



NUCLEUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS PRESENTS

INSIDE NUCLEUS

Think Deeply. Create Boldly. Solve Truly.

Nucleus International School Summer Camp 2026 · Part 4

7 August 2026

What Children Take Home From a Summer Camp in Addis Ababa

Confidence, communication and the nerve to try again. Week four at Nucleus Summer Camp: robotics that fail before they work, sparring in full pads, handprints held high, and a closing celebration in sight.



The Confidence to Try

Confidence does not arrive overnight. It grows one challenge at a time.

Through week four our campers stepped outside their comfort zones in ways that were easy to miss unless you were watching for them. Joining a game that had already started. Starting a painting with no idea how it would end. Standing up in front of the group. Going back to a problem that did not work the first time.

At Nucleus we celebrate the effort as much as the result. A child who tries something hard and does not get it right has already done the difficult part.



The banner says it. The pitch proves it.

Learning Beyond the Classroom —

The week was built around activities that develop the whole child rather than one narrow slice of them.

- Creative arts and imagination
- Science discoveries and hands-on experiments
- Team sports and cooperative games
- Music, movement and self-expression
- Problem-solving activities
- Friendship-building exercises

Each one asked children to think for themselves, to speak to each other with respect, and to look out for the person sitting next to them.



The art station on a busy morning.



Holding the work up before the paint is dry.



A teacher on hand, but the choices stay with the child.

Every Child Has a Moment to Shine —

The best part of the job is watching a child surprise themselves.

Campers who barely spoke in the first week are now volunteering to lead group activities. Others who preferred to work quietly are putting their ideas to the whole table. Every child moves at their own pace, and every success, big or small, gets marked.



Everyone finished. Everyone showed.



Two hands, two colours, one very pleased artist.



Half the learning happens in the gaps between activities.

Problem Solving, One Robot at a Time

In the innovation lab the brief is never just "build it". It is build it, run it, watch it fail, and work out why.

Campers worked in pairs on the kits and at the laptop, taking turns to test a design and change one thing at a time. Nobody gets a working robot on the first attempt, which is exactly the point.



Testing the build against the code on the laptop.



First successful run of the morning.

The Taekwondo Hall

Taekwondo is where the week is most obviously about nerve. Campers line up in belt order, run the same pattern until it is clean, then put the pads on and face someone their own size.

It teaches control before it teaches anything else: how hard is too hard, when to stop, how to lose a round and shake hands afterwards.



The whole hall on the same count.



Same pattern, again, until it is clean.

On the Pitch and the Court

Outside, the turf pitch and the blue court ran all week. Football in the morning while it was still cool, basketball once the sun was over the palm trees.

Team sport does something a classroom cannot. You cannot hide in a five-a-side game, and you cannot win one on your own either.



The chase is most of the game at this age.



One on one, no referee needed.



Waiting for the pass.

Building Skills for Life

Summer Camp is about more than keeping children busy through the holidays. It is about the things that stay with them after the last day.

Confidence

Communication

Creativity

Critical thinking

Teamwork

Leadership

Resilience

These are the qualities that make a successful learner, and later, a compassionate leader.

Looking Ahead: the Closing Celebration

With the final days of camp in sight, everything is now pointing at our Closing Celebration on Friday 14 August, where we mark the friendships made, the skills learned and the memories built over the summer.

Every camper will receive a Certificate of Participation recognising their enthusiasm, their effort and their commitment across the programme.

Thank you to all our parents for trusting Nucleus International Schools with your children this summer.

Watching them grow in confidence each day has been a privilege for the whole team.

Together we are nurturing curious minds, kind hearts and confident futures.