



## **November 2017**

*“The principal goal of education is to create individuals who are capable of doing new things, not simply of repeating what other generations have done.”*  
*Jean Piaget (1896 - 1980)*

Dear Parents,

Experts in the field of Early Childhood Education point out again and again that bridges between home and school in the form of parent involvement in programs, communication and close relationships are a key ingredient in creating quality-learning environments for young children. Thank you dear parents for your support, participation and encouragement that go such a long way towards our overall success.

The month of November has seen students and teachers settling back into their regular classroom routines after the Autumn break. Energy levels in the school were high as each Grade began exploring new Units of Inquiry and children were eager and enthusiastic to start the Inquiry cycle which included interesting research projects and group activities.

### **A taste of November:**

#### **Movie Under the Stars Night-**

We wanted to try something new with our IELC Families. Movie Under the Stars was conceptualized to create opportunities for families to come together and enjoy their evening and of course have quality and fun time along with friends. Thank you IELC Whitefield families for making the event super successful. After the event, every morning I was asked a question by our students ‘Ms. Priyanka, can we have another movie night?’



## Children's Day-

In keeping with the local tradition, Indus Early Learning Centre celebrated Children's Day on Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, the birthday of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, who held a special regard for children. Children thoroughly enjoyed the special day organized by the teachers and got a chance to participate in a variety of lively activities including; photo booth, crafts, hair braiding, cookie decorating, sandwich making, tattooing and musical games. Thanks to our dynamic team of IELC teachers for making the event a grand success.



## Sports Day-

Our Seventh Annual Sports Day held on November 17<sup>th</sup>, saw students and parents participating with high levels of energy and enthusiasm. Seeing the exuberance with which our young children showcased their sportsmanship in the various obstacle courses & relay races was a pleasure to watch.

Gross motor development, or in other words, development of large body muscles, is an important objective during the early years and is achieved primarily through physical activities that use large body movements, involving the entire body. Hence sports activities involving synchronization of body movement with cognitive skills such as relay races, coordination activities and obstacle courses are highly beneficial to the development of young children.





### **Education World Ranking-**

IELC once again ranked among the top Preschool Education Centre's in Bangalore, this year ranking 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and standing 1<sup>st</sup> in the parameter of Innovative teaching. We are pleased and proud to be recognised for this award as it is demonstrative of the dedication of our dynamic team.

### **More Than Just Music-**

Research has found that learning music facilitates learning in other subjects and enhances skills that children inevitably use in several areas. At IELC we strive to provide a music-rich experience for children because we understand that this type of engagement increases the brain's ability to process information through increasingly complex pathways as children progress into more formal learning. As the child's brain develops a rich neural network through consistent musical experiences, the brain develops new ways to evaluate and interpret the world!

Making music involves more than the voice or fingers playing an instrument. A child learning about music, has to tap into multiple skill sets. For instance, musicians simultaneously use their ears and eyes, as well as large and small muscles. Current brain research is providing evidence for the fact that music learning supports all learning.

Our students are practicing their notes and singing to showcase their learning to parents. We look forward to seeing you for the music festival on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

## **Sugary Snacks -**

Limiting our children's sugar intake is essential for their development in all areas. Keeping this in mind and PAC suggestions, we have requested our caterer to totally delete sugary snacks from the menu. We request you to be mindful in sending snacks for your child. Kindly refrain from sending lollypops, candies and sugary cookies. For Birthday celebrations, kindly keep it to fruits and healthy organic home-made cakes (please refrain from using unsaturated fat toppings). We request your cooperation in this matter.

## **Ms. Joya-**

Ms. Joya will not be continuing at IELC Whitefield for this academic year, due to prolonged health concerns. We wish Ms. Joya a restful break and speedy recovery. We have been looking for a suitable candidate for the position and hope to fill up the position soon.

## **Ms. Anusuya-**

Wedding bells will be ringing for Ms. Anusuya on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We are very happy for her and wish her joy and happiness.

## **Important dates in December**

December 2<sup>nd</sup> , Saturday – IELC Whitefield's Christmas Carnival

December 8<sup>th</sup> , Friday – Music Festival

December 16<sup>th</sup>, Saturday – Winter Break commences

January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Thursday – School reopens

Warm regards and best wishes for a memorable festive season:



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**Five ways that we can encourage a growth mindset in our children- from the blog <[wonderofchildren.wordpress.com](http://wonderofchildren.wordpress.com)>:**

“1. Asking open-ended questions to solve a problem or achieve a goal. “What do you think will happen if...” or “Why do you suppose...” These questions build logical thinking skills and often lead to rich discovery.

2. Using specific feedback that identifies what the child accomplished. What small steps led to a larger outcome? (do not use labels such as “smart” to convey intelligence as a fixed ability)

Be supportive when your child attempts something new. It might not be the way you’d try to solve a problem, but if it works, acknowledge it honestly and without judgment. Pick your battles. Hair done by a three-year old might not be perfect, but it brings a child great satisfaction to say, “I did it myself!” Skills that build persistence simultaneously allow children to feel confidence and independence. When frustration arises, offer an encouraging word about what steps worked well.

3. Encouraging children to take a risk. Watch and listen to your child so you can take cues about what else they are ready to tackle. Vygotsky calls this the “zone of proximal development – when we gently nudge kids to use what they know to try something just a bit out of their reach, but yet developmentally appropriate. By offering small but achievable challenges, confidence and persistence emerge.

4. Being persistent and growth-oriented yourself. Narrate your thoughts as you try something new or frustrating (with a G-rating, of course!). Your child may even be able to offer some helpful tips. This allows children to see we all have to work hard to solve problems and we all continue to learn new things.

Finally: Don’t sweat the small stuff. Accidents and mistakes happen. Show your child that there’s something to be learned when we don’t achieve what we set out to accomplish. Maybe someone else lends a hand. Maybe you return to the task at another time. Maybe it’s best to abandon things for a while or break things down into smaller steps. Be specific about what worked, identify the emotions involved, and offer encouragement for the next time.”

If, together as parents and teachers, we offer our children the life-affirming attitude that they can continually increase their intelligence and skills through persistent effort, then life becomes full of amazing possibilities to be explored and pursued.