sengupta (Secretary, Nanritam) sparked this unique partnership with Prof. Forest Rohwer, a renowned microbial ecologist and Biology professor at SDSU, during her San Diego visit and just like that, the seeds of this unique collaboration were sown.



Marking a first in India, Filix School of Education is breaking new ground with its school-integrated Microbiology curriculum. In the heart of rural India, young minds are unlocking the secrets of microbes, paving the way for a new generation of curious scientists. India's first school-integrated Microbiology curriculum takes off, blending rural roots with global connections.

Ashna Fatima, XI



September 05, 2025

Leaders in the Making: School Elections 2025

Soumili Sengupta, IX

August brought the most anticipated event at Filix — the Student Council Elections. The house elections for : Nivedita, J.C. Bose, Vidyasagar, and Tagore Houses were held. Their polls were done in secret ballots, and then came the big reveal, the newly elected leaders were announced :

Nivedita House—Surabhi Chakraborty (X) & Soumili Sengupta (IX)

J.C. Bose House— Pratyusha Mukherjee (X) & Shivam Kataruka (IX)

Vidyasagar House— Arijit Das (X) & Swarup Garain (IX)

Tagore House – Soham Guha Khasnabish (X) & Anik Ghosh (IX).

After candidates presented manifestos, came the elections for the student council. Students voted with ink-marked pride, a symbol of participation. The newly elected leaders as announced:

Head Boy – Sukdeb Mahato (XII)

Head Girl – Ankita Mukhopadhyay (XI)

Sports Captain Girls – Ujma Parveen (XI)

Sports Captain Boys – Ranjan Kumar Mahato (X)

Assistant Sports Captain – Jayanta Mahato (IX)

Cultural Secretary – Ankush Prasad (X)

Assistant Cultural Secretary – Tahami Siddique (IX).

With this, Filix steps into a new year of leadership and pride, leaders in the making, true indeed.



Independence Day and Declamation Celebration

Umesh Chandra Kumbhakar, IX

In Filix, the 15th of August, Independence day was celebrated with reverence, while honouring India's hard won freedom after two centuries of the colonial rule.

The atmosphere rang with patriotic songs, igniting pride and unity amongst students as the flag was hoisted and all sang the national anthem. Students, marched in parades, group exercises, and human formations, while teachers shared meaningful insights on the struggle for freedom. The cultural segment followed, alive with speeches, songs, and dramas that drew warm applause for their heartfelt spirit. The highlight was the Declamation Celebration, where students powerfully recreated speeches of Bhagat Singh, Netaji, and others, making history feel alive.

The celebration fostered pride, unity, and gratitude for India's enduring legacy of freedom.



Tradition in Motion : OVM with Guru Sharmila Biswas

Manisitha Dutta, X

Tradition does not stand still, it moves with us. At Filix, learning extends beyond academics, flowing with rhythm, colour, and movement. This year, a new spark was lit when renowned Odissi exponent Guru Sharmila Biswas and her OVM (Odissi Vision and Movement) family brought culture into the campus. Each month, OVM shares the grace of Odissi, the intricacy of Bharatanatyam, the soul of music, the quiet magic of Mime, and the vibrancy of art. To keep this spirit alive, dedicated teacher-in-charges conduct weekly guided practice sessions. Between classes, these moments breathe fresh air into days, ensuring tradition is not just observed but lived, beat by beat, step by step, stroke by stroke.



Rhythm, Energy and Expressions Fill Filix's Corridors!

Filix School of Education organises weekly Dance Movement Therapy sessions guided by Madhusudan Basu, a trained practitioner in therapeutic arts. These sessions help students connect with emotions, relieve stress, and build confidence through movement. Using interactive exercises, children learn to channel energy, release tension, and communicate without words.

"The children here are very energetic and warmly accepted and adapted to me." says Mr Basu.

Students from Playschool to Grade X eagerly look forward to these sessions. Laughter fills the air, yet mindful movements create a quiet magic, as if each child listens to their own heartbeat. Many leave smiling, some humming music, others deep in thought.

"Working with them has created a special feeling of joy within me." adds Mr Basu.

Surabhi Chakraborty, X



Science on Wheels: Visit from the District Science Centre's Tech Bus

Arnab Gorain, VI

On 1st August 2025, Filix School of Education hosted the District Science Centre's Tech Bus, which turned lessons on food and nutrition into an exciting experience. The bus, filled with colourful charts and models helped students explore questions like why food is needed, how it gives us energy, and what nutrients it contains. The exhibition also highlighted the importance of balanced diets and healthy eating habits. Even junior classes engaged eagerly

"The mobile exhibition was very beneficial for us." said the students.

The visit ended, but it left behind lasting knowledge and curiosity in every student.



Raising the Bar : Students Step into Moot Court

On 1st August 2025, Filix School of Education participated in the 4th National Inter-School Moot Court Competition, hosted by The Future Foundation School, Kolkata, with BML Munjal University. In a moot court, students step into the shoes of lawyers, hone precision, discipline, and the courage to speak for what's right. Filix School of Education, represented by Sukdeb Mahato (XII), Ankita Mukhopadhyay (XI) and Azmat Khatoon (XI), after weeks of preparation, entered the courtroom with confidence, tackling tough questions and presenting their case clearly and as a team. Their performance reflected research, clarity, and respect for justice. This achievement will inspire future students to step forward with confidence, carrying the legacy of Filix onto greater platforms. The participation of Filix's students in such a high-profile national platform is a testament to the school's commitment to holistic education.

Syeda Eiram Rowshan, IX



From Dust Roads to the IIT Doors — A glimpse

From marbles on the playground to Mathematics on the grand stage, from riverside laughter to the rigorous halls of IIT. This journey is stitched with resilience, guidance, and quiet within. A path that inspires not only him, but all who walk beside.



"Before interests, skills arrive and when you know how to do it, passion follows."

Q1. Sukdeb, can you tell us about your earliest moments of growing up in your village and how those shaped you as a person?

Sukdeb: Growing up in a village where everything was so simple gave me completely contrasting environments from what I got in my school. Before placing my footsteps in this school, I was just like my other friends. I went along the river side, playgrounds and played games like marbles and cards. The turning point came when I entered this school and my friends entered a government school. Slowly something seemed to be changed, I could see it all, I understood it by seeing their eyes and behaviour. Their languages and ambitions differed and that felt a bit odd but that was the phase when I felt that "Yes, I am developing myself and have to shine in my own field". This shapes and motivates me in what I do and am doing, coming from a village.

Q2. When did you realise that you had a special interest or talent in Mathematics? Was there any person who sparked it in you?

Sukdeb: Before interests, skills arrive and when you know how to do it, passion follows. This was true for my case. At first, I didn't quite feel that special interest but I had the skill for it, and just like that when you know how to do it, you get interested in it.

If you would ask about the people who sparked it in me, I would like to mention the names of my first mentors, Ankita Chatterjee Ma'am and Bharati Ma'am (Dr. Bharati Bakshi), who made me dive into the world of Mathematics, they built my curiosity and inspired me to go deeper.

Q3. Qualifying for IIT Madras is a big achievement. How did you prepare for the qualifier exam and what was your reaction when you got the news?

Sukdeb: IIT Madras is undoubtedly a big milestone in my life, but it was not only just my achievement but also an achievement of a lot of teachers who were involved in this success. Priyanka Ma'am (Academic Director, Nanritam) , she supported me throughout the whole process and Amit Ranjan Sir also contributed a lot, spending a lot of time with me to proceed with statistics, clearing my doubts.

The reaction of a student cracking the qualifier exam for IIT Madras is well known.

I was definitely happy but my happiness doubled when I heard Ranjana ma'am, Bharati ma'am, Sarada sir (Joint Secretary , Nanritam), Priyanka ma'am and all praising me as I could meet their expectations. The achievement is definitely a moment of glory but I am happier to invite smiles in all of their faces.

Q4. What does getting into IIT Madras mean to you and your family especially considering where you started from?

Sukdeb: Considering where I started from, IIT Madras is a big achievement for me and for my family. Previously, where there was once a confusion in my family between IIT and ITI, now I know the difference and value it and try to explain them, and I am really happy to do that and yes, it was a combined product of hard work, motivation and focus.

Q5. Who has been your biggest source of motivation and support throughout the journey?

Sukdeb: My source of motivation can be summed in two words—"my school". My school has embedded in me the spirit of participation, it makes me happy knowing I get to bring my school pride. The praises I get from, Priyanka Ma'am, Ranjana Ma'am and Bharati ma'am, all unknowingly forces me to do better.

Q6. Were there times you felt demotivated and thought to give up? What kept you going during those low moments?

Sukdeb: Moments of demotivation were rare, because I feel like what I have achieved and got is more than what I couldn't, I got more than enough so losing something cannot demotivate me. But yes, I was demotivated once when I secured a second position in a competition but I thought I could have done better, it pained to know it was just because of a small mistake. My main source of comeback and regain of concentration and focus was brought by my mother who taught me "Losing in one does not mean we have already lost in others".

Q7. What resources did you rely on for the preparation of the qualifier exam of IIT Madras?

Sukdeb: My reliable sources for the exam were the study materials suggested by IIT-M, and a few more books, which Priyanka Ma'am bought for me, the mentorship of Amit Ranjan Sir helped me a lot.

Q8. What is your dream career and how do you see yourself using your love for Mathematics in that path?

Sukdeb: I had a love for Maths since childhood but recently discovered another love for statistics. I dream of becoming a maths teacher so that I can share my knowledge with others. But besides Maths teacher now that I look forward, say 10 years later, to see myself as a data analyst and infact would be happy to use my statistical skills and play with numbers.

Q9. Probably, your journey has inspired many— so how do you think you can support them if they can gather the courage to walk the same path?

Sukdeb: I have faced such questions earlier, a number of times, many have asked it and I would say it is always good to take inspiration. But honestly, anything cannot be completely followed because every individual has different skills, interests, advantages and opportunities. So one key aspect could be participation and enlarging one's horizon, if you see a chance just grab it, and you are good to go.

Q10. Who is your role model?

Sukdeb: My role model is Ranjana Ma'am. Her hard work, dedication and focus uplift many. Her efforts in shaping and helping me, along with her keen sense of smooth organisation and decision making and above all, her spirit of helping others, truly inspire me. Her support and belief in me helps me a lot to envision a brighter future for myself. I want to be someone like her.

Ankita Mukhopadhyay, XI

The Last Bite

Syeda Eshal Kowsar, VI



Illustration by Bristi Gorai, IX

It was 12 on the clock
 Scoops of ice cream,
 straight from the tub.
 Midnight is my secret time.
 The freezer's light,
 shining bright.
 Then... Creak.
 I froze.
 The sound came from the hallway.
 I thought, oh no! Mom's gonna catch me
 But then I remembered that
 I live alone.
 The spoon slipped,
 and the sound it made
 was way too loud.
 After that a hand covered my mouth
 And I blacked out.



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