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## October 2015 Newsletter

*“I have no special talents, I am only passionately curious” –Albert Einstein*

Dear Parent(s),

The month of September was one of tremendous rains leading to the flooding of IELC-W; after pumping dry we made sure the campus was sanitized properly, teachers and students were welcomed and taken care of at Indus International School Bangalore (IISB) which most of our students experienced as a nice change of scenery / field trip.

We are looking forward to meeting you on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October at the Jolly Phonics Workshop for Parents that got postponed due to the Bandh. The team is preparing the reports this month, and we welcome you all for the first term Parent Teacher Meeting (PTM) on Saturday 31 October!

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Linda Bruijnen

## Parents Advisory Committee (PAC)

We are pleased to announce that as a result of the poll the following parents are our Parent Representatives members of the Parents Advisory Committee at IELC: Ms. Tina Molz, Ms Christina Goudswaard and Mr Ganesh Rengaswamy. We thank you for the votes received (56) and look forward to work closely with PAC! You may get in touch with the Parents Advisory Committee (PAC IELC-W) by e-mail: [pac.ielc@gmail.com](mailto:pac.ielc@gmail.com)

Dear Parents,

*The above mentioned email address is intended for you to be able to communicate your thoughts, concerns and ideas about IELC with us. We will then be able to share these with the staff at school. We look forward to working together with parents to support staff to giving our children the best possible school experience.*

Kind regards,

Christina, Tina and Ganesh



**PAC TEAM 2015-16**

[pac.ielc@gmail.com](mailto:pac.ielc@gmail.com)

# Welcome and Goodbye

We are happy to announce **Ms. Flore Puig** has joined our teaching team. Ms. Flore will teach Grade 1 and she will start the French Mother Tongue Support Program. Ms Flore is from France, fluent in English and she comes with years of teaching experience in the French National Education, France. With Ms Flore, Grade 1 now has the option to choose French as Second Language along with Spanish and Hindi. This is Flore's first working experience in India and we hope it will be a good one!



**Ms Amelia** is teaching Spanish Second Language to Prep 1, 2 and Grade 1 while we are looking out for a Spanish teacher to replace Ms Marta.

Ms. Flore is ready to start the **French Mother Tongue Program (FMTP)** with our French speaking students at IELC. The main goals of the FMTP are to educate French culture and support the mother tongue to the students. Teaching methods for this group will mainly involve storytelling, book reading, games and activities where conversational exercises are integrated. We have blocked Tuesday afternoons: 2.25-3pm for the French Mother Tongue Program and kindly request you to inform us by e-mail indicating if your child will opt for the French Mother Tongue Program?



**Ms Shruti Sadasivan** will leave IELC in October, she has been the first contact for many parents and has mastered multitasking, we thank her for her valuable inputs and wish Ms Shruti all the best in her future endeavors.

We welcomed Ms. Pallavi Dabade as intern, every morning she assists Ms. Nancy in Prep 1B. Ms Pallavi is pursuing her **Cambridge Diploma in Teaching and Learning (CIDTL)** at Indus Training and Research Institute. For more information about this course please visit [www.itari.in](http://www.itari.in).

## Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE)

**HEALTH:** Our pool is maintained by Mr. Shushant and regular **tests** of the water are carried out by Hydrotech, as safety precaution the use of **swimming support tools** like inflatable armbands is advised when your child is still developing comfort in the water or basic water safety skills like floating. We recommend Flipper Swimsafe armbands which can be purchased at [www.sport-thieme.de](http://www.sport-thieme.de) or [www.sport-thieme.co.uk](http://www.sport-thieme.co.uk).



A few cases of **Hand Food & Mouth Disease** had been reported at IELC last month, please read the detailed HFMD information below in this newsletter.



**SAFETY:** After an unfortunate incident at the toilet area near Nursery B classroom we learned that the glass panels used as partitions are not safe and changed them immediately.

Please take note of our **school timings**, we start classes at 9am and **both gates** are open between 8.25am and 9am after which they will be locked!

**SECURITY:** The **GPS systems** are installed and operational in all our buses, parents of students taking the buses are requested to be at the bus stop on the time given to you, (do not wait for the bus parent to contact you), and be aware of the list of do's and don'ts which are put up on all the buses, we kindly request you to follow the bus rules.



**ENVIRONMENT:** We have been donated a set of **composting pots** and with help of our students, HSSE teachers and housekeeping team, we will start to compost our garden and food waste.

# Gender Sensitization Workshop

A workshop was conducted on 28th August and 23<sup>rd</sup> September in IELC Whitefield by Dr. Khaiser. The session aimed to sensitize children in the age group 3-6 about "Touch Alert". It explained various ways on how to distinguish between different kinds of touch such as "safe & unsafe" touch. The interactive workshop also dwelt on the need to empower young children & to report an abuse, as children often keep abuse a secret, also to encourage them to confide their problems in parents & teachers.

The workshop consisted of:

- A few scenarios on safety measures.
- A role play using puppets.
- A video on stranger danger-It depicted how the child should react in the absence of parents/ caretakers, and other persons in their "circle of love".
- Pictures were shown on different touches and feelings on touches were discussed.
- A video on Touch Alert- Children were taught they are the boss of their body, and about care takers who can touch their body to keep them healthy and hygienic (parents and family).
- Activity sheets were given, to color the private body parts or put a cross on (showing area not to be touched by strangers).



Dr. Khaiser is very experienced in conducting these workshops at Indus International School Bangalore and the three Indus Early Learning Centre's. She ended each session questioning the students to find their "take away home" points, learned in the session.

## Did You Know..?

-Ms **Jyothi Khare** is at IELC on Wednesdays & Fridays and she works with the English Second Language (ESL) Learners as well as assists the teachers when students have special educational needs.

-Ms Vini's last period every day is used for extracurricular **violin & piano lessons** to Prep 2 and Grade 1 students.

-They both use the same new **classroom** on the first floor.

-**Grade 1 2016-17** enrollments have started.

-Parents of Prep 1 & 2 were invited as **guest speakers** during UOI 'Everyone belongs to a family' and 'People around the world'.

-**Teacher's Day 2015** was a great success.

-Grade 1's assembly about senses had great **audience participation**.

-The **Jolly Phonics Workshop** for parents got postponed to **10<sup>th</sup> October** due to the Bandh.

- We had our first **Fire Drill** on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September.



10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2015  
9.30AM - 12PM

**JOLLY PHONICS  
WORKSHOP**



# Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease (HFMD)

During the month of September we had a few cases of Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease (HFMD) reported at IELC Whitefield. These children have been out of school for a few days and some have returned to school, fully recovered! Please read the information below about the disease and help us to keep the virus at bay. We have deep cleaned the classrooms to keep the surroundings clean.

What are the **symptoms of HFMD**? This illness generally is mild. Symptoms include tiny blisters in the mouth and on the fingers, palms of hands, buttocks, and soles of the feet. Common cold signs and symptoms with fever, sore throat, runny nose, and cough may also be present. The sores can last from 7 to 10 days.

**How is HFMD spread?** The virus is spread through coughing and sneezing, through the fluid from blisters on the hands and feet, or through contact with the infected person's stools. We ask that if you notice any symptoms, to please keep your child at home until recovery, and to please inform your child's teacher.

How is HFMD **diagnosed and treated**? A doctor can identify HFMD by the symptoms reported and the appearance and location of the blisters. No specific treatment is available. Symptoms may be treated to provide relief from fever or pain from the mouth blisters. A person is considered contagious during the first stages of illness and could pass the virus in their stool for several months.

**How do you control the spread?** Preventative measures include making sure adults and children wash hands frequently and thoroughly both at home and in school. Teach children to cover their noses and mouths with a tissue or their arm when coughing or sneezing. When using a tissue, wash hands well afterwards. Dispose of tissues after each use. Consult your doctor if you or any member of your family has symptoms of this disease.



## SAVE THE DATE!

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October: School closed.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October: Jolly Phonics Workshop for Parents

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: School Closed

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October: Prep 2 Assembly

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October: Halloween Celebrations @ IELC

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October: First Term Parent Teacher Meetings (PTM)

*Disclaimer: "This newsletter is meant for parents and interested parties of IELC Whitefield."*

