



FRIENDS  
OF PEB

*February 2026*

NEWSLETTER



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**A Letter from Cheryl**

I just spent two weeks in Pakistan with a group visiting and learning about PEB schools. Although I have done these trips many times and lived in Pakistan for many years, I learn something new every time. This time it was an opportunity to see some of our alumni in person, not just as stories and pictures. PEB has been actively working on finding our alumni and gathering their stories and oftentimes they get those stories when students get back in touch. This trip we heard from a young woman who was a Kinnaird graduate and is currently studying at Forman Christian College. After several conversations with her, some things became very clear to me. The first is that the transition from school to university is tough for everyone but ESPECIALLY for students coming from rural areas or lower income families. (Sounds like first generation students here, doesn't it?). The second is that, while safety nets and resources exist, they don't do any good if students are not aware of them or don't know how to access them. This particular student is doing well academically but, not surprisingly, is struggling to pay the fees for her university education. (We were able to get this sorted through conversation with the head of financial aid)

Here's the part of the story I want to share...Through the network of Kinnaird Academy graduates, we found that there are at least a dozen young women at Forman studying in various majors. We met with some of them on Monday afternoon for tea at the Vice Rector's home. We talked about the issue of trying to help incoming students navigate the university without always knowing who they are and asked if these young women had any ideas. They decided to set up a social media account for PEB grads at Forman (and any other university) to offer advice and support for one another. By the time I got back to the US on Wednesday, the account was live. Things I learned from this? PEB really is turning out the graduates that we hope for. Young women who are compassionate, well spoken, problem solvers. They are not all doing wonderfully in university—some are struggling more than others with the transition, but they are working to support one another and they are asking for help. We have teachers and administrators who have built relationships with their students that encourage them to stay in touch. These young women talked in glowing terms about what they got from Kinnaird and how it has impacted their ability to succeed beyond high school.

We will continue to look for ways to help our students prepare for higher education and to provide safety nets for the ones who make it to universities. But it is really encouraging to know that this group is beginning the process of figuring out ways to help one another. We often talk about our donors changing generations of lives rather than just one student—this is one way that happens. Our students are helping one another and those that come after them, not just their own families or their neighbors but fellow students from all over who need a mentor or a friend to walk with them and help figure out the hard stuff. At the end of the day, we all need that!

Thank you for making that possible for these women. I'll keep you posted on that Instagram account!

With gratitude,

**Cheryl Burke**

*Friends of PEB Executive Director*

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P.S. If you are interested in joining us on a trip to Pakistan, we have two going in October. The first one will be a group from a variety of churches, mostly first-time visitors. It leaves the US on October 8 and returns on October 17. The second one will be for women in ministry and will leave the US on October 18 and return on October 27. Please send an email to me at [cheryl@friendsofpeb.org](mailto:cheryl@friendsofpeb.org) and I will send more information.

GIVE NOW



Friends of PEB also welcomes planned gifts, donor-advised funds, IRA distributions, or gifts in other forms. If you have questions about your gift, please contact Cheryl at [cheryl@friendsofpeb.org](mailto:cheryl@friendsofpeb.org) or 678-697-6454. If you've recently added Friends of PEB to your will, please reach out to let us know!



## A Story of Hope...

We're honored to share this special video with you. Students at Christian Girls High School in Sargodha performed this skit during a recent visit from friends in the U.S., courageously portraying the real-life challenges many PEB students face each day. As you watch, we pray you feel both moved and inspired by the strength and faith of these girls.

WATCH NOW

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## Kinnaird Academy Expansion

**Goal: \$850,000**

**Currently Raised: \$187,337**

Construction on the new administration building is underway and on track for completion by March 2026, progress made possible by generous supporters like you. Once finished, it will immediately free up three classrooms in the main school building currently used as staff offices.

But we cannot pause here. Funding is urgently needed to begin construction on the academic block that will add nine more new classrooms. Every classroom is full, and more than 200 children are on a waiting list. For many families, Kinnaird is the only affordable, safe, and high-quality education option available in this densely populated area of Lahore.



Give now to help us keep building and open the door for 200+ more students.

[GIVE NOW](#)



Watch this video to learn about an exciting update at CGHSS Sangla Hill and get a glimpse of the campus.

## News from Pakistan: IB PYP Program at Sangla Hill

Because of your generosity, students are experiencing real, tangible improvements in their classrooms.

In January, new science equipment was delivered to the Christian Girls Higher Secondary School (CGHSS) in Sangla Hill. That means students aren't just reading about science in a textbook, they're conducting experiments, using real lab tools, and discovering how things work with their own hands. For many of these girls, this is their first opportunity to experience practical science in this way.

This exciting step forward comes at an important moment. Sangla Hill has now become an official **International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (IB PYP) candidate school**, joining Kinnaird Academy, which was the first PEB school to achieve this milestone. Becoming an IB school means moving beyond memorization and focusing on curiosity, critical thinking, and deep understanding. Students are encouraged to ask questions, explore ideas, and take ownership of their learning — skills that will serve them for a lifetime. This change will begin in March, at the beginning of the new academic school year in Pakistan.

At Kinnaird Academy, the IB journey continues to grow stronger. In January, teachers worked together to improve assessments so that exams measure true understanding rather than simple rote learning. Through collaborative planning and professional development, they are designing lessons and evaluations that challenge students to think, apply, and reflect.

Across PEB schools, your support is strengthening labs, equipping teachers, and raising academic standards to an international level. You are not just funding education, you are helping students gain confidence, curiosity, and opportunities they never imagined possible.

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### Available Student to Sponsor

**Day Student | \$35 per month**

*“My name is Almeera. I’m in Class Prep at Christian Girls’ High School Kasur, and I dream of becoming a doctor.”*

Almeera’s father is a sanitary worker, and her mother is a housewife. Almeera’s family cannot afford school fees on their own. She is waiting for a sponsor to help her continue her education long-term. Would you consider helping her family with tuition costs?



[MORE INFO](#)

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**Friends of PEB**

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