



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

A Report on Alumni Talk on “From Student to Innovator: Using AI to Solve Real-World Problems”

On October 6th, 2025, the Alumni Association collaborated with New Horizon International School and organized an insightful Alumni Talk for the 8th, 9th, and 10th std students. The session was led by Mr. Abhay Nagaraj B R, a Lead Software Engineer at JP Morgan Chase & Co. and an alumnus of NHCE (Batch: 2009-2013). The topic of the talk was "From Student to Innovator: Using AI to Solve Real-World Problems", aimed to inspire students to think beyond conventional career paths, and encouraged them to explore the world of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and innovation.

Mr. Abhay began his talk by explaining the pervasive presence of technology in everyday life. He highlighted how common applications such as WhatsApp, Google Maps, YouTube, and UPI rely on complex engineering solutions powered by AI. This set the tone for the session, emphasizing that technology is not "magic" but the result of hard work by engineers, many of whom are innovators themselves.

Key Highlights

- **Tech All Around Us:**
Mr. Abhay pointed out how technology is integral to daily activities, mentioning tools like WhatsApp for messaging, Google Maps for navigation, YouTube for personalized recommendations, and UPI for India's digital payment revolution. The takeaway was clear that the technology is omnipresent, and it is engineered by professionals like the students sitting in the room.
- **What is AI & LLMs?**
He defined AI as teaching computers to think and learn, enabling them to solve complex problems. He further introduced Large Language Models (LLMs), such as ChatGPT, which are trained with vast amounts of text data. Mr. Abhay demonstrated how LLMs can perform tasks like answering questions, writing content, and even generating ideas. A demo idea was shared, where AI could be used to list and prioritize problems in a city, such as pollution or traffic, based on urgency and impact on society.
- **Real-World Problems AI Can Solve:**
The discussion expanded on how AI can address real-world issues, categorized into three areas:
 - ✓ **School Level:** AI tools can help students with auto-summarization of notes, homework assistance, and explaining complex concepts.

- ✓ Society: AI can be used to detect fake news and create farmer chatbots in local languages to improve communication.
- ✓ Environment: AI-driven image recognition can be used for waste segregation, providing a solution to environmental challenges.

Mr. Abhay encouraged students to think critically about problems in their immediate environment and how AI could be part of the solution.

- **From Employee to Creator:**
The speaker highlighted two career paths: the traditional route of study → job → salary, and the new, innovative path of study → innovate → create opportunities. He cited examples such as the founders of Flipkart and AI startups in India, emphasizing the power of creating solutions rather than just seeking employment. He challenged the students to think like creators who solve problems and create job opportunities.
- **How to Start Early:**
Mr. Abhay encouraged students to start early by learning coding basics such as Python, Scratch, and HTML. He also recommended exploring AI tools like ChatGPT, Claude, Grok, and others to better understand the possibilities of AI. Furthermore, joining hackathons, robotics clubs, and competitions was suggested as a great way to gain practical experience and build small projects, which can eventually grow into significant innovations.
- **Being Responsible with AI:**
Addressing the ethical side of AI, Mr. Abhay emphasized the importance of cyber safety and protecting personal data online. He also stressed AI ethics, advising students not to misuse AI for unethical purposes like cheating or spreading fake news. The message was clear that aspiring innovators must also be responsible creators, thinking critically about the impact of their work on society.
- **Mini Activity: "What Problem Would You Solve with AI?"**
To engage the students, Mr. Abhay conducted a mini activity where he asked, "If you had an AI assistant, what problem would you solve in your school or community?" Several students shared their ideas, which ranged from enhancing educational tools for students with special needs to creating AI systems that could streamline school administration. Mr. Abhay affirmed that every idea was startup-worthy, encouraging students to bring their ideas to life by discussing them with mentors or friends.
- **Q & A Session**
The students were highly engaged throughout the session. Many students asked insightful questions about AI's role in shaping the future and how they could start exploring AI-related projects in their own time. Mr. Abhay responded thoughtfully to each query, often relating the concepts to practical, real-world scenarios.

Mr. Abhay concluded the session by reminding students that the next big AI Company could very well emerge from one of them. He encouraged everyone to embrace technology, take ownership of their ideas, and be responsible innovators of the future.

The alumni talk provided valuable insights into the potential of AI as a tool for innovation, and left students motivated to think critically about the problems around them and how they might contribute solutions using technology. The session was a reminder that in the world of tech, every student has the potential to be both an innovator and a creator.