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JULY 2015 NEWSLETTER

*“Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think.”
Albert Einstein*

Dear Parents,

We are pleased and proud to welcome our students and families to IELC RMV as we embark on a new academic session together. We look forward to a year full of inquiry, innovation, creativity and acquisition of new skills and competencies. At Indus, our vision is to create global citizens and the leaders of tomorrow through the traditional values of love, empathy, discipline and respect- 21st century citizens who think globally and act locally. Our endeavor and mission is to create thoughtful leaders through holistic education and lifelong learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to give you an insight into our routines and policies and information on the IELC team, Curriculum Road Map Day and an overview of the schedule of the 3 Way Conferences and the Student Led Conferences where parents and teachers have the opportunity to engage in discussion regarding the progress of the students and students have the unique opportunity of showcasing their portfolio's during the Student Led Conference.

Introducing the IEC RMV Team

Our teachers at IELC have been enthusiastically preparing to receive their students over the past two weeks, as we have engaged in extensive professional development, classroom set-up and collaborative planning meetings. At the onset of the new academic session, I would like to officially introduce the members of staff to our team. Please see below the Teacher Allocations for the upcoming session:

Nursery

Ms. Shivani Mehrotra

Reception	Ms. Sreeja Shankar
Prep	Ms. Kavitha Anil Kumar
Specialists	Shankar Mahadevan Academy- Ms. Sukriti Physical Education - Ms. Ritu Dance- Ms. Ritu Spanish- Ms. Martha Western Music and Keyboard- Ms. Sruti

Curriculum Roadmap Day

IELC, as part of its educative journey, espouses a unique curriculum that is both inquiry-based and concept-driven. What this means is simply that we encourage the children to learn through asking questions, researching the answers, and that all teaching and learning is centered on themes that are relevant to their lives. The IB inspired curriculum, which our IELC curriculum is based on, explores six fundamental questions through the Units of Inquiry. These concept-based questions are a powerful vehicle for promoting meaning and understanding of self, the world, and others.

The school will host a Curriculum Road Map Day (CRMD) for all parents on Friday, August 7th, 2015. This is a presentation by your child's teachers, which offers an overview of the year's curriculum, as well as the classroom schedule and routines. Topics will include communication procedures and preferences, parent involvement in the program, curriculum overview, assessments, and essential school policies. We look forward to seeing you on **Friday, August 7nd from 9:30 - 10:30 am**. If you have more than one child at IELC, please plan for both parents to attend so that one of you may be present for each classroom presentation.

Important IELC Policies :

School Timings:

School will officially open for the children on Monday, August 10th, 2015. The school timings are as follows:

Class	Timings
Nursery	9:00am – 2: 30 pm
Reception	9:00 am- 2: 30 pm
Prep 1 and Prep 2	9:00 am – 2: 30 pm

For the morning of August 10th, new parents may want to walk with their child into the school. When your child is comfortable with coming to school, you may simply drop your child off at the gate where the class assistants will be waiting to welcome the children.

Dispersal will commence at 2: 30 pm and the teachers and class assistants will accompany the students to the main lobby, where they will be handing over to registered guardians.

Food and Water:

Students will have two food breaks during the course of their day. The mid-morning snack has to be bought from home and we strongly recommend healthy nutritious options. If you wish you may send a late afternoon snack for children to eat before they go home. Lunch will be provided and a menu of the same will be shared with you. Our caterer will provide hot lunch where you have an option of choosing between a veg/non veg selection. If for some reason you would prefer to send food along with your child, you may do so, but please may we request you to kindly inform us in advance so that we can then inform our caterer and avoid any wastage of food from happening.

Please do send a labelled full bottle of water to school with your child every day in his/her backpack and we will refill the same during the course of the day. We do have a microwave and fridge in school for storage and warming up of food! We encourage all children to have a balanced diet and monitor the lunchtime to ensure the same. If your child has any specific nutritional requirement or allergies, please do notify the grade teacher immediately. Safe drinking water is available in dispensers and we advise children to bring their own bottles to refill.

Information and Communication:

Every grade teacher sends out a monthly newsletter giving you information on the unit of inquiry/theme and of any specific grade-level activities and trips. In addition to this, the teachers also send a monthly calendar which will keep you abreast of the happenings on a daily basis. A monthly newsletter also goes out from the Head of Centre with updates of the bigger picture and school activities.

The student diary is your first point of contact with the teacher and it needs to be checked and signed by the parent every day. Please be sure to fill in the details at the front of the diary (and keep them updated) so we can contact you if required. The grade teacher will also list her phone number so you can contact her but we request you to call only if required and at an appropriate time. All teachers have official school email ids and you can communicate with them directly for any clarifications or queries.

Leaving School Early:

If for some specific reason you need to pick up your child early from school you will be required to fill out an "Exit Slip" which needs to be signed by the Head of Centre. These forms are available with the grade teachers. Students will not be permitted to leave the school premises without this form.

Monthly Learner Profile:

Each month, as part of our Leadership Curriculum, we will explore one of the ten qualities that the IB curriculum values as part of being "Internationally- Minded". The profile that we will explore in the first month the academic session August, is becoming a "Communicator". Children display the profile of a communicator when they understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others. At IELC, we encourage the children's confidence by developing their communication skills and helping them settle in smoothly.

Field Trips:

Field trips will help children further understand what we are inquiring about. It is the experiential aspect of the theoretical things we learn. Field trips will be organized by the school and are related to the unit of inquiry/theme during each term. Parents will be notified in advance and will be required to sign a consent form permitting your child to attend. Parents are welcome to join us as volunteers.

Birthday Celebrations:

If you wish to celebrate your child's birthday class at school, you may coordinate with the class teacher. Our policy is to allow parents to come to the class on Friday's for cake cutting with the class. Kindly coordinate the same with your class teacher.

Academic Calendar and Parent Teacher Meetings:

A copy of the Academic Calendar will be handed to you, apart from the same being shared in the Student Diary. We have three terms. In the first and second term we will conduct a 3 Way Conference (Parent Teacher Meetings), and the last term will have a Student Led Conference. Should you wish to meet with your child's class teacher at any other time, please do send a note through the student diary to fix an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

3 Way Conferences:

There will be two 3 Way Conferences where parents and teachers will discuss the child's timely progress. These sessions will give the parents and teacher's an opportunity to see the work their children have done and receive a one-on-one report on the progress they have made and discuss strategies to support them further.

Student Led Conferences:

There will be a Student Led Conference at the end of the year where the students will take their parents through their portfolio's and all the work they have done over the year and explain each piece of work, activity, the reasons behind doing it and their learning's.

Important Points of Contact:

For grade-related issues	The class teacher (contact details listed in the diary)
For administrative issues	Ms. Meenakshi, Administrative and Admissions Officer meenakshi@indusearlyyears.com Mobile: 9886870903
Curriculum Issues	Ms. Nishita Israni Head of Center nishita.israni@indusearlyyears.com Mobile: 7829261800

If you have any questions with regards to the teaching and learning at IELC, please feel free to contact me. Looking forward to a learning journey together and a great "Indus" experience for you and your children! I look forward to seeing you all on August 7th.

Sincerely,
Ms. Nishita Israni,
Head of Centre, IELC RMV

⌘ SAVE THE DATE ! ⌘

7th August- Curriculum Road Map Day

10th August – New Session Begins

14th August- Celebrating Indian Independence

4th September- Teacher's Day Celebrations

We're happy to announce that IELC RMV is on Facebook. We regularly post lots of pictures, news and events on the page to share with you. Please do view the page and post your likes. www.facebook.com/IELCRMV