



From the Principal's Desk  
January 2014

“A man who wants to lead the orchestra must turn his back on the crowd.”

Dear Parents,

We stepped into January prepared for a month filled with action and excitement. The visits of Mr. Ajeet Bajaj and Col Rana on 8<sup>th</sup> January opened unique opportunities for our students to opt for an expedition to the North Pole and /or scale Mount Everest. The presentations made by both the experts had all present agog and curious as evinced in the questions that emerged. We look forward to an encouraging response from parents to the mails that have been sent giving all details of both expeditions for us to plan accordingly.

The Indus Chess Cup 2013-14 was formatted to encourage new talent. The format was designed in a qualifier and then the knock-out stage was designed to find the best player from Indus in both the boys and girls category respectively. In Categories 1 and 2 we had 3 boys and 3 girls each, up to the knock-out stage and selected the top three in each. However in Category-3, due to smaller numbers, only the top 2 boys and girls were selected. Please refer **Appendix I** for details.

The response to the Open Forum on 8<sup>th</sup> for parents of Grade 8 was well attended. The Open Forum on 10<sup>th</sup> for Grades 6,7, 9 & 10 was also a meaningful interactive session. We are grateful to all who attended.

The Boarders travelled to Mysore on 14<sup>th</sup> January. They visited the zoo and the Mysore palace. Both places are frequented throughout the year for its serenity and beauty.

The PYP New Parent Induction, Agora and Colloquium on 18<sup>th</sup> January brought in several new parents from IISB and IELC. This session gave the new parents a clearer perspective about the IB PYP Curriculum framework. This was followed by talks by Ms. Manjit Kochar about recognizing early signs of learning differences and intervention, while Mr. Sam Rao addressed the role of nutritional therapies for different health conditions, as well as for optimizing cognitive functions in all students. These talks garnered positive reviews from parents and teachers. We look forward to more sessions on varied topics. We also had our very first open forum – **PYP Agora on the 18<sup>th</sup>**. We thank the parents for making time to discuss concerns and also suggest ideas.

PYP students celebrated Mufti Day on 24<sup>th</sup> January, by dressing up as their favourite cartoon character.



Students from Grades 7, 8, 9 and 11 attended a 45 minute presentation on Financial Literacy by Mr. Sawrup Yeramili of the TWC Academy Mumbai. This had an interactive component which was interesting as Mr. Yeramili stressed the importance of knowing Finance and its implications. This workshop was merely an introductory one. Details of the ones to follow will be sent.

The Student Council election, 2014-15 in the senior school for Grade 11 was held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014. It was indeed a gratifying moment to announce the results of the elections after the rounds of interview in a special assembly on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. The selected students assumed office after the Investiture on 30<sup>th</sup> January. Each of these students will be entrusted with leadership tasks to carry forward the school and house visions respectively. It was also on this day that the democratically elected Grade 4 students were formally inducted into the Student council. The PYP Student Council election was held on 13<sup>th</sup> January, which gave the PYP an experience of the democratic system of choosing a leader based on their readiness to serve and lead. The details of the Student Council office bearers have been sent. A two-minute silence in memory of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and other martyrs was observed at 11 am during the Investiture to pay homage.

Flag hoisting on 26<sup>th</sup> January was a sanctimonious moment. The first highlight of the day was the inauguration of the Low Rope Course at the Indus international Community School. Phoenix House hosted the First Indus International Community School Leadership Summit thereafter. This was the culmination of several months of work put in towards accomplishing the House Vision. The students were divided into groups that carried out different tasks related to the Leadership Summit including: ILED talks, Photography, Art, Leadership Journals, and Filmmaking.

The last few days leading up to the event involved tireless efforts from the students and teachers of both schools to complete all their work, and create displays for their journals and visions. Finally, on the day of the summit, the students performed dances, songs and made their debut as speakers, captivating the audience with their eloquence and confidence. After the on-stage performances, it was indeed gratifying to take the gallery walk to view the students' work. What was noteworthy is, the close involvement and the bonding of the students of Phoenix House with IICS. We would like to place on record and congratulate Simran Malhotra, the Phoenix House outgoing captain for her remarkable involvement and leadership.

For the first time, we at Indus were privy to a close encounter with Vintage Cars that date back to the early 1920's. The star attraction was the car once owned by Pandit Motilal Nehru, a blue Lanchaster. The students were euphoric as they posed for photographs and interacted with the present owners. Our gratitude is extended to Mr. Sulaiman Jamal who coordinated the show and made the day special for our students.

Our school football team U-10 &U-16 took part in the IGCC Soccer 5A SIDE Tournament on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2014. The Under 10 age group boys secured the 3<sup>rd</sup> position and the Under 16 age group boys reached the semi-finals. Please refer **Appendix II** for details.



The Senior School Sports Day on 18<sup>th</sup> Jan was both colourful and competitive. Dr. Khyathi Vakharia, an Olympic Pole Vaultier was the Chief Guest. The event commenced with the March Past followed by Abhishek Patre and Ruth Sara Mathew carrying the torch and lighting the Olympic flame. After Dr. Vakharia declared the Sports Day open, the students showcased their martial art skills. As always the Equestrian display had all enthralled. We were fortunate to have a special Taekwondo demonstration by the Taekwondo Peace Corps. Finally the track events saw house spirits raise as students cheered and applauded the competitors.

The trophies for Best March Past, Individual Championship and Overall Championship were awarded. In the final tally both Orion and Hercules tied for the first position. Please refer **Appendix III** for details.

The career guidance and placements cell has been extremely busy this month. They have been looking into Yr. 12 late applications to the U.S. and other applications to rolling admissions, Canadian, Singapore, and Hong Kong universities. All three counselors have also been meeting Yr. 11 students and parents on an individual basis. They have also met German and Irish university representatives. Besides all this they have conducted the SAT for Yr. 11 special needs students headed for U.S. universities and are planning for a Yr. 11 Parent and Student Seminar on College Admissions in the month of February.

The CAS programme has continued as planned. Grades 6 and 7 focused on helping children at IICS to develop two main reading strategies, which are prediction and self-correction. They also extended support in numeracy and ICT.

In the senior section, while Phoenix House was busy with the Leadership summit at IICS, Pegasus continued with making designer candles, Hercules was engaged in their film making and analyzed the results of the math and science Olympiad, and Orion has been working on the Leadership Journey Wall, the House Movie, clay modeling and art work and the IICS Magazine.

The Grade 9 students went in two batches to Yellagiri on their Leadership Camp. As always this was both a fun and learning experience.

The PYP Sports Day on 31<sup>st</sup> began with a colourful and impressive display of agility through drills by all the grades. It was followed by a first ever equestrian show by the PYP Students. All students took part in the races and physical prowess was demonstrated in a variety of track and field events. The Early Years had their own events like obstacle, team and fun races. The environment was pulsing with energy and enthusiasm as the students took part in the races. We are thankful to our parents for coming in large numbers to encourage the students and also for taking part in the events.



FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is a global program created to get children excited about science and technology. A hands-on program for ages 9 to 16 FLL uses Challenges based on real world scientific problems to engage children in research, problem solving, and engineering. This time the theme is "Nature's Fury". The cornerstone of the program is its Core Values, which emphasize friendly sportsmanship, learning, and community involvement.

Each challenge has two parts, the Project and the Robot Game. Working in teams of three to ten children and guided by at least one adult coach. Teams have 8 weeks to:

- Build an autonomous robot to carry out pre-designed missions in 2 minutes and 30 seconds
- Analyze, research, and invent a solution to a real world problem

The following students stood first and won the regional FLL held on 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. There were 17 participating teams from across South India.

1. Aditya Rajamurugan (VI-A)
2. Krish N Sareen (VI-C)
3. Theo Van Gyzel (VI-A)
4. Aditya Hoskere (VII-C)
5. Wessel Pots (VII-A)
6. Alison Emilie Cl (VIII-A)
7. Arshia Tayal (VIII-B)
8. Suvir Wadhwa (VI-B)
9. Van Gyzel Quentin (VIII-A)
10. Nischit K (VI-C)

These students will participate in the National FLL to be held in Pune on February, 10, 2014. All Junior FLL participants are awarded and appreciated for participation and innovative idea presentation in the event.

January has set a hectic pace and as we move into February, we will balance academics and the practices that are required for the Leadership Summit and the Concert Evening.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Sarojini Rao  
Principal  
Indus International School, Bangalore



## Appendix I

### Indus Chess Cup

Category 1 was for Grades-1 to 3 which had 46 players. Krish Kerkar of Grade-2 won the championship scoring 7/7 and in the girls category Pooja of Grade 3 won by scoring 5.5/7.

Category 2 was for the Grades 4 to 6 in which 32 players competed. It was a mixed event of PYP and MSP. Nandha Sri of Grade 5 won the championship scoring 6/7. It was a tie between Nandha and Atharva but on better tie-break score Nandha Sri won the championship. Avani Badwal of Grade 6 won by scoring 4/7, in the girls' category.

Category 3 was for Grade 7 to 10 where 12 players played. Krithik Ravindran of Grade 7 won the championship scoring 3.5/4. It was a tie between Krithik and Aaryaman but on better tie-break Krithik won the championship and in the girls category Ishita Sawant of Grade-8 won by 2/4.

After the qualifying rounds 16 players entered the Knock-Out Stage to find the best player of Indus. In the pre quarter-final we saw the exit of the top players Atharva Barve and Aaryaman making way for the new players.

In the Final round Krithik of Grade-7 won the Indus Chess Cup 2013-14 by showing great skills and technique and Ishika Sawant became the best girls player of Indus. Congratulations to the real find of the chess championship - **Agustya Singh** of Grade-3 who despite no experience did very well.

## Appendix II

### Indus International School Junior Boys Football Team

SL.NO	NAME	GRADE
1.	Jahan Gilani	10
2.	Dhruv Marwadi	10
3.	Krishnam Duggal	10
4.	Thanapon Singhthakaral	10
5.	Krit Sacchasiri (Gk)	10
6.	Rahul Rawat	8
7.	Ishaan Kashyap	8



**Sub-Junior Boys Football Team**  
**(8 to 10years)**

SL.NO	NAME	GRADE
1.	Till George Vollmar	5
2.	Jai Ashiya	5
3.	Jamie Grubb	4
4.	Riu Terada	4
5.	Shiu Terada	4
6.	Rohan Chatterjee	4
7.	Seung Jun Lee (GK)	4
8.	Woosung Jeong	4

**Appendix III**

**Senior Sports Day 18<sup>th</sup> January 2014**  
**Individual Championship Award**

Category	Name	House	Points
Boys U-12	Aditya Rao	Pegasus	13
Girls U-12	Vibhuti Amin	Pegasus	15
Boys U-14	Anmol Gurung	Pegasus	15
Girls U-14	Shagun.V.K	Orion	13
Boys U-16	Kartik Kapai	Orion	15
Girls U-16	Juhita Reddy Vijjali	Hercules	15
Senior Boys	Jay Mehta	Orion	10
	Adhil Gafoor	Phoenix	10
Senior Girls	Tanya Sharma	Orion	15
	Stephanie Nnajofofor	Hercules	15

**March Past Points**

House	Points	Position
Pegasus	35	I
Phoenix	30	II
Hercules	25	III
Orion	25	III

**Total House Points (Overall Trophy)**

House	Points	Position
Hercules	255	I
Orion	255	I
Pegasus	182	II
Phoenix	146	III