

# Hosting KHOJ, Second Edition: Reimagining Classrooms Through Life Skills

Pune, Maharashtra | 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2026



On 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2026, S.B. Patil Public School, Pune, proudly hosted the second edition of KHOJ — an Inter-school Faculty Convention aligned with the United Nations' SDG #4, reaffirming its commitment to quality education and meaningful pedagogical dialogue. Building upon the success of its inaugural chapter, KHOJ 2025 emerged not merely as an event, but as a living, breathing exchange of ideas — where classrooms met conscience, and research met reality.

Centred on the theme “Life Skills: A Journey towards Joyful Classrooms”, the convention sought to reimagine education beyond textbooks — to explore how learning can become more humane, more relevant, and quietly transformative. In a time where academic rigour often overshadows emotional intelligence, KHOJ gently but firmly shifted the lens back to what truly matters — the child, the experience, and the joy of learning.



The event commenced with an auspicious lamp lighting ceremony by all the esteemed guests, whilst the Saraswati Vandana was melodiously rendered by the school choir, setting a tone of reverence and purpose for the day.

In her introductory message, principal, Dr. Bindu Saini emphasised, “If the previous edition focused on how we teach, this year invited educators to pause and reflect on why and for whom we teach.”



This subtle yet powerful shift marked a deeper philosophical turn — from methodology to meaning, from instruction to intention. She urged educators to look beyond strategies and into the very purpose of education itself, placing the learner — not the system — at the centre of all inquiry.

The convention brought together passionate educators from across institutions, each carrying not just presentations, but lived experiences from their classrooms. Their research reflected a shared urgency — to create spaces where students do not merely perform, but belong.





The event was elevated by the presence of an esteemed panel of experts. The mentor for the convention, Dr. Sangeeta Gole, academic consultant, brought depth and perspective, guiding the intellectual direction of the event with her vast experience in education.

The distinguished speakers included Mr. Shringi Dubey, Director of Asha Educational Society, and Dr. Namrata Majhail, principal-director of The Orchids School. Their insights moved beyond theory, thus motivating educators to embrace inclusivity, dealing effectively with classroom challenges with respect to the changing socio-emotional needs of learners, and how — at the end of the day — teachers need to give priority to their own emotional wellbeing.



The panel of judges — Dr. Leena Pimpley, mentor of K-12 schools, and Dr. Amrutha Joshi, polyglot, writer, educator, and career coach — brought both rigour and sensitivity to the evaluation process. Their feedback was not merely evaluative, but developmental — pushing participants to think deeper, question stronger, and refine further.

Distinguished guests included the leadership team from KK Wagh, Nashik; and Ms. Shubhra Varma, the principal of Meena Bhujbal School of Excellence, Nashik.



The event was seamlessly hosted by Ms. Abhaya Ravishankar and Ms. Swaleha Mujawar, whose poised compeering ensured a smooth and engaging flow throughout the day, balancing professionalism with warmth.

The event saw eight participants from schools all over Maharashtra — The Knowledge Habitat School, Pune; Smt. Surajba Vidya Mandir, Mumbai; M.P. Shah English High School, Mumbai; Antar Bharati Balgram, Lonavala; and S.B. Patil Public School.



Attended by over 150 members, the event saw thought-provoking presentations to reflective discussions. The atmosphere was one of intellectual curiosity and collaborative growth. Ideas were not just presented — they were challenged, reshaped, and enriched.

One of the most telling moments, however, came quietly at the end when the guests expressed how everything the event had was the need of the hour, and that they would have their faculty participating in next year's KHOJ event. Dr. Sangeeta Gole deeply impressed by the vision and execution of KHOJ by S.B. Patil Public School's team, expressed a keen interest in initiating a "KHOJ: Nashik Edition" — a testament to the event's impact and its potential to grow beyond a single institution.



S.B. Patil Public School extends its heartfelt gratitude to the PCET management, mentors, speakers, judges, participants, and organisers, and all who contributed to making this convention a meaningful success. It is through such collective effort that ideas find direction, and education finds its purpose.



KHOJ continues — not as an event confined to a date, but as a journey that quietly shapes the way we teach, learn, and understand.

