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December 2015 / January 2016 Newsletter

*“Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world”
–Nelson Mandela*

Dear Parent(s),

The month of November brought Bangalore lots of rain leading to tremendous traffic problems and again waterlogging issues at our Centre. After visiting IISB on the flooding days we learned to better control the water logging and are happy that the rest of this wet month we were able to continue with our programs.

Great news to share with you is that IELC Whitefield has been awarded No 1 Preschool in Bangalore by 2 surveys. We are extremely proud and will continue to do give our most to meet your expectations.

Wishing all our students and parents happy winter holidays and a great start of 2016!

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Linda Bruijnen

PAC News

Dear Parent(s),

Thank you to all those parents who have taken the time to fill in the PAC questionnaire. If anyone else would like to complete the questionnaire then please visit the following link. Please return it to us by 4th December so we can hand over the results to the staff.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1FVvKeo80C-YjZP9-IuB87kKRYOzwg-0t40UWOOHHGso/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link



We know that there are a lot of talented parents amongst our community and we really hope that we can use these skills to enrich our children's educational experience whilst at IELC.

Kind regards,

The PAC team

Combined Prep 1 / 2

We are proud to offer besides single-grade classes the first combined class here at IELC: Prep 1 / 2. A combined or split class refers to a class that is made up of students from two (or more) grades. Combined classes occur most frequently in primary schools and are the combination of students in two different grades with one teacher teaching both curricula. It is important to know that students in combined classes are not held back to the level of the younger children nor are the children in the lower grade expected to do work beyond their abilities. The prescribed learning outcomes are grade appropriate for all students, whether or not they are in a combined class.

How did we at IELC decide which students to place in the combined classes? In an effort to ensure all students were placed in appropriately balanced classrooms, the team used criteria such as age, range of ability, learning needs, gender, social groupings, parents' consent & preference and how to best match the learning styles and needs of the students. All these factors are considered before allocating classes for our students.

What are the challenges for our teacher(s)? The combined class teacher needs to be familiar with the curriculum for both grades and the variety of resources available in the school. The teacher in the combined class, like those in single-grade classes, employs her skills and strategies so that each student is challenged at the level at which he/she can succeed. Here is what our Prep 1/2 teacher Ms Anuapama Kaveriappa expressed:

'The Combination class is going great. The students are very comfortable with the classroom set up and the way we function. They have easily accepted each other though they belong to mixed age groups. The older age group take pride in imparting their knowledge to the younger group. They are always ready to help the little ones. The younger students are actively involved with the older ones during activities. They are always given an opportunity to grasp concepts that the 5yr olds are learning. The mixed age group is benefiting from each other. It is a pleasure to see both the age groups grow side by side helping each other.'



Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE)

HEALTH: With the warmer temperatures expected soon we want to make sure our students drink enough to replenish the fluids they lose during school activities since they're too busy having fun. To **prevent dehydration**, we offer our students 2 drink options during snacks and lunch: juice & water and we request parents to ensure our students carry their own water bottle which can be refilled throughout the day.



SAFETY: We have purchased **Finger protection** for the doors of our Nursery and Reception classes, this is a safety prevention used in many daycare center's and pre-schools that prevents fingers from being pinched, crushed or amputated at the hinged end of doors.

SECURITY: With the world's tensions rising we are aware of the need to be extra alert when it comes to the **security of our students**. You are requested to help identify site-specific vulnerabilities, anomalies, or incidents that may precede a kind of harmful incident, and measures will be taken to better protect and create a safer environment.

ENVIRONMENT: **Water logging issues** due to heavy rains last month has learned us to better control it by regular pumping and a long term solution is worked on during this month by preparing a drain at the rear of the school.

TRANSPORT: we have changed **the 3 bus routes** and received a new bus, this has created some available seats, so if you are interested to take up the bus services offered here at IELC please contact Ms Shuchita.

Yoga Classes

During the month of November we welcomed Ms Yvonne and Ms. Kaichyne who volunteered to start some trial Yoga classes for our students in Prep 1/2, Prep 2 & Grade 1. Yoga (meaning union or yoke) is the practice of accessing and integrating all aspects of our true nature - body, mind, and spirit - in the pursuit of inner harmony.

Because children encounter emotional, social, and physical challenges, a dedicated and intentional yoga practice that includes breathing techniques, behavioral guidelines, and physical postures can be incredibly valuable for them.

There are five key areas where kids benefit from the practice of yoga, and each of them improves their overall well-being:

- It Enhances Physical Flexibility
- It Refines Balance and Coordination Balance is a key element of yoga.
- It Develops Focus and Concentration.
- It Boosts Self-Esteem and Confidence.
- It Strengthens the Mind-Body Connection

Yoga @ IELC



Invitations



10 DECEMBER 2015
IELC-W SPORTS DAY

Nursery & Reception



11 DECEMBER 2015
IELC-W SPORTS DAY

Prep 1, Prep 2 & Grade 1.

INDUS EARLY LEARNING CENTRE WHITEFIELD

Christmas CARNIVAL

A charity fund raiser!

Shop, eat, play and celebrate for a cause!

Games **Raffles** **Food**

Date: Saturday, 5th December, 2015
Time : 9:15am – 12:30pm
Venue: IELC Lawn, Whitefield
Proceeds go to Zion Foundation, Kundalahalli, Whitefield.

In the month of December we have our **Sports Day** split into two groups, Nursery/Reception with venue IELC and Prep1/Prep2/Grade1 with the venue at the Holy Cross School. We welcome all parents to cheer our students!

This year's **Christmas Carnival** will raise funds for Zion Foundation and is held on Saturday 5th December starting at 9.15am at our IELC Lawn, for this event we are still looking for volunteers, so if you want to face paint or help out at the games stall please get in touch with Ms. Payal Bhatia (Reception A). We look forward to a fun filled Carnival leaving behind a generous donation for the cause. See you all on the 5th in your festive outfits!

AWARDS

Education Today had a survey conducted in October and IELC Whitefield has been ranked no 1 Pre-school in Bangalore. Top 20 Pre-schools across the country have been selected out of over 80 Survey Forms received by Education Today. We are extremely proud to receive this award! For more info you may visit www.educationtoday.co/events.html.

Education World also held its annual survey and finds: 'Creating Leaders of Tomorrow, this is true of Indus Trust, promoter of the Indus International School which during the past five years has been ranked the country's #1 international day-cum-boarding school in the annual Education World India School Rankings. In 2011, the Indus Trust promoted the first Indus Early Learning Centre in Whitefield which riding on the reputation of IIS-Bangalore was ranked # 3 among all (unsegregated) preschools of the garden city in 2012, # 2 in 2013 and # 1 last year. Unsurprisingly under the new taxonomy adopted this year, IELC is top ranked in the league table of pre-primaries of composite K-12 school in 2015'.

We are delighted to learn that IELC is ranked # 1 on eight of the 10 parameters of preschool excellence. We are especially pleased that we have been top-ranked on the critical parameters of teacher competence and teacher welfare and development which underwrites our high ranking under all other parameters, particularly innovative teaching, leadership quality, safety and hygiene and special needs education. The Indus Trust has invested heavily in continuous teacher training and development. Our top ranking is the outcome of this focus! For more info you may visit www.educationworld.in/.

IELC Whitefield,
the No 1 Pre-school 2015!



Awarded by Education Today



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SAVE THE DATE!

Friday 4th December: Reception Assembly

Saturday 5th December: Christmas Carnival

Thursday 10th December: Sports Day Nursery & Reception at IELC

Friday 11th December: Sports Day Prep 1, Prep 2 & Grade 1 at Holy Cross School

Thursday 17th December - Monday 4th January: School Closed

Tuesday 5th January 2016: School reopens after Winter Break

Friday 15th January: School Closed

Tuesday 26th January: School Closed

Friday 29th January: Nursery Assembly

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

