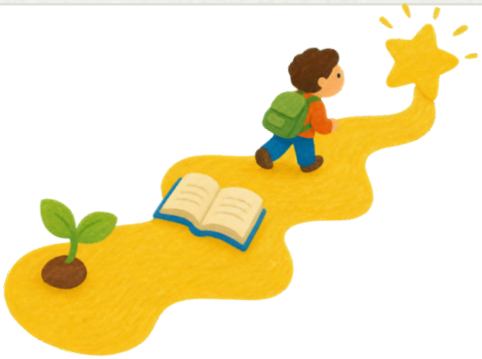
UNITED SCHOOLS ORGANISATION OF INDIA
75 YEARS
Legacy of enriching education beyond the classroom
Estd. 1951

WORLD INFORMO

USO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SINCE 1953

VOL. XII ISSUE VIII — NOVEMBER 2026



Reflect on Progress. Inspire New Possibilities.

November offers an opportunity to reflect on the learning and growth taking place across schools. Behind every achievement are school leaders who guide with vision, teachers who inspire with dedication, and students who bring curiosity, enthusiasm, and fresh ideas to their learning journeys.

As the academic year progresses, every experience brings valuable lessons. Principals strengthen their vision, teachers discover new ways to inspire, and students recognise their progress and explore new possibilities. Together, they contribute to a school environment where learning, collaboration, and personal growth go hand in hand.

At USO, we believe that education flourishes when schools learn, reflect, and grow together. Let us continue to celebrate shared achievements, embrace new perspectives, and create meaningful opportunities that inspire every learner to move forward with confidence and purpose.

USO Team
75 Years of Supporting Holistic Education

USO@75: Seventy-Five Sparks

Our Goal	Achieved	To Go
75 Sparks	59 Sparks	16 Sparks

Sparks are 75 meaningful initiatives engaging students, teachers, and schools - promoting inclusivity, innovation, and social awareness.

Scan to explore USO's Seventy-Five Sparks

In this edition

November Sparks

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- Smart Schools Series: AI for Everyday Learning

Concluded Activities
- USO House Diwali Mela 2026
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- Children's Day

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- World Science Day for Peace and Development
- International Day for Tolerance
- World Philosophy Day

Article by Dr. Radhakrishnan International School, Delhi

Guidelines to Submit Articles

USO Activities Calendar for Schools

Our Theme for 2026 - 2027

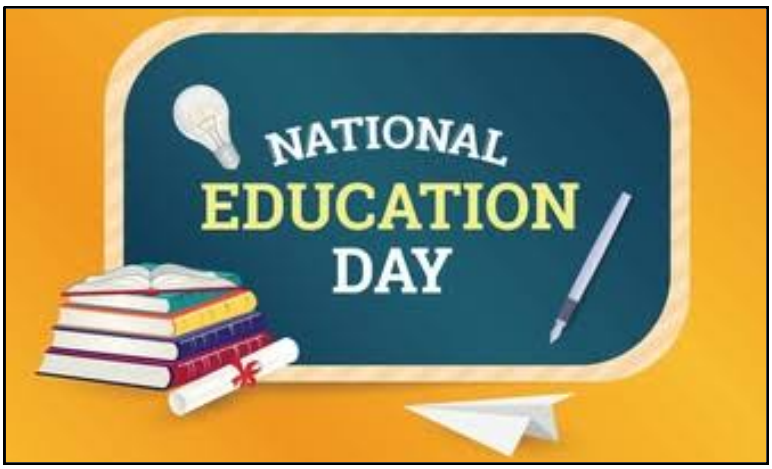
USO@75: Seventy-Five Sparks

Small moments. Lasting impact. A legacy of learning.

November Sparks

SPARK # 60

National Education Day



SPARK # 61

Children's Day Special



Ongoing Activities

MEMBERS ONLY



USO Club Member Schools will earn 10 USO Club Points for participation.

Biosphere Reserve Champions 2026

The Biosphere Reserve Champions initiative under USO's Students 360° programme engages students of Std. 6 - 12 in exploring UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage Sites through research, creativity, innovation, and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Phase II, titled **Investigate**, featured three activities:

- Future Solutions Camp
- School Innovation Camp
- Awareness Activity

These activities encouraged students to develop innovative ideas and strengthen their environmental and conservation awareness.

With the Phase II results announced, the Top 10 finalists have been selected for Phase III, Present. The finalists will showcase their work before an expert jury during a live session in New Delhi.

The programme will culminate in a felicitation ceremony at UNESCO House, New Delhi, recognising the students' efforts and achievements.

Scan the QR Code to view phase II results

FREE MEMBERS ONLY



USO Club Member Schools will earn 10 USO Club Points for participation.

Webinar #8 Young Minds, Big Ideas: Evolving with AI

USO will continue its Smart Schools Series with Webinar #8: Young Minds, Big Ideas – Evolving with AI, a special Children's Day edition open to all students from all schools. The session is designed to help young learners explore how Artificial Intelligence is shaping the world and how they can use it to learn, create, and innovate.

The webinar will focus on practical ways AI can support students in understanding concepts, exploring new ideas, solving problems, and making learning more engaging and interactive.

Through practical demonstrations and real-life examples, participants will discover how AI can spark creativity, encourage curiosity, and help turn their ideas into meaningful possibilities.

The session will also highlight effective prompting, responsible AI use, and simple strategies students can apply to become confident, creative, and responsible learners in an AI-driven world, while embracing the spirit of Children's Day.

Scan the QR Code to Know More

Concluded Activities

USO HOUSE DIWALI MELA 2026






USO House Diwali Mela 2026
Celebrating Creativity, Talent & Inclusion

Continuing its festive tradition, United Schools Organisation of India (USO) organised its 6th Annual Diwali Mela on 3–4 November 2026 at USO House, New Delhi. The two-day mela showcased a beautiful collection of handmade products crafted by students of Special Schools, providing them with a platform to express their creativity, showcase their talents and celebrate their abilities.

The mela was inaugurated in the presence of Ms. Stuti Gaur, Academic Coordinator, Inclusive Education – DoE GNCTD, as the Chief Guest. The inaugural programme featured a ceremonial lamp lighting, welcome address by Ms. Nina Jain, Secretary General, USO, Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest, Ms. Stuti Gaur and student participation.

With nine schools participating, the mela witnessed enthusiastic participation and welcomed several guests who visited the stalls, appreciated the students' handmade creations and extended their support and encouragement. The two-day celebration brought together creativity, festive spirit and inclusion, reinforcing the belief that every child has a talent and every talent deserves to shine.

Scan the QR Code to see the highlights of USO House Diwali Mela 2026

Concluded Activities

USO INTER-SCHOOLS FEST 2026









USO Inter-Schools Fest 2026, Pilani, Rajasthan

The United Schools Organisation of India (USO) successfully hosted the USO Inter-Schools Fest 2026 at Birla Balika Vidyapeeth, Pilani, Rajasthan, on Saturday, October 31, 2026. The event brought together schools from Pilani and surrounding areas, promoting extracurricular engagement and holistic student development.

The one-day festival, held from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, provided students of Std. 6–12 with a platform to showcase their talents through individual and group competitions centred on USO's annual theme, SDG 4: Quality Education.

Individual Competitions	Group Competitions
On-The-Spot Painting	Group Dance
Speech (English)	Drama (English)
Debate (English)	Science Fair

The Science Fair, curated as a full-day event, provided an engaging platform for students to showcase scientific creativity, innovative ideas, and a spirit of exploration.

The Fest was inaugurated by Maj. Gen. S. S. Nair, AVSM, Director, Birla Education Trust, Pilani, as the Chief Guest, and Dr. Ghanshyam Singh Gaur, Deputy Director, Finance, Birla Education Trust, Pilani, as the Guest of Honour.

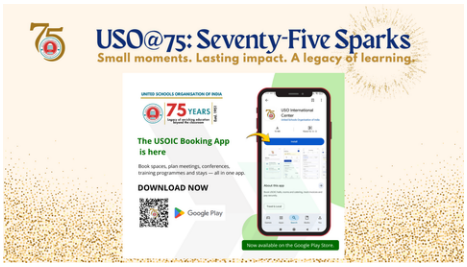
USO sincerely thanks to Ms. Achala Verma, Principal, Birla Balika Vidyapeeth, Pilani, for the support and leadership extended in making the Fest a success. Special appreciation also goes to the school's teachers, volunteer students, and staff, whose valuable contributions ensured the smooth conduct of the event.

Scan the QR Code to see highlights of the USO Inter Schools Fest 2026 held at Birla Balika Vidyapeeth, Pilani

October Sparks: Concluded Activities

SPARK # 56

USOIC Booking App on Google Play Store



- Launched the USOIC Booking App on Google Play Store, marking a digital milestone.
- Made USOIC facilities accessible through a convenient mobile platform.
- Simplified facility exploration and booking.
- Enhanced digital convenience for clients and event organisers.
- Advanced USOIC's vision of smarter, more connected services.

SPARK # 57

BRICS Summit 2026 Quiz



- Organised an engaging quiz for students as part of USO@75: Seventy-Five Sparks.
- Celebrated World Student Day through interactive, knowledge-based learning.
- Encouraged students to explore BRICS and understand its role in global cooperation.
- Promoted awareness of international collaboration and global affairs.
- Recognised student participation with USO Spark Goodies.

SPARK # 58

UN Day Quiz 2026



- Organised a UN Day Quiz as part of USO@75: Seventy-Five Sparks.
- Encouraged students to explore the United Nations and its global role.
- Promoted awareness of international cooperation, peace, and sustainability.
- Celebrated UN Day through interactive learning.
- Recognised student participation with USO Spark Goodies.

SPARK # 59

USO Inter-Schools Fest, Pilani



- Organised the first USO Inter-Schools Fest in Pilani, Rajasthan, at Birla Balika Vidyapeeth.
- Brought together schools from Pilani and nearby areas.
- Showcased student talent through individual and group competitions.
- Promoted SDG 4: Quality Education and holistic development.
- Encouraged school collaboration and student engagement.

National Observances



Diwali
8 November

Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is one of the most important festivals celebrated in India and by Indian communities around the world. It symbolizes the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance.

The festival is associated with different religious beliefs and historical events. For Hindus, it is widely linked to Lord Rama's return to Ayodhya after fourteen years of exile. Sikhs celebrate Bandi Chhor Divas, while Jains commemorate Lord Mahavira's attainment of nirvana. Diwali is celebrated with traditional lamps, prayers, colorful decorations, sweets, family gatherings, and the exchange of gifts.

Purpose: Diwali encourages people to follow the path of truth and righteousness. It inspires individuals to overcome negativity and adopt positive thoughts and actions. The festival reminds us to practice kindness, generosity, and gratitude in our daily lives. It encourages people to strengthen relationships and share happiness with others. Diwali also symbolises new beginnings, hope, and spiritual growth. Its purpose is to inspire everyone to spread positivity and make the world a better place.

Importance: Diwali holds great religious, cultural, and social significance. It brings families and communities together through traditional celebrations. The festival preserves cultural heritage and strengthens social bonds. It also supports local businesses and artisans. Celebrated worldwide, Diwali promotes harmony, prosperity, and respect for diverse traditions.



Children's Day
14 November

Children's Day is celebrated in India every year on November 14 to mark the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India. Fondly known as 'Chacha Nehru', he had great affection for children and believed that they were the foundation of the nation's future. After his death in 1964, his birthday was chosen to be celebrated as Children's Day in his honour. The day recognises the importance of children and their role in building a better society.

Purpose: Children's Day aims to spread awareness about children's rights, education, health, and overall well-being. It encourages young minds to discover their talents, develop confidence, and pursue their dreams. The day reminds adults of their responsibility to provide children with a safe, caring, and supportive environment. It also inspires them to develop good values, creativity, and a sense of responsibility. Through fun activities and educational programmes, the celebration promotes learning and personal growth. Ultimately, it aims to help every child enjoy a happy childhood and reach their full potential.

Importance: Children's Day highlights the importance of children in shaping the nation's future. It encourages schools, parents, and communities to support children's education and development. The celebration strengthens relationships between students and teachers through cultural programmes and fun activities. It also raises awareness about child protection, equality, and access to opportunities. The day reminds society that nurturing and educating children is essential for building a stronger and brighter India.

UN Key Observances



World Tsunami Awareness Day, 5 November

World Tsunami Awareness Day raises awareness about tsunami hazards and their impact on coastal communities. It encourages individuals and communities to recognise tsunami risks and understand the need for timely action. Tsunamis are powerful ocean waves, often triggered by underwater earthquakes, that can cause severe destruction in coastal regions.

Theme: The theme 'Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts with You' focuses on building a culture of preparedness and resilience against tsunami disasters. It highlights the role of early warning systems, effective evacuation planning, and individual responsibility in strengthening community safety and reducing disaster-related losses.

Purpose: The purpose of World Tsunami Awareness Day is to spread knowledge about tsunamis, including their causes, warning signs, and possible consequences. It aims to educate people so they can recognise tsunami threats and understand the need for awareness and preparedness.

Importance: World Tsunami Awareness Day reminds us of the serious impact tsunamis can have on human lives, homes, and the environment. It highlights the need for responsible behaviour, public cooperation, and strong disaster management efforts to reduce the harmful effects of these natural disasters. It also emphasises the importance of protecting coastal ecosystems and supporting people affected by tsunami-related disasters.



World Science Day for Peace and Development 10 November

World Science Day for Peace and Development is celebrated every year on 10 November to highlight the importance of science in our daily lives. Proclaimed by UNESCO in 2001, this day encourages people to understand scientific developments and their contribution to society. It also promotes the role of science in building a peaceful and sustainable world.

Theme: The theme 'Common Ground Through Science Diplomacy' focuses on promoting international cooperation, mutual understanding, and peaceful relations through science. It emphasizes the importance of scientific collaboration, knowledge sharing, and dialogue in addressing global challenges and building a more peaceful and sustainable future.

Purpose: The purpose of World Science Day for Peace and Development is to promote the responsible use of science for society's benefit. It encourages countries to cooperate in scientific research and development. The day also aims to increase public awareness of scientific discoveries. It promotes the use of science to solve global challenges and build peace.

Importance: World Science Day for Peace and Development highlights the role of science in improving people's lives. It encourages students to develop curiosity, creativity, and scientific thinking. The day also promotes better education and informed decision-making. It reminds us that science is essential for a peaceful and sustainable future.

UN Key Observances



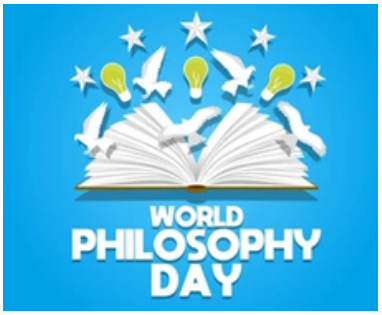
International Day for Tolerance, 16 November

The International Day for Tolerance is observed every year on 16 November to promote respect for diversity, mutual understanding, and peaceful coexistence. It encourages people to reject discrimination and build inclusive societies where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. The day highlights the importance of accepting different cultures, religions, and beliefs. It also reminds us that tolerance is essential for creating a peaceful and harmonious world.

Theme: The theme focuses on nurturing tolerance, empathy, and mutual respect. It highlights the importance of accepting differences, valuing diverse perspectives, and fostering understanding among individuals to create a more inclusive, peaceful, and harmonious society.

Purpose: The International Day for Tolerance aims to raise awareness about intolerance and promote education, open dialogue, respect, and acceptance. It encourages people to overcome stereotypes, prevent discrimination, and embrace diversity.

Importance: The International Day for Tolerance is important because it helps strengthen relationships between communities and reduces conflicts caused by misunderstandings. It reminds us that kindness, cooperation, and acceptance are essential for building a peaceful world where people can live together despite their differences.



World Philosophy Day 19 November

World Philosophy Day is celebrated to encourage critical thinking, meaningful dialogue, and reflection on important questions about human life and society. It provides an opportunity to explore different ideas, understand diverse perspectives, and discuss ethical and social challenges. The day promotes peace, tolerance, and mutual understanding through philosophical discussions, helping people make thoughtful and responsible decisions.

Theme: The theme 'How Can We Coexist in a World in Crises?' focuses on promoting peace, mutual understanding, and ethical responsibility in addressing global challenges. It emphasises the importance of dialogue, tolerance, and respect for diversity. It highlights the role of philosophy in building a culture of peace, solidarity, and peaceful coexistence.

Purpose: The purpose is to promote critical thinking and ethical decision-making to address global challenges. It encourages the responsible use of technology and dialogue among researchers, policymakers, and communities to develop ethical solutions and support inclusive, sustainable development.

Importance: Philosophy encourages critical thinking, ethical reflection, and respect for human dignity. It helps people question ideas, understand different perspectives, and address social challenges. It also promotes equality, social justice, and respect for diversity, contributing to a more thoughtful, inclusive, and peaceful society.

SPECIAL FEATURE ARTICLE

Examination Integrity:
Building Trust, Fairness and Excellence in Education



Aaradhya Prabhat, Std. IX
(Dr. Radhakrishnan International School, Delhi)

Imagine a marathon where some runners are allowed to cut across the course on scooters while everyone else works hard to win and prove their talent. Would the gold medal at the finish line mean anything at all? In the modern academic world, examinations are the marathon, serving as the ultimate benchmark of a student's hard work, sacrifice, and dedication. However, the true value of any qualification relies entirely on the ethical framework it supports. Examination integrity is the cornerstone of educational credibility, ensuring that assessments truly reflect skills, knowledge, and intellectual growth. When this vital integrity is compromised, the value of the entire educational ecosystem collapses, leaving honest efforts unawarded.

At its core, academic integrity relies on building deep trust among students, teachers, and public institutions. Trust means that a grade stamped on a transcript represents real learning, late nights of studying, and authentic individual effort. When an educational institution maintains strict and transparent exam protocols, it sends a clear message that every student's work is valued and actively protected. The society at large relies on this institutional trust to make critical decisions about hiring and admissions. If a certificate loses its trustworthiness, the reputation of every single graduate from that institution is unfairly tarnished, devaluing years of legitimate struggle.

Fairness is the second crucial pillar that establishes a level playing field where academic success is earned rather than being bypassed. A genuine, fair system assures that no student is allowed to possess an unauthorized advantage over their peers. True fairness requires both robust preventive measures by administrators and a shared commitment to honesty from the students. Consider a common example from everyday school life: during a final science exam, a dedicated student studies hard, prepares complex notes, and solves practice equations. If another student sitting next to him uses a hidden smartphone to copy the answers, the testing system fails. It treats unequal efforts as identical, which is deeply unfair for the student who earned his marks honestly.

Furthermore, integrity is indispensable to achieving true excellence in education. Educational excellence is never merely about achieving a perfect test score; it is about the tough process of overcoming academic challenges, developing critical thinking skills, and truly mastering a difficult subject. When students resort to malpractice, they short-circuit their own cognitive and personal growth. They trade long-term intellectual competence for temporary, superficial grades. An educational system that tolerates cheating rewards low-effort compliance rather than deep, meaningful understanding. True educational excellence can only be realized when assessments push students to their genuine limits, forcing them to discover their true capabilities through authentic trial and error.

Safeguarding the integrity of examinations is a continuous, collective responsibility shared equally by administrators, teachers, and students. While technological solutions like secure lockdown browsers and proctoring software provide an important first line of defense, the most powerful shield remains internal, personal commitment to honesty. We must actively cultivate a school environment where academic honor is celebrated as a key reflection of personal character rather than just a set of restrictive rules. By defending trust, strictly enforcing fairness, and pursuing absolute excellence, we preserve the true purpose of education. Only then can we guarantee that a student's achievement stands as a genuine testament to their potential and a reliable foundation for their future.

USO Club Member Schools will earn 5 USO Club Points for submitting a published article.

CALL FOR FEATURE



Since 1953, World Informo, USO's monthly newsletter, has provided a platform for students and teachers to share ideas, exchange perspectives, and contribute to meaningful discussions on issues that shape education and society.

NOVEMBER 2026 THEME

Beyond Marks:

Redefining Success in Today's World

We invite students and teachers to submit original feature articles on the above theme. Articles should present a balanced perspective, supported by facts, examples, research, or personal experiences, while encouraging critical thinking and offering constructive insights or solutions.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Articles should be **500–750** words.
- The submission must be the author's original work and should not have been published elsewhere.
- **Please include the following details with your submission:**
  - Full Name
  - Recent Photograph
  - School Name
  - Class/Standard (for students)
  - State
- Email your article to **info@usoindia.org** with the subject line: **Article for World Informo.**

Please note: A new theme will be announced every month, providing contributors with opportunities to write on a wide range of contemporary educational and societal issues.

SELECTED FEATURE ARTICLES WILL:

- Be published in World Informo.
- Be featured on the USO Blog.
- Receive a USO e-Certificate of Publication.

We look forward to receiving your thoughtful and inspiring contributions and sharing **your voice** with readers across India.

USO Activities Calendar For Schools
November, December, January 2027

November 2026

- **Nov 3:** USO House Diwali Mela - Day 1 (Annual initiative with Special Schools)
- **Nov 4:** USO House Diwali Mela - Day 2 (Annual initiative with Special Schools)
- **Nov 14:** Smart Schools Series: AI Webinar #8 (Topic: Young Minds, Big Ideas: Evolving with AI)

December 2026

- **Dec 3:** AccessAbility Series (assessment for Special Schools)
- **Dec 3:** Beyond Boundaries for Special Schools
- **Dec 10:** BRC Grand Finale at USO House
- **Dec 11:** BRC Felicitation Ceremony at UNESCO House
- **Dec 12:** Smart Schools Series: AI Webinar #9 (Topic: TBD)

January 2027

- **Jan 10:** Smart Schools Series: AI Webinar #10 (Topic: TBD)
- **Jan 27**: Founder's Day Celebration at USO House with students of the USO Co-Action Learning Centre

USO's Theme for 2026 - 2027
Our 75-yr theme is linked to SDG 4: Quality Education



Rooted in our theme **Empower, Educate & Evolve** USO's journey aligns with **SDG 4: Quality Education** ensuring inclusive, equitable, and lifelong learning for all. As we celebrate 75 years, this shared vision continues to shape every initiative, bringing meaningful change to classrooms and communities. Designated as our two-year theme (for 2025-26 & 2026-27), Empower, Educate & Evolve serves as a guiding force to reimagine learning, strengthen educational ecosystems, and spark lasting transformation.

Thanks for READING

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