

— T H E —

# *carpe diem*

C H R O N I C L E S



## *SPECIAL EDITION!*

Welcome to Carpe Diem Chronicles – Inventure Academy’s very own student-run publication. Acting as a ‘voice of the students’, CDC showcases a miscellany of submissions from across the student body. It is a space for Inventurers to express their creativity, share important ideas and stay connected to the Inventure community.

— D E C E M B E R I S S U E —



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# EDITORS' NOTE

*Hey Inventure!*

Fifteen years. A hundred and eighty months. Five thousand five hundred days, give or take. And innumerable moments. There's no doubt about it – Inventure Academy has come a long way.

In this special issue of Carpe Diem Chronicles, we celebrate our school in its fifteenth year of existence. We take a trip down memory lane with inventure's very first faculty members as they recount stories of Inventure's early days. We showcase the myriad groups that make up our Inventure Community, and their thoughts on the school. We give you a taste of what the Inventure Community is thinking right now - how the students feel about online classes, what the parents really think about the school, the thoughts of our graduating batch as they complete their final year, the fond reminiscences of our alumni. In short, we show you a snapshot of Inventure, in all its shapes, forms and flavours.

As a homage to Inventure's fifteenth birthday, we've decided to divide this issue into fifteen different sections, each looking at Inventure from a different angle or perspective. We hope you enjoy this issue of CDC as much as we enjoyed putting it together!

Happy Holidays, and have a wonderful New Year!

And of course: Carpe Diem, we seize the page!

*happy reading!*

Faithfully,  
The Editors

*P.S.: To those of you who've sent in submissions, don't fret!  
They will be published in our next regular issue.*



# "Enjoy the Journey"

## An interview with Ms. Nooraine Fazal

Nooraine Fazal - writer, golfer, orator, and Inventure's Founding CEO & Managing Trustee - talks to us about Inventure, its beginnings and her own journey.

**Yash:** It must have taken a lot of courage to start a school as a non-educator 15 years ago. What was the journey like? Any regrets?

**NF:** We went from concept to opening school, all in 8 months! We actually started on a farm because construction of the school building was still in progress. I wouldn't say I regret it as I believe everything is a learning opportunity. However, I don't think I could do it again, mainly because there's a lot more to lose now. Back then, there was nothing to lose other than not giving it a shot.

**Sahana:** Any defining events in the school's history that helped shape Inventure into what it is today? What did you learn from the experience?

**NF:** There have been challenging times and some things that really shook the foundations of the school. We started school with 29 students and about 19 teachers... and our principal left within the first term! In our early years, people said Inventure was too experimental, kids talk too much, students look happy so they can't possibly be learning, too much sports... Many schools in India, possibly around the world, are very autocratic, very top-down. Inventure has never been top-down, we don't believe discipline is making students walk around with fingers on their lips and hands behind their backs, so to speak.

But these times have also been our defining moments. For example, at the start of our third year, we lost 50% of our students and teachers.



People left because they didn't have confidence in the school, but for those of us who stayed, it made us more determined than ever to prove that the Inventure way works.

I believe we learn more from our failures than our successes. I also think that when you fight for your very survival, with everything seemingly stacked against you, and you learn how to tough it out, that definitely defines you as an institution as well as a person.

For me personally, one of the biggest challenges around that time was when I lost my voice. Doctors said I had to stop talking completely or I'd require surgery. I had to communicate with people through messages for months. Needless to say, when you're trying to set up an institution from ground up, it's challenging. I even remember interviewing Ms. Benjamin, who was effectively our founding principal, on my laptop, because I simply couldn't speak.

**Sahana:** I've never heard this story before! Is there anything you learnt through this experience?



**NF:** It was a transformational experience. I really got comfortable in my skin and with my thoughts. I used to be someone who could never sit still, always meeting people, talking, exploring new places, trying new sports... Losing my voice sort of forced me to go back and get in touch with myself, with the person I used to be as a kid, someone who was often in my own make-believe world.

**Arya:** What was your original vision for Inventure? Has this vision held up? What elements of the Inventure culture would you consider unchangeable?

**NF:** Our original Vision has not really changed - it has always been about helping every child be the best they could be. We have added 'Be socially responsible' to our Core Purpose. We felt that humanity as a whole was headed for trouble with the current 'I, Me, Myself' culture, that it cannot just be about the individual, and instead must also be about contributing to positive change.

The things I consider non-negotiable about our culture are being happy, nurturing, adaptable, innovative, humane, friendly. What I absolutely love about the Inventure community is that we come together and make things happen. As a community, we have each other's backs. We all align towards the same core purposes, the same values, the same vision - we want the same things.

**Yash:** Are there any achievements at Inventure you're particularly happy about?

**NF:** If you look at traditional measures of success, we've had plenty. 38 students who have topped all India & worldwide, a great sports program and amazing productions. Inventure is now ranked #1 in Karnataka and Bangalore and has retained #3 all-India ranking (Education World Cfore Survey 2020). We were able to contribute Our Voice to the Child Safety Policy of the State of Karnataka and were invited by the Prime Minister's Office to share our views on the National Education Policy. I'm really happy with the community work we're doing in Ramagondanahalli, as a public-private partnership.

Inventure certainly makes a positive difference in our students' lives... Take for example one of our first students who had learning challenges. He took an assessment in Grade 8 which recommended that he not do his ICSE exams. However, his teachers had complete faith in his ability to do well in his ICSE exams. And guess what - he got an overall 74%, and he went on to graduate as an engineer. I remember another student who would not even make eye contact during the admissions interaction. A few years at Inventure and he was participating in school assemblies and became a very successful athlete. When he won his pet event at the annual athletics meet, the whole school celebrated. Moments like these, helping every child achieve their best, including those who most would not give an opportunity to, are what makes it all worthwhile.

**Arya:** Through all your experiences so far, have you developed a philosophy on life?

**NF:** Be the best possible person you can be and contribute to making the world a better place. You reap what you sow. Don't get too caught up in what you can't control. Nobody owes you anything, you've got to make things happen for yourself. We're all works in progress, and we deserve opportunities to do things better.



**Sahana:** To what extent do you believe that women are equals in the education sector in India right now?

**NF:** I remember seeing the statistics a while ago and while the majority of teachers are women in the private sector, that's not the case in government schools.

I may be biased here but I think a lot of the problems in the world stem from not having enough women in leadership positions. Women are just that much more compassionate, or maybe are just less egoistic. I really would love to see more female leaders, not just in the education sector but across the world.

Schools like Inventure are great as far as that is concerned. Our entire leadership team is made up of women! We are really creating a lot of opportunities for women to have more faith in themselves, to take themselves more seriously, and to understand that what they do as teachers isn't just a pastime, it is a profession and a vocation - and one that has a tremendous impact on a lot of people.

**Arya:** What do you believe makes a great Inventure teacher?

**NF:** Being compassionate, really helping every child find a path to success and the freedom to figure themselves out. Having teachers who believe in you is critical because everybody has something positive in them.

When I think back to my own time as a student, the teachers who really stood out were the ones who accepted me for who I was. They helped me find opportunities to explore, without fear of failure. My school's Vice Principal was quite feared by all my classmates, but he taught me how to stand up to bullies, helped me pursue my passion for sport and taught me self-discipline.

In college (+2 & under-grad), I had 2% attendance! When the teachers complained to the Vice Principal, she told them, "If you make your classes more interesting, she'll come to class!"

I made up my attendance through sports, organizing cultural events, etc. And frankly, that was the best education that I could've had. When I was in school, education inside the classroom was all about memorizing stuff that was in the textbook, and you didn't need to go to school to do that!

These teachers understood me as a person and allowed me to explore. Today, that understanding, compassion, and will to help every child find a path to success is what I expect from every teacher at Inventure.

**Yash:** Looking forward, what do you think is in store for the next 15 years, the next phase of Inventure?

**NF:** The immediate thing is to continue to improve the online learning experience.

Next on the to-do list is working on a blended model of online and offline school for when restrictions are lifted. We're actually in talks with a team from the University of Pennsylvania to see if they can help us with that.

Third on the list is setting up another two schools. We really want more people - students & teachers to benefit from the Inventure way of education. We want to make a success of the Ramagondanahalli school, to expand the Inventure educational approach to the government school level.

**Yash:** A message to the Inventure community - students, teachers, parents, staff, alumni...

**NF:** Just two things. One - don't forget to be human, just enjoy the journey. And two, make the most of every moment, seize the day, Carpe Diem!



# “Live simple, die simple, do good”

INVENTURE’S CHAIRMAN AND CO-FOUNDER, MR. IRFAN RAZACK, GAVE AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW TO CDC ABOUT THE SCHOOL, HIS ROOTS, AND SOME OF HIS PHILOSOPHIES.

## **YASH: HOW HAS YOUR OWN EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND INSPIRED OR INFLUENCED THE FOUNDING OF INVENTURE ACADEMY?**

Irfan Razack: Personally, I was quite fortunate. During my school days, I had peers and teachers with whom I shared a mutual trust. Trust building is important, because it builds confidence. I’ve always believed that every young person has potential - it’s just how you put things across. If you inspire confidence, they just fly. I wasn’t just taught book knowledge - I had plenty of extracurricular activities like sports and scouts. Open forums like these, competing with only our skills, were what gave us such an all round education.

It was this that I wanted to introduce to Inventure. Today, schools are getting increasingly boxed in to classrooms, with little else. The idea wasn’t just to start a school, but to create an environment where children could develop confidence, with a foundation in caring for society, demonstrating empathy for people, and for the environment. It is not about just cramming young people with knowledge - because in today’s world, knowledge is plentiful - but to teach them how to cultivate and use that knowledge to improve the world.



## **SAHANA: IT APPEARS THAT YOU HAD A WONDERFUL PLAN FROM THE VERY START AND YOU FORESAW THAT SUCCESS COMING TO LIFE. WHAT, IN YOUR OPINION, ARE THE EXACT INGREDIENTS FOR SUCCESS?**

IR: The ingredients of success are focus, commitment, sense of direction, and purpose. If you don’t have a purpose, you’re directionless. You can’t succeed. We were fortunate enough to have a goal, and people who were capable of seeing it through. We had, and still have, a fabulous team, who rally together to achieve success. Those who weren’t on board with our purpose moved away early on, but those who stayed did so because they truly believed in the direction we were going.

## **ARYA: DO YOU HAVE A PHILOSOPHY ON LIFE THAT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?**

IR: Live simple, die simple, do good, and don't have too many expectations from life. But once you set a goal, you have to go after it aggressively. Bring honesty and integrity into whatever you do, but strive to be the best you can - make sure you can deliver on your promises. There are no half-measures in life. Mediocrity has no place in life, only excellence and passion.



## **YASH: I THINK TEACHERS PLAY A HUGE ROLE IN INCULCATING THAT PASSION IN US. WHAT ELSE, IN YOUR OPINION, MAKES A GREAT TEACHER?**

IR: A great teacher is someone who can get the best out of you. Everybody has their strengths and weaknesses, but I've always believed a teacher should only look at your strengths. They should ignore any weaknesses, unless they see weaknesses that can be converted into strengths. A teacher has to inculcate confidence. If you're nervous or apprehensive, a teacher needs to be able to invoke confidence and reassurance. It's not just about imparting information - it's about showing - and believing - that you that you can conquer the world.

## **SAHANA: HOW DO YOU SEE INDIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH IMPACTING THE EDUCATION INDUSTRY IN THE FUTURE?**

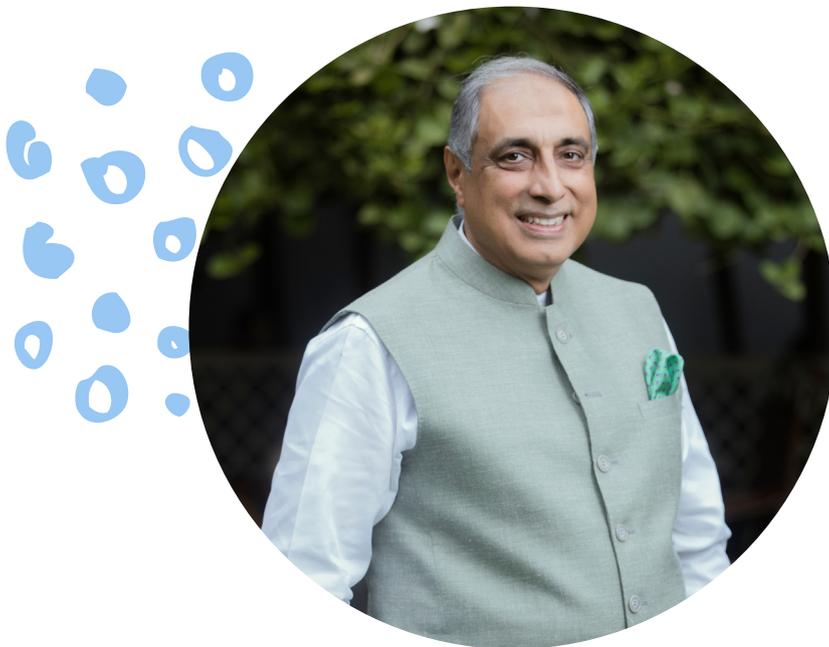
IR: I think growth and education are two different things. Unfortunately, in India, there's a lot of bureaucratic interference, that doesn't leave us free to do what we could do or what we want to do. It should be a free economy - free enough to allow people to bring in centers of excellence. If you keep on choking centres of excellence, it creates a situation where everyone goes to other countries to get their graduate or postgraduate education. There are quotas, caps on fees, so many regulations. Over-regulations kill the economy, kill freedom, and kill the growth of good institutions. There are good institutions, such as the IIMs and the IITs, but these are all government owned. If we can get more of those, privately, it would be massively beneficial.

Right now, what we need is a freer environment, where we can have a proliferation of institutions. Then, only the best will stand out - institutions that provide bad or expensive education will eventually die out.

I think the only reason India hasn't entirely succeeded, despite all the brilliant minds we have, is because there is a lack of honesty in politics. Nothing will change until that changes. This is a shame, since we have the intelligence and the manpower to become a superpower. And it's the young people who need to make that happen.

**ARYA: IF YOU HAD TO OFFER ANY ADVICE TO SOMEONE GRADUATING RIGHT NOW, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

R: Have a goal, be sincere, and most importantly, believe in yourself. Believe in what you want to do. You won't necessarily succeed every time. But if you tell yourself that "This will happen, I will make it happen", you have the potential to make it happen. Just don't give up. A lot of youngsters try once or twice and then give into complacency, knowing their parents will provide for them. But success isn't just money. It's the satisfaction of doing what you want to do. If you can, take care of others. The more you give, the more you get. The more you get, the more you can give. You should be selfless rather than selfish. Learn to share.



**YASH: DO YOU THINK INVENTURE TODAY IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU HAD INITIALLY IMAGINED 15 YEARS AGO? IF SO, IS IT A GOOD DIFFERENCE?**

IR: The only thing I felt bad about is where Inventure is located. It's sad to watch kids get up at 6 am and travel long distances through Bangalore traffic to get to school. In fact, we had considered making Inventure a boarding school, but that would've been a different responsibility altogether. Other than that, Inventure today is exactly how we had imagined it. The entire goal was to set up an institution that makes a qualitative difference, not just a quantitative one. And I think we've accomplished that goal. Overall, Inventure has flourished and that gives me immense satisfaction. I must give credit to the entire team for making Inventure what it is today and what it will be tomorrow.



# FOUNDING FACULTY

*Three of Inventure's veteran faculty members - Ms. Preet Benjamin, Ms. Varsha Saxena and Ms. Radhika Surendran - recall the early days of Inventure and reflect on their experiences with the school.*



**MS. PREET BENJAMIN**

Ms. Preet Benjamin explains that there have been so many amazing memories of the school's founding and growth that it's hard to just pick just one. "I remember a pond that our first students built at the Martin Farm...we started school there since our building wasn't ready. Students dug a circular hole about 5 feet in diameter and then started pouring water in. To their bafflement, the water was not filling up, it kept disappearing!

"Eventually they understood that they had to waterproof it with cement to retain the water."

She adds that the process of learning through exploration was evident and has come to be a hallmark of teaching at Inventure, starting with Inventuring!

Ms. Benjamin recalls that very first day at Inventure.

"On 14 July 2005 it rained hard and the school resembled a muddy bog - but that didn't deter the Trustees, and the first batch of students and teachers from the inauguration. The excitement was palpable!



"It was the start of something very new and special - rain certainly wasn't going to dampen our determination to embark on an exciting journey! The attitude was - 'Bring it on! Inventure is here!'"

Ms. Benjamin adds another memory from 2010, which remains vivid today. "One of our students won the Boys A division 100 mts sprint in great style! He was not just any student - he was diagnosed with a disorder so kept to himself most of the time, he ate only dry chapatis for lunch everyday and talked to himself on occasion. It was a beautiful inspirational moment; I cried unashamedly because through sheer hard work this guy defeated his crippling introversion to triumph on the sports field. For me, that's what Inventure stands for: the quest for excellence and overcoming our shortcomings to find an area that we can excel in - and that can be in anything!"

When it comes to change and growth, Ms Benjamin believes that Inventure has seen a huge change in the approach to learning and the definition of school. She explains that circa 2005, it was all about marks and performance.

"Students were/are achieving results like 98 and 99% in their Board Exams and that was the entire goal of school. At present, soft skills and life skills are popularly acknowledged as important parameters of school success.

"Very slowly, schools are realising that a purely content driven approach (which is redundant due to information, courses and degrees being freely available and accessible on the internet) is not enough and that school needs to focus on developing the whole person and other skills for success."

Ms. Benjamin is proud that Inventure is a school that walks the talk! She said,

"Whether it's 'Nurture Inventive Thinking', or 'A balanced approach', or 'The happiest school', or 'New World. New Learning.' - we do what we say, and the proof lies in the incredible feedback from students, parents, faculty. Apart from that - I truly think that our greatest achievement is the creation of a warm, nurturing environment - a school that teaches with love and understanding, acknowledging every student and teachers' individuality - that achieves and aspires for excellence in every aspect."

When considering what makes Inventure unique, Ms Benjamin shares what prospective parents cite as their reasons for wanting Inventure as their school of choice. "Our model for whole person development and holistic learning - a lot of schools make this claim, but Inventure's has been able to ensure that every child gets equal exposure and access to every opportunity whether its in Beyond Academics or Academics.



Choice is also an integral aspect of the Inventure Approach. Dismissed in the early days as a ‘sports school’, Inventure has shown that we stand for excellence in all areas.”

Ms. Benjamin states that as a happy school Inventure has changed the notion that school had to be a place of rules, discipline, truckloads of homework, conformity and uniformity. She explains, “Inventure is a caring school where students feel safe - both emotionally and physically. There is a freedom to be. Finally, there is ‘Thinking & Learning to learn’ - the emphasis on academic programmes and approaches to teaching that encourage students to understand, apply their learning, make connections and explore, experiment, discover, invent and. These are hallmarks of the Inventure Way of Teaching and Learning.”

As for the future? “The Best is yet to come! Be a part of our journey - stay connected!”



## MS. VARSHA SAXENA

One of the founding staff members of Inventure Academy, Varsha Saxena, Head of Finance and Administration shares some insights into her fifteen years at Inventure.



Smiling warmly, she explains that every day at Inventure is full of good memories, starting with the inauguration of the school and the planning that went into welcoming the first students back in 2005 and the very first production entitled “The Big Bang,” that was presented in the Hub.

“I love seeing happy students and faculty members every day,” explained Ms. Varsha, “Inventure is very much a school with a heart, something that is obvious from the positive vibes one gets upon entering the campus. For us every person at school is special and we believe in each and every individual.”

Ms Varsha is especially proud of the way Inventure has grown from a small start up school to being recognised as one of India’s leading educational establishments with a student body of over 1200. She explains part of the School’s success can be attributed to its ability to adapt to change by growing and evolving, evidenced by its recent adaptation to an outstanding online programme. She concludes, “I would like to offer a big thank you to our entire Inventure family of staff, students, parents and alumni for making Inventure what it is today. It would not have been possible for the school to achieve its outstanding success without each one of you.”



**MS. RADHIKA SURENDRAN**

“An Inventure veteran, Ms. Radhika from the Centre of Excellence and Lead Theme Based Learning fondly recalls her first days at Inventure. “ We started planning group activities; little did we know that there were no students. One day, I was called to Nooraine’s office to discuss with potential parents why Inventure would be the right choice for their child...Tanuj Lalwani was our first student.”

Receiving a crash course in marketing when she had to recruit students in December of 2005, Ms Radhika explains that she was a teacher who loved teaching. This passion translated into the enrollment of lots of students. She adds, “I feel happy that I was instrumental in getting our first student and also increasing the student population the following years. I remember an Assembly in the second year when I saw the number of students sitting, I couldn’t fight back the tears of joy for increasing our tribe. To this day, when there is a whole school assembly at the hub, I am filled with emotions as I go down the memory lane ...from no kids to 1200 and more kids.”

Ms. Radhika had loved seeing Inventure grow in every aspect, from the academic pedagogy to the infra-structure. “The greatest change I personally like is the production. The very first year, we had a Pod presentation in the junior amphitheater. It was simple and was very sweet. Back then, whenever we had a presentation and invited parents, it would rain...even if it was summer. The next year, we did a home grown production and the play was written by Shaheen and Sinduja. We staged this play in St. Johns auditorium. Although I don’t remember much of the play it was nice to see so many students on stage. Today, our productions are sophisticated and professional where students showcase myriad talents.”

Ms. Radhika reflects that Inventure used to be considered an experimental 'sports school' due to its out-of-the-box philosophies and initiatives. This included programmes such as Theme Based Learning (an interdisciplinary approach to learning) which was unheard of 15 years ago. "BA ranged from pottery, music, dance, different types of sport, etc. Some people felt that the school was more a fun place than a school." She explains, “Now I see that the world appreciates the value of a vision and a system that encourages thinking, expression, and physical and emotional wellbeing. People have realized that such an education helps students be change-makers, innovators, and thinkers. Above all, people have realized that Inventure students are confident, happy, reflective and intelligent. That, I think, is our greatest achievement. Another feather in our cap is that more and more schools around the globe want to learn and implement our approach to learning and focus on the all-round development of students rather than just academic achievement.”

She concludes that education at Inventure is an enjoyable experience. “Enjoy the journey and discover yourself”.



# Friends of Inventure

*Two members of the Inventure community from outside the student and faculty bodies put in their word.*

## MS. ANJU KADAM

Ms. Anju Kadam, Inventure's Communications Manager and an Inventure parent, has had a fantastic 9 years working with Inventure.

"I feel pride in contributing to building the brand

to where it is today. I've been given the freedom to experiment with different formats and channels. A client that is willing to learn & grow with you is a winning combination to successful brand building."



Indeed, inventure's flexibility and dynamism extend beyond its professional attitude.

“Inventure to me is alive. It's a living being that is continuously changing and growing to become better.”, says Ms. Kadam. “This school is ready to take the plunge into unknown avenues while keeping its eye firmly on the goal of becoming better at what it does. It really stands out as a quality that all organizations, not just schools, should emulate.”

She says she's grown with Inventure - “I thrive on learning, putting the pieces of the puzzle together to see the big picture.

Inventure Academy is a culture of learning - innovative, free thinking and future gazing. I find the ride with Inventure exhilarating, we are always doing the new.”

Ms. Kadam is also satisfied with the education it has provided her children. “ I think it sparks different things in different students but the one common spark I see is enquiry. Being curious is an asset. Inventure encourages being curious.”

“It's a school I would have loved to attend myself”, she concludes.

## Mr. Mahesh Hariharan

Mr. Mahesh Hariharan, from Baghirathi Travel Solutions, has a similar story to tell. “Inventure is extremely professional, yet uniquely different. They focus on what can be achieved together for the benefit of all instead of certain individuals.”

Baghirathi provides and runs all of Inventure’s school buses.

He fondly recalls the time Inventure transplanted a banyan tree, due to be cut down for road expansion.

“A tree, possibly 30 or 40 years old, would have been removed in the name of modernisation. But Inventure academy initiated an effort to replant the tree in their own campus. It was an extraordinary effort, and a perfect example of their unique approach to imparting knowledge to the next generation.”

Mr. Hariharan admires Inventure’s organic approach to improving themselves, and their ability to listen and adapt. “Their ability to to impart their values with style sets them apart”, he remarks. “They really practice what they preach.”



2019



2018



2017



**2016**



# 2015



# TEACHER TALES

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My first impression at Inventure was the happiness of the children .The enthusiasm and zeal of teachers has always been a source of inspiration.Over a decade and a half later, I continue to feel this sense of accomplishment and gratification for being able to excel in my pursuit of excellence and being instrumental by helping my peers and students with theirs.

- Humera ma'am

Inventure has been a journey of continuous learning, professionally and personally. Its environment has a welcoming nature that allows for ample growth be it intentionally or tacitly. People make a place what it is, and interacting with the variety of people at Inventure, student and faculty, leaves one with a large gamut of experiences that will stay with me for life

- Mr. Aaron Joseph

I just completed 5 years at Inventure and I believe it has been an amazing journey of growth and learning. I really love how Inventure enables and encourages its teachers to bring the best of themselves. Inventure professional development programs has really helped me in improving my skills as a teacher and hence in promoting learning for students in the classroom. I am really grateful and happy to be part of the Inventure family and thankful for all the support which I have received through my journey.

- Ms. Sachita Jindal



Orange is the color of creativity, like exactly is Inventure...wonderful place, for teachers, students, parents... to create, to express oneself, and also to be compassionate, be inspiring and learn more about gratitude. My words are only for gratitude for the Inventure Family

- Claudia ma'am

Inventure is such a happy place to be. The place has a vibrancy like no other. The atmosphere is fresh. The faculty team and the students are outspoken, helpful and are a wonderful team to be a part of.

- Lavanya ma'am

Inventure has been a 10 year journey of growth, reflection and change. Like a deep friendship it has grown over time. As I grey and wrinkle, it is wonderful to see Inventure growing many fruits. It has been part of the fabric of my life, as my daughter too grew up along with the school. It is hard to pick a moment in this rich experience. But all the moments when students do well and when I am part of yet another graduating batch it is yet another moment to savour.

- Sowmya ma'am

I'm a newbie at this school and I was considerably challenged by Google Meet and connectivity issues. In a particularly harrowing session during Inventuring CTT, I was logged out twice and clearly distressed. After the CTT, Anjali (Grade 12 A B) stayed back and asked about my wellness. It was an amazing moment since I was feeling such a failure at that point of time. It was good to talk to someone and realise that I felt accepted as a grade teacher.

- Saurabh sir



Orange is the color of creativity, like exactly is Inventure...wonderful place, for teachers, students, parents... to create, to express oneself, and also to be compassionate, be inspiring and learn more about gratitude. My words are only for gratitude for the Inventure Family  
- Claudia ma'am

As I sit back and reflect over my decade at Inventure, I take pride to see myself grow with Inventure. Inventure has been a nurturing ground to a rich learning experience for both the students and staff alike. The dynamic environment fosters personal and professional growth. Inventure stands as a strong competitor to itself, raising its bars and reaching new milestones every time. It's indeed a happy school.  
- Jyothi ma'am

Inventure has been home for about 11 years now. When I look back at the past 11 years, I can see how much I have learnt and experienced at this amazing place. Sometimes I feel that I also grew up at Inventure much like my children. I feel we breathe in and breath out the Inventure values. It reflects in everything we do and every cause we take up. The dynamic nature of this school is its USP. Change is the only constant here. As you walk through the corridors at Inventure, you can almost smell the excitement and positivity in the air. I feel grateful for this community of learners and am proud to be a part of it for so long. Looking forward to all the surprises and learnings that are in store for me in my exciting journey ahead.  
- Ekta ma'am

Walking into Inventure , nearly 10 years ago the first thing that I noticed was how happy the children were. I noticed a unique culture where children are met with respect and joy. Years down the line I am still excited to be in a place where we don't do 'Easy' we push limits and transform every year ,working hard and being kind - believing that amazing things happen.  
- Supriya ma'am



I have a dream: of school as a happy place, one that students and teachers eagerly look forward to everyday, one where students fall in love with learning, one where one where they can be themselves without fear of being judged or found falling short, one where we can discover ourselves, one where we are appreciated for the unique people we are - we find our individuality, one where we are empowered to do something about injustices and inequalities around us, one where we nurture world class citizens, one where we learn to be the best we can be, one where we CARE! I am so lucky to have found that place at Inventure and so proud to be a part of the journey!

- Preet ma'am

Close to completing 6 years at Inventure I can recall many happy memories working with different departments & my fellow Inventurers. But one that stands out the most was when I took a break on the steps of the Middle School hangout and all four of our gorgeous 'puppies' came over for their everyday hugs & cuddles almost knocking me off with their love. Works to lift my spirits every single time! The perks of being an Inventurer!

- Sneha ma'am

I have been with Inventure for little over a year now, somehow it doesn't feel like that. I am really grateful to everyone for being so supportive and helpful in making me settle-in, so much so that I don't feel like I am a 'new teacher'. What I find most exciting at Inventure is that there are no dull days, each day brings in new challenges and new opportunities to learn and grow. I really love our 'Student-first approach'. Whenever there is any confusion or issue, this approach helps break all ties. I feel honored to be a part of this esteemed institution.

- Poonam ma'am



# Was there a moment when you felt like Inventure was a truly special school?

During my first visit to Inventure way back in 2008, Nooraine requested a student to take me around the school campus on a tour. I found to my pleasant surprise, that this student was extremely knowledgeable (and unabashedly proud) about every aspect of the school. She even explained the intricacies of the school's curricular approach, expounded on the core values of the school and professed that students have an immense sense of belonging, enveloped by the nurturing and inclusive ethos of the school. Her spontaneous and sincere comments made me realize that this was not a rehearsed drill, but reflective of heartfelt statements from a student who loved being where she was. The fact that we - faculty, students and staff - have become associated with Inventure Academy, is intentional on our part and we are lucky the school has invited us to be a part of its community with open arms. Carpe diem!

- Ramesh sir

Every minute of every day!

- Jennifer Sharples



# STUDENT STORIES

## what do you miss most about the campus?

At school, there is always someone to guide you, and you have a sense of belonging.

- Aarya Appachu

I miss talking to my friends and the campus environment.

- Vedant Dubey

The offline counselling. It's way easier to talk to someone face to face rather than screen to screen!

- Vanya Krishna

Everything.

- Tana Shivashankar

I miss the hub, the cafeteria, and most of all - the interactions with my friends in the classrooms.

- Anusha Chowdhury



I really miss social  
interaction.

- Vanya Nath

The dogs and Friday  
biryani!

- Aarushi Menon

The mood and the food. On  
campus, you feel very  
connected to everyone around.  
And the food... let's just say  
nothing matches it.

- Avni Agarwal

Mia, Raksha, Talia  
and Tasha!

- Sannah Mudbidri

I really miss seeing my friends'  
faces everyday!

- Sreekari Pingali

The corridors and  
classes and people.

- Nikhil Mishra



The dogs and just the atmosphere.

- Meghna Kishore

The study pods.

- Anirudh Mody

The kitchen and housekeeping staff.

- Neha Talla

The Hub!

- Sahana Athreya

The different opportunities we had and the different things we could do on campus.

- Kayli Maini

I thoroughly miss Inventuring. Nothing can compare to the joy of meeting your friends on the first day of school, and the sleepover and the bonfire!

- Surabhi

Parthasarathy

I miss the little things, like going to my locker to get my books before each class, walking around in the corridors,.

- Shraddha Rajmohan



# what do you love about online school?

That we are able to stay  
home and study.  
- Vedant Dubey

I really appreciate the amount  
of time teachers put into their  
lessons and take the time to  
make their classes as fun and  
interactive as they can be.  
- Surabhi Parthasarathy

The fun and  
interactive activities  
such as the Kahoot  
quizzes, the padlets,  
and the linoits.  
- Neha Bhati

The effort that the teachers  
have put and the time they  
spend to make the classes  
interesting and fun.  
- Anusha Chowdhury



The effort all the teachers put into it really makes it worth it. All the interactive activities make it really fun.  
- Akshaj Goel

Definitely the convenience of working from home.  
- Sreekari Pingali

I like how the work is extremely organised and easy to get.  
- Kayli Maini

It's not so confusing where the homework is.  
- Vittal Iyengar

How late we can wake up and  
Less Class Work!  
- Krish Kakkar



# Any ideas on how to improve campus when we get back to school?

More time to interact with the dogs!  
- Akshaj Goel

I feel that there should be some plants in every class that the students grow and once they are big enough, the students can plant them!  
- Kayli Maini

I think the milk during snack break should be around for longer.  
- Arya Murthy

I think having plants in all the classrooms would make the campus even more beautiful and lush. Students can take turns watering them.  
- Shraddha Rajmohan



nothing, it's  
already perfect!

- Tana  
Shivashankar

I hope we can  
get an expansion  
on the library,  
it's like a second  
home to so many  
students!

- Sreekari Pingali

Let the dogs roam around.  
Then we can adore them a  
little more. And a BIGGER  
LIBRARY

- Viraj Shirhatti

I want it to look the same way  
that it used to!

- Vittal Iyengar

There should be an  
assembly, just for  
everyone to  
interact!

- Vanya Nath



# ALUMNI ANECDOTES

## What do you miss most about Inventure?

Outbound trips! The people, the campus. Everything. Chocolate lava cake. Everything  
- Shreya Nair

Living in the moment- not having to worry about BIG problems  
-Yash Podar

The inventre life. And Biryani.  
- Shivjeet Parthasarathy

The sense of community and being able to connect with practically anyone! Also how nice the teachers were and how we could actually be friends with them-  
Anusha Chowdhury



Fooooood  
- Ishika Mehta

The people! In Inventure our relationships with our peers and teachers are more than professional ones.  
- Noor Dixit

seeing my best friends every single day  
- Anjali Menon

The people! Students and teachers alike :)  
- Ananya Parthasarathy

Thursday food.  
- Mannat Bhalla

Seeing some awesome people on a daily basis  
- Apurva Kanagal



# PARENT PONDERINGS

## Any interesting anecdotes or observations as an Inventure Parent?

A year before we moved from the US, we made a trip to Bangalore to check out the city and schools for our older child who was to join grade three. It was an instant connection from the time we met Preet and Varsha and our little one felt so very comfortable with the environment of the school. Here we are today, our last year at Inventure when our younger child is graduating. Amazing teachers, ALL of them, who have taught and supported my children in every way. Thank you, Mrs Benjamin, Nooraine, Teachers, Counsellors, Admin staff, Library staff, Laboratory staff, Canteen staff, didis at school and in buses and the transport dept as well as the Security dept. Every one of you have always extended your full support. - Anonymous



My daughter once told me that in between extra long practice sessions for production, if they are hungry they sometimes wander into the cafeteria. The person never turns a child away if hungry. At least they would rustle up a sandwich for the child. I was so touched. I don't think there is another school which puts Children first like Inventure Academy does. - Anonymous

**The "Production" 2019/20 was just out of this world. How the whole theme of "decisions and choices" was weaved together, was just so thought-provoking! - Anonymous**



## What made you pick Inventure?

I loved the open, easy-going and simple environment of the school. In spite of being a new Inventure parent, I felt very much a part of the whole system here! - Anonymous

We picked inventure because of their emphasis on sports and extracurricular activities. The school had a happy vibe. I am yet to meet a student who is unhappy with the school. - Anonymous

Open and friendly...the kids there look so happy. - Anonymous



# CLASS OF '21 CHRONICLES

**What will you miss most about  
Inventure when you're gone?**

Free periods in the  
hub

-Shreesh Madhwal

Hanging around with  
friends in free periods

:)

- Anjali Mallampooty

How open and airy and  
beautiful the campus is.

The amazing teachers  
and the chill vibe

- Yash Singhal

Everything! The  
teachers, the drama  
at school and my  
friends

- Anirudh Mody

Sleepover! GOBI  
MANCHURIAN!!!

My friends :(

- Sahana

Walks around the football  
field

- Arya Murthy



# FIRST IMPRESSIONS

## New students - what were your thoughts when you ?

I've always heard such amazing things about Inventure - from how sweet everyone is and the concept of "therapy dogs", to the overall special culture. After actually joining, I haven't been disappointed at all. Of course, I would have loved to actually be on campus, but even the online experience is so great that I can't begin to imagine what "real school" on campus would be like.

Everyone here is truly so kind, welcoming, sweet, insanely talented, so smart, and so fun to talk to! Even the teachers are so friendly, accommodating and helpful! Honestly, I was initially really scared and nervous (and still am sometimes) about how to act and what things to say, but I was taken aback when I found out how accepting everyone is. From the very beginning,

I've really loved how much effort teachers and management put in for us: continuing to conduct PE and BA and giving us various opportunities even in these circumstances. I'm honestly so lucky to be here, and can't wait for the next one and a half years!

- Mihika Kumar



Inventure has genuinely exceeded my every expectation. I was really scared moving to a new school, especially with everything being online, but on the first day, the students and faculty were all so sweet, welcoming and helpful!! - Tavishi Niv

As it was my first time shifting to a new school, the entire process was pretty daunting to me. However, during my first week at Inventure, I felt really welcomed by all of the students, and teachers as well! Although this year we're online, I've already heard so much of what to look forward to: from the therapy dogs, amazing campus and of course Friday biryani! I for one can't wait to see everyone soon! - Kabir Burman



# Inventure

# Glossary

**Biriyani**

/ pick a side / • *noun*

Either “OH MY GOD ITS SO GOOD!” or “It’s alright.”  
There is no in-between.

**Mia, Raksha, Talia, and Tasha**

/ awwwwwwww / • *noun(s)*

Sweetest, cutest, happiest, friendliest dogs ever.

**Inventing**

/ hype / • *verb*

The best-est week of the full school year.

**Ice Cream**

/ mile-long lines / • *noun*

Didi one more scoop please, I’m taking for my friend  
also . . .

**Makerspace**

/ invention corner / • *noun*

Middle schoolers + Power tools = Chaotic Creativity

**Pacer**

/ Hell on Earth / • *noun*

Please no.

**Inventure Academy**

/ the best school / • *noun*

KONDE KONDE INVENTURE KONDE

**Outbound**

/ the dreaded BBA / • *noun*

Who knew trekking through rain and mud could  
help us bond like this?

**Production**

/ grand and gorgeous / • *noun*

The lights on stage make our teary eyes shimmer.  
The walls of the hub make the applause thunder.

**Study Pods**

/ more like sofa / • *noun*

Sorry, it’s taken.

**Orange**

/ Inventure pride / • *adjective*

It’s not just a colour. It’s a feeling.

**Hub**

/ open-air auditorium / • *noun*

The best hang out spot ever

**Thursday Assembly**

/ skit, song, wrong uniform / • *noun*

When you realize your birthday falls on a Thursday.

**Sleepover**

/ indoor camping / • *noun*

Burgers + Board Games + Gossip + Sleeping bags



# THIS OR THAT?

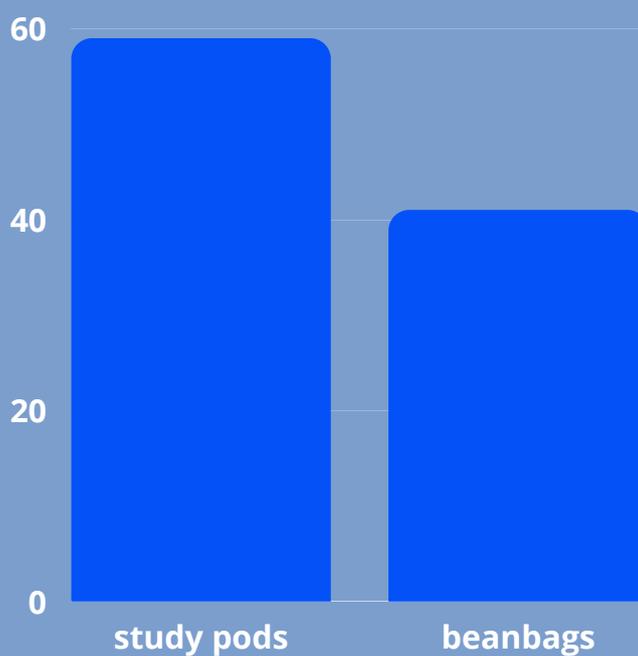
What do the  
Inventurers  
have to say?



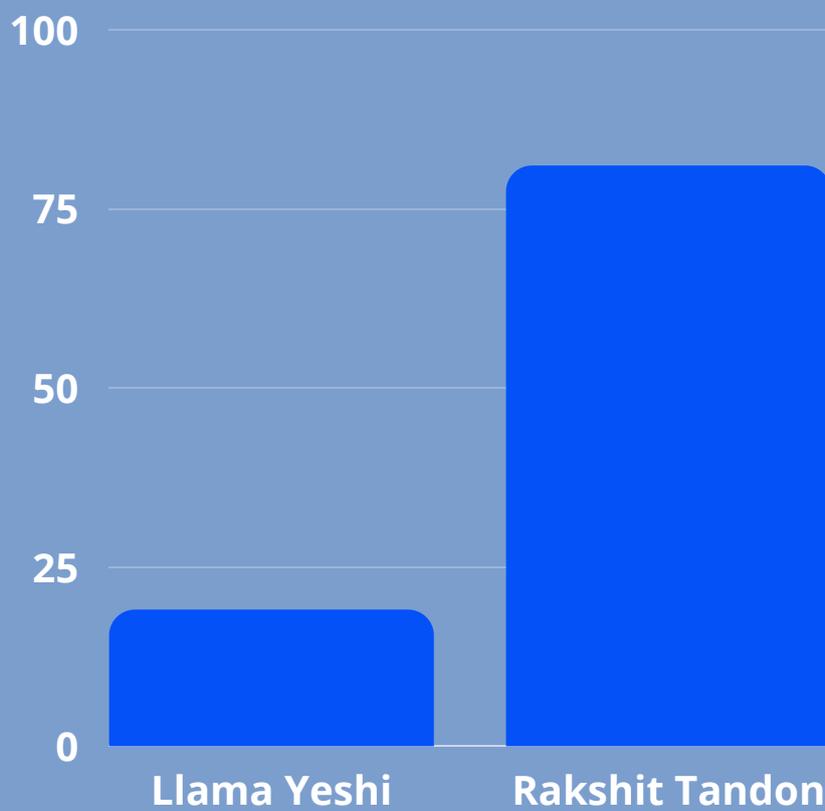
# BIRYANI OR KULCHAS?



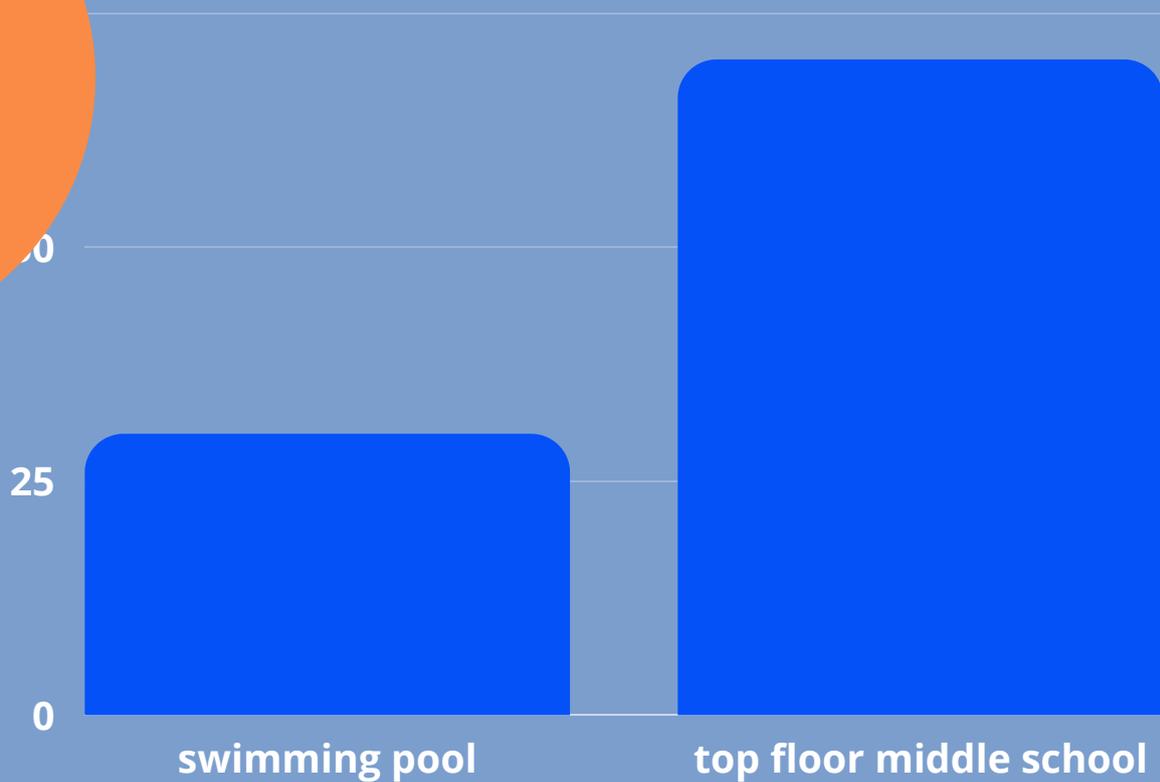
# STUDY PODS OR LIBRARY BEANBAGS



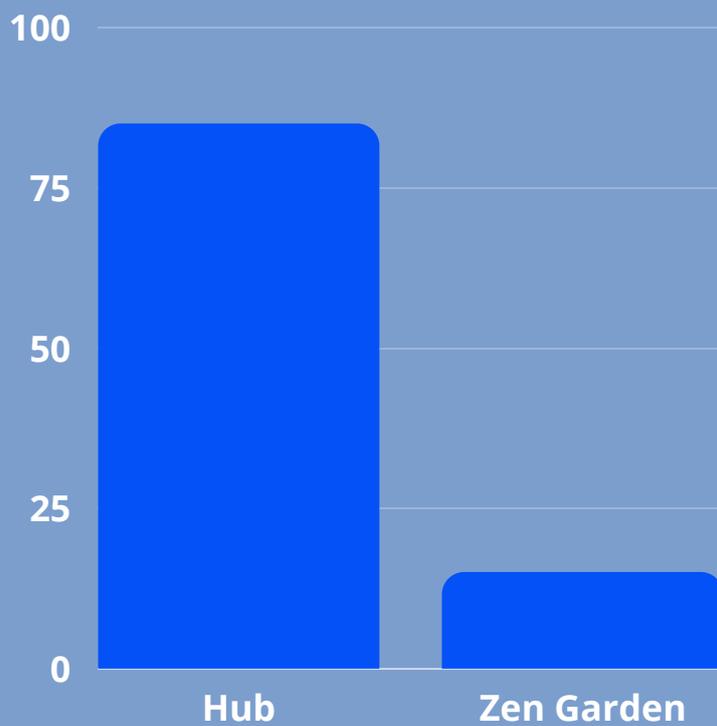
# BEST GUEST SPEAKER?



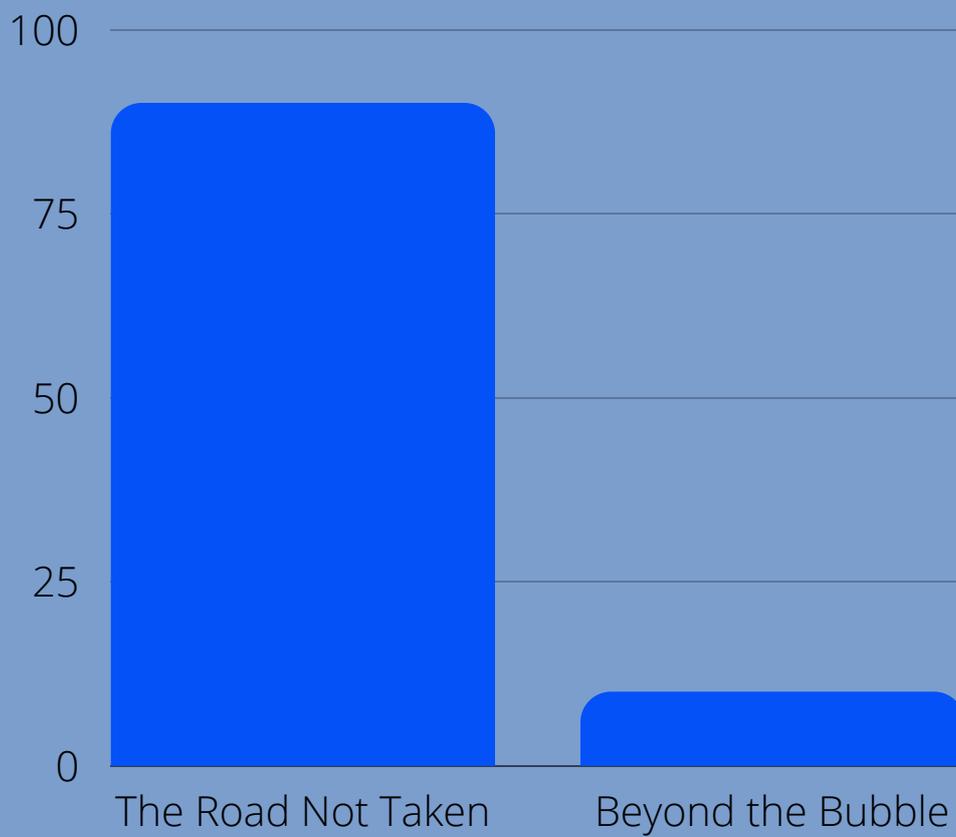
# FAVOURITE **SINK** IN SCHOOL?



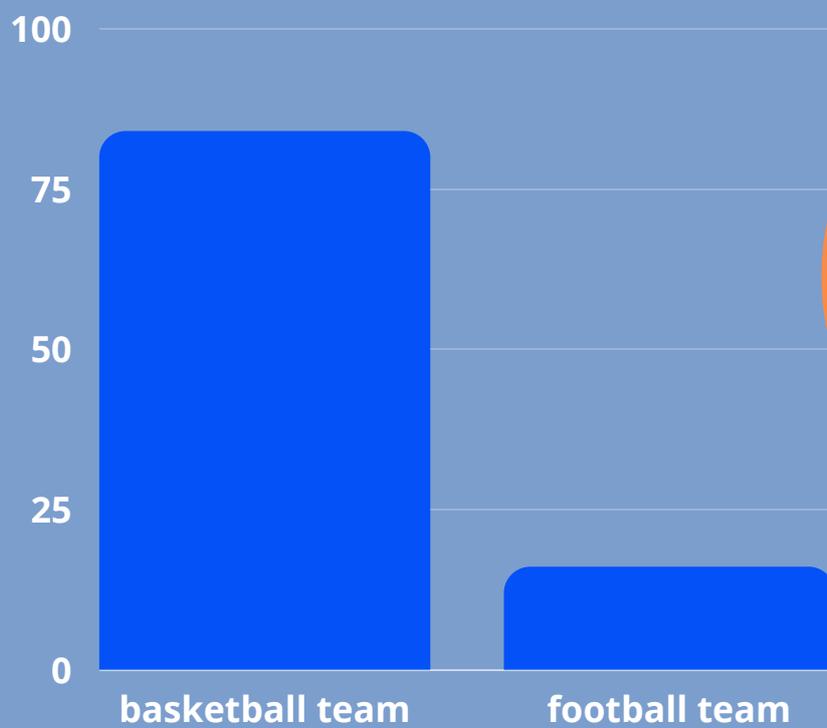
# BEST PLACE TO HANG OUT IN SCHOOL?



# BEST PRODUCTION?



# WHO PLAYS BETTER?





# In 15 words

*Inventure, as described by  
the Inventure teachers*

Enthusiastic Unprejudiced  
 Exciting Prestigious  
 Empathetic  
 HAPPY  
 Dynamic Bright  
 Progressive Happening  
 Energetic  
 Vibrant  
 Human  
 Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious

— T H E —  
*carpe diem*  
C H R O N I C L E S

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