



August 2019

"Believing that you can get what you want is an extremely powerful tool! Children are believers. They believe that they can accomplish whatever they set out to do. You need to take a page from their book. In fact, the power of belief was proven in a recent study. People were asked to wear white coats, and comparisons were drawn on their cognitive ability to solve problems. Surprisingly, the people who wore white coats actually came up with conclusions easier and faster than those who didn't. The white coat simply made them feel smarter like doctors. Those results were astounding!" (from "Becoming Sherlock: The Power of Observation and Deduction" by Stefan Cain)

Dear Parents,

August has been an action packed month for children and teachers alike, settling into classroom routines and establishing new relationships as communities of learners. We are pleased with how the children have adjusted back after the holidays and how happy and excited they are to begin a new school year.

Yet again, the eagle soars!

Over the past 13 years, our journey has taken us through a myriad of experiences that have led to the establishment of quality teaching and learning processes.

We are happy to share that Indus International School, Bangalore has been named the No. 1 International School in India for the eighth time in a row. The Education World C- Fore survey is perception based, and people are contacted at random and asked to rate International Schools on a variety of criteria.

The criteria include competence of teachers, teacher welfare & development, innovative teaching, individual attention to students, leadership, infrastructure, parental involvement, safety and hygiene, special needs, and value for money. We await the release of the Education World magazine for more details.



Independence Day

Students and staff at Indus celebrated India's 73rd Independence Day on the 15th of August. Since the day also marks Korea's Independence, both Indian and Korean flags were hoisted, followed by respective National Anthems. Our students got the opportunity to celebrate India's Independence Day on IELC Whitefield campus on August 16th.



Eventful month

We will try to incorporate and celebrate important festivals from different cultures to appreciate the diversity that our school represents. If you would like us to celebrate a festival from your culture with our students, please let us know in advance.

This month we celebrated Bakr Eid with mehendi tattoo and learning about the essential element of the festival along with Rakhi. There is a newfound enthusiasm among our children when they learn about different cultures and the importance of these festivals. To learn more about Rakhi our students made bracelets and wrist bands by tying them on the wrist of their friends to form a bond.



Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE)

HEALTH: We all know mosquitoes can be a nuisance, but some can spread serious diseases (e.g. Dengue fever) when they bite. At IELC we regularly empty stagnant water from trash cans and flower pots to prevent breeding. To prevent mosquito bites, we advise parents to ensure our students wear long pants and long sleeves and apply repellent to exposed skin. The only way to protect yourself and your family is to avoid getting bitten.

SAFETY:

- One of the teacher committees in IELC is the HSSE committee which monitors hazards and follows up on prevention action points. The committee members are Ms. Julie. Please contact her directly if you notice any HSSE hazards in or around the school.
- In accordance with the POCSO Act and the directions given by Karnataka Police, workshops on safety & gender sensitization were held for all Indus staff members (support, administration and teachers). The foundation for changing the collective mindset must be laid with all stakeholders. It is about making people aware of the need to bring about a change and educate people, especially with regards to gender equality. Sasha organization held a workshop for teachers and staff members of IELC's and IISB, and discussed child development, signs of child abuse, appropriate responses to situations involving children, etc.

- Personal safety Week at IELC – Whitefield was successful, as our students got to understand the meaning of the word ‘CONSENT’. They understood the difference between good and bad touch and whom to contact in case they are uncomfortable with anybody. Ms. Jalyssa, Ms. Kalpana and Ms. Asha lead these informative sessions at the Centre, incorporating videos, puppet show and role play. We had forced entry drill and fire safety drill as well during this week.



SECURITY: All our staff members are wearing IELC ID cards and students have their ID cards on their backpacks. Parents are requested to arrange ID cards for themselves as well as any family member picking up the student. Please contact Ms. Julie for more details.

ENVIRONMENT: With the help of our housekeeping team, we work hard to clean up any clutter and maintain our classrooms in an orderly manner.

Leadership Curriculum:

We have begun teaching the Leadership component of the curriculum over the last couple weeks. The focus in our Leadership Curriculum this month has been Goal Setting and helping children understand the importance of goals. Children have also begun inquiring into the concept of Leadership through such questions as; 'What is a Leader?', 'What does a Leader do?' & 'What does a Leader look like?' Each of these questions are connected to happenings in the child's everyday life and peer interactions so that Leadership becomes a very relatable and relevant concept. In the coming months children will have discussions on the core values of love, empathy, respect and discipline and begin to explore the meaning of each through activities and engagements.

The theme for Leadership Curriculum this year again is '**Tikkun Olam**' A Jewish concept defined by acts of kindness performed to perfect or repair the world. The most modern and broadly understood notion of **tikkun olam** is that of "repairing the world" through human actions. Humanity's responsibility to change, improve, and fix its earthly surroundings is powerful. It implies that each person has a hand in working towards the betterment of his or her own existence as well as the lives of future generations. Keeping this in mind, IELC Whitefield is working towards creating an awareness in our students and reflecting on the phrase –"What is bothering me...?" and "How do I want to make a difference?"

IELC Whitefield team of teachers started with the same thought- "What is bothering me...?" We visited Cottolengo Convent and Cheshire homes nearby to find out how we can support them through service. As of now, we will be teaching basic computer skills to three special children to help them clear their computer exam. We are in the process of procuring computers for them from couple of companies we got in touch. Our students will help Cheshire homes by doing some newspaper collection drive and making newspaper carry bags for them to sell. The teachers and students will all work in this area.

We will continue this year as well by teaching our support staff English communication skills along with computers. We would really appreciate if you would like to get involved in this community project, please let us know if you can volunteer your time.

Whether you
think you can or
think you can't -
you are right.

- Henry Ford





Chess Classes

Ms. Manabi Chauhan, chess teacher from the main campus of Indus International School, Bangalore has started taking chess classes for our Prep 1, Prep 2 and Grade 1 students. Children seem to enjoy the classes and are beginning to learn the basics.

Facebook page

We would like to invite you to like IELC Whitefield Facebook page. We keep updating the page with events and pictures of all the special things we do at our school. Please visit the page : <https://www.facebook.com/IELC-Whitefield-667872989971323/>

Time Table:

There have been a few minor adjustments in our Time Table this year in order to accommodate the specific needs of each age group. Here is a general overview of the new Time Table for Specialist Classes:

- **Swimming:** twice weekly for all sections.
- **Spanish:** Nursery- once a week, Reception, Prep 1, Prep 2 and Grade 1 – twice a week.
- **Dance:** Once a week for all sections.
- **PE:** Once a week for all sections.
- **Music:** Twice a week for all sections.
- **Library:** Once a week for all sections.
- **Leadership:** Prep 1, Prep 2 and Grade 1 children only – once a week.
- **ESL & SEN:** Reception, Prep 1, Prep 2 & Grade 1 children only – twice a week.
- **Chess** – Prep 1, Prep2 and Grade 1– Once a week on Fridays.

Assemblies

Each month, a different grade hosts an All School Assembly for IELC. Because public speaking skills are valued at IELC, the school holds monthly assemblies. The purpose is to build a sense of community, foster a climate of kindness and recognize the achievements of students.

Each month the hosting grade invites their parents to attend their assemblies, the assembly schedule will be shared with the parents by respective teachers.

Important dates in September

September 2nd, Monday – Ganesh Chaturthi Holiday

September 5th, Thursday– Teachers’ day celebration – Special lunch organized by PAC members and parents for teachers.

September 9th, Monday– PAC Meeting

September 20th, Friday – Peace Day Celebration at School

September 21st, Saturday – “Pitaara” story telling for children 10am – 12 pm. All are welcome!

September 27th, Friday – Mufti Day – Theme of the month will be shared by the teachers closer to the date.

It's about being better than we were yesterday...

Regards,



Priyanka Khurana

Head of Centre

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