



IN OMNIA PARATUS

# INDUS

INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR SCHOOL  
HYDERABAD

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1 January, 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year!



We hope that you had a memorable holiday with the children. We missed the children at school during the break and look forward to another eventful term with them.

As the new term begins, I would like to talk about **Leadership in Early Childhood Education**.

The early years in a child's life are a special and the most crucial time for growth and learning. It is the best time we can nurture their innate ability to learn and

develop into future leaders. Leadership skills are a combination of many characteristics and factors that enable children to streamline and enhance their outlook. In fact, these characteristics enable our children to benefit immensely in whatever they do, wherever they go and however they live.

Raising tomorrow's leaders means instilling certain skills in our children. Here are the skills every future leader needs, and how we can help them achieve them:

- **Self-confidence** - This is one of the most important skills for a future leader. This is an innate quality that cannot be taught. In school we give them opportunities to help them develop their self confidence through experiential learning.
- **Decision making** - Good leaders need to make the right decisions. Giving your child the opportunity to make simple decisions for themselves is very important. At school, we encourage the children to make decisions in their own small way and also understand the consequences of the decision.
- **Reading** – Leaders are the best readers! One of the ideal methods to make children better leaders is to make them read books.
- **Teamwork** - Although we envision leaders as being someone leading the peers, they also need to be able to work well with others. Team work is prevalent in school on a daily basis, when the children share their classroom and learning resources with their friends in an attempt to jointly accomplish their goal of learning.

Children who develop leadership in their young age will lead a life of extreme discipline and determination. In nutshell, leadership skills are one of the secret keys to life success. At IJS, we strive to provide a supportive learning environment that will go a long way in shaping the future generation of leaders.

At this point of time, I would also like to talk about the **Leadership Training programme for teachers at Indus**. As part of the Indus Leadership Training programme for teachers under the leadership of our CEO, General Ray, the staff members have been reading and studying many inspiring books on various topics

of intrinsic motivation and talent development, such as: Mindset by Carol Dweck, Drive by Daniel Pink, and Talent is Overrated by Geoff Colvin etc. Each of these books indicates that success in school and in life is directly related to people's beliefs about their intelligence and talent. Those who believe that their gifts and intelligence are innate and determined at birth have a 'fixed mindset', whereas those who believe that their abilities and intelligence can be developed through effort and practice have a 'growth mindset'. The effects of one's mindset on life choices and resulting achievements are profound! We, the teachers at IJS are implementing the goal of creating an environment at school dedicated to a growth mindset for adults and children in which everyone is encouraged to develop and learn through persistent effort and challenging fun.

***“Believing talents can be developed allows people to fulfill their potential.”-Dr. Dweck***

**Five ways to encourage a growth mindset in our children- from the blog :**

***“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? 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 judgement. 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. This allows children to see we all have to work hard to solve problems and we all continue to learn new things.*

**5. 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.

Wishing you all the very best!

Warm Regards,

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