

Newsletter

From our Principal

Creating Leaders of Tomorrow

Issue 121, February 2013

“When you define a goal, remember that you have the power to realize it. It comes with planning, hard work, strategy and the will to make it happen.”

Dear Parents,

Much has happened in the shortest month of the year.

What a wonderful way of heralding February with the first being the PYP Annual Sports Day! The start of the event was noteworthy with the release of so many beautiful balloons in the House Colours. As we watched them rise overhead our hearts too began to soar, inspired by their ascent to reflect on our own progress as members of the Indus family.

The first event was a delightful display of Yoga by the children of Grades 3, 4 and 5. Their grace and poise was truly inspirational. Following on from this the whole of the PYP charmed and entertained our parent guests with their skillfully choreographed drill. It was breath-taking to see the range our children are capable of; from the deeply personal inner-focus needed for Yoga to the ability to merge seamlessly into a group and become a part of something greater than the individual in the drill.

The sports were great fun. Children were able to try their best and demonstrate their skills of sportsmanship; winning, or losing, with good grace. The parents and teachers too gamely took part in running races. It was a real treat to see another side to dear colleagues and friends as they sprinted toward the finish line. The final event was a tug of war between parents and teachers. Everyone who participated had a super time – even as they were being dragged through the dust by the opposing team! Please refer **Appendix I** for the scores.

The Department of Drama had 33 selected students from Grade 5 and 2 from IICS participate in a scriptwriting workshop as part of the SOHO Connect Programme. A facilitator from SOHO theatre in London, along with two professional actors in

Bangalore conducted the two half day workshops. The students learnt to analyze scripts and write their own ones from scratch. Students worked in groups throughout the program and the actors performed each scene of the script that they developed during the workshop. The challenge that is bestowed upon each student now is to write their very own 10 minute script by March 10th. 10 scripts from all the local schools that have participated will be selected and performed by professional actors both in London and in Bangalore. We wish our little playwrights the best of luck!

The Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) is an independent, non-profit organisation which creates and disseminates knowledge and tools, to improve learning. The tests conducted in English and Mathematics are developed to track student progress from year to year and to provide diagnostic information to improve teaching and learning. The Acer Exam in English and Math was held on Feb 12th& 13th for our students in the PYP and the MSP (Grades 6, 7 and 8).

The Mid Term Test II for the Academic Year 2012-13, was held between 18th to 26th of February, for Grades 6 to 9 and 11. Grades 10 and 12 revised their syllabus in Preparation not only for the Mock Examination but for also the IGCSE and the IBDP which is slated to commence in May. Grade 12 have also been busy with the submissions of the Extended Essays and the Essays in Theory of Knowledge. While Grade 10 completed their Mock Orals in the respective Foreign Language chosen, Grade 12 had their final recording for the same. The Final Recordings for Physical Education for the IGCSE for Grade 10 too has been completed. The Group 4 projects which is a mandatory criteria for Group 4 Sciences, Grade 12 was completed on 22nd February. The Internals for Grade 12 will be sent to the IBO before 15th March.

The students of the PYP celebrated Appreciation Day by showing compassion to all the Support Staff through "Thank You" cards and endearing speeches that recognized their efforts and hard work. Through this gesture the budding leaders of the Indus Primary Wing showed that they are capable of non-discriminatory compassionate acts and kindness.

We acknowledge your generous contributions of various food items for the Kalahalli Orphanage. Children learn from their role models. The PYP teachers contributed cooking oil whole heartedly leading the initiative for the Orphanage.

The joy of giving was also seen on Mufti Day when the PYP was bursting with enthusiasm and creativity when our young readers and budding authors came dressed

up as their favorite book characters. This month's Mufti day focused on "Love for Books". Some of the characters from their favorite books were brought to life - from Harry Potter to Rapunzel; Matilda to Horrid Henry; Clifford to Barney and many more...In all the excitement and fun related to the theme, the children were empathetic and contributed generously towards the betterment of the local community by bringing in Rs.10 as part of PYP Action.

A group of 12 students were at the Trio World School on Friday 8th Feb 2013 for a Spanish Meet. The brief welcome was followed by a few 'get-to-know-each other' games and a group project: My city. The groups were mixed with students of both schools to promote collaborative work rather than a competition between schools. They had to talk about the history of the city, the monuments or the activities one can engage in. They had to act as local guides of the city. Gabriella Yach, of Grade 9, and Harrshavasan, of Grade 6, were in the winning team; and Neha Srinivas of Grade 9, and ZoebJamal of Grade 7, were part of the runners up.

Students in the Senior School have been rehearsing for the Leadership Summit. The Orchestra Evening scheduled on 8th March and for the Leadership through Music Programme scheduled for 26th March.

The First Batch of Grade 9 students left for the camp at Yelagiri on 27th Feb.

23rd Feb saw all teachers engaged in the 7th Leadership Retreat. This was a day of learning and interaction. Our CEO Lt Gen ArjunRay focused on Persuasive Communication, my presentation focused on feedback. In the afternoon session some of the selected teachers had all agog through ILED Talks and short films that simplified difficult concepts. 25 teachers from the Army Public School who were invited for this retreat, appreciated the meaningful time that they spent.

23rd Feb was also a day of competition as the Inter House Aquatic Meet saw our swimmers in action. Phoenix House was ahead of all with 125 points to claim the First Place. Please refer Appendix II for the overall positions.

A chess event was organized by Karnataka State Chess Association on 2nd and 3rd of Feb 2013. The Under-7 State Chess Championship witnessed the presence of 25 International Fide Rated Chess Players from across Karnataka .Ayaan Azhar of Grade-1 scored 2 out of 7 and was placed 41st in the Under-7 Category. Diya Gautam Loonawat

also of Grade-1 scored 4 out of 6 and was placed third jointly, but as the tournament progressed she was placed 8th. Diya finished ahead of a Fide Rated Player in the championship.

The U-14 cricket team emerged the winners in the XLR8 Cricket Tournament. Shreyas Srivathsan of Grade 9 was awarded the Best Bowler of the tournament.

The Boys Basketball team took part in the All India Inter Collegiate Basketball Tournament organized by Jain College at Madhavan Park. Our students gained a good experience by playing against Christ Kings College, Sri Lanka.

In the Greenwood High Inter- School Swimming Meet on 22nd Feb our senior students secured 28 gold medals, 9 silver medals and 7 bronze medals. The students from the PYP secured 13 gold, 2 silver and 9 bronze medals. Please refer Appendix III for the results.

The 7th Vidyashilp Academy Inter- School Yoga Competition for Girls was held on 22nd Feb. Nikita Vinay Kishan of Grade 4 was placed third and was awarded a Bronze Medal for the Back Bending Posture.

The Boarders engaged in a workshop on Astronomy on 2nd Feb. The session started with an introduction to our solar system followed by an introduction on the list of celestial events for the year 2013 highlighting its importance and technicality. The list of the Activities included: Phases of the Moon, Activity on gravity and age in various planets coupled with a small introduction on the constellation and its types. Lot of Videos on the same was shown to the children.

On 3rd Feb., the students were taken to the Rangashankara auditorium for a Korean Dance Performance. This was presented in the modern day contemporary style wherein music was used on and off and it was a sheer delight to see poetry in motion. To add to the excitement there was "Jangu" the steady rhythm beat of the drum which displayed acrobatic movements. The performance adequately displayed "Balance & Imbalance". A variety of dance sequences followed which combined different styles called K-Style, expression of the inner mind which entailed a fantastic light set up coupled with the grace and elegance that came with the same. At the end the children were truly enthralled and left the place spell bound. They felt that they had been lifted to a different level.

On 9th Feb. our boarders were taken to the Indian Air Force Station Base, Yelahanka for the Air Show. It was a thrilling experience as they saw some superb and scintillating performances from the fighter jet class demonstrating their agility and war manoeuvre stunts of these sophisticated planes. The children were very happy with the day's proceedings and performances. Lunch was a welcome treat as the food court catered to all taste buds.

We hosted the following colleges on campus in February : University of Southampton , Loughborough University, University of Sheffield, University of St. Andrews, Binghamton University, State University of New York, Concordia University, Foothill + De Anza colleges, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, MCPHS University, Michigan State University, Middle Tennessee State University, Purdue University, Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), University of Buffalo, University of Arizona, University of California – Irvine, University of California – Riverside and University of Cincinnati. Grade 11 students have started making plans for their Summer with participation in internships, summer school, leadership conferences, volunteering and research programs. Non-native English speakers in Grade 11 are also encouraged to take the TOEFL iBT test over summer break in readiness for college application.

A delegation of 14 students attended the SISMUN organized by the Singapore International School, Mumbai, on 22nd and 23rd Feb. The students had an enriching experience. The MUN followed the IIMUN format (India International Model United Nations) a new MUN format. The students participated with delegations from 35 schools across the country.

To carry the House Vision forward the students of Grade 11 as part of CAS spent time at IICS, The students of the Hercules House were at the IICS Library once a week to arrange the Books as catalogued. They have also procured a new set of books from the local Book Shops to add on to the library.

The students of the Orion House continue their Math & Science Support along with the support for the NTSE Preparation. Grades 6 & 7 have been working in groups with Grade 11 students for Mathematics Revision Sessions. Effectively designed worksheets facilitate the learning process to the best.

Science Support has started from the last week of Feb where IICS students who want extra support stay back after school and make use of the opportunity. Grade 11 students have created a systematic revision approach for the same.

Students of Grades 6, 7 and 8 of the Phoenix House are in the process of getting the Lab Manuals printed. These will be submitted to IICS by the 1st week of March. Grades 3, 4 & 5 of IICS are being reviewed by Science Teachers and will be processed similarly by the House Students.

Grade 11 students have been visiting our Remote Learning Centres at Tavakanahalli and are involved in providing academic support to students in various subjects like English, Mathematics and Science. Along with this our students are also involved in preparing worksheets for various topics for the students at the RLCs which could be used for various learning activities.

Grade 11 students are continuing with the English Reading Program for Grade 3 at IICS. Each IISB student has been paired with 2-3 students of IICS. Ginn Series (different levels) & Subject textbooks are used to assess the student's ability in this program. Reading, Understanding and Reproducing are three focus areas in this program.

As part of the Programme on Carbon Footprint, the Grade 6 students were involved in simple activities like 20 questions and Quizzes based on their CAS theme. A debate was also organized where students participated and expressed their opinion either for or against the topic. In a similar manner the Grade 7 students continued with "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle".

Grade 8 students were taken to the Water Recycling Plant to give them a live understanding on how this plant works. They too were involved like Grades 6 and 7 in simple activities.

Apart from all this all the students have been involved in making a ten minute film house wise, which is one of the biggest features of the Leadership Summit.

The pitch is high and the pace hectic as we prepare for the mega events that are scheduled in March. We look forward to your support as we continue our journey to create leaders of tomorrow.

Appendix I

PYP Sports Overall House Points

POSITION	HOUSE	POINTS
I	Hercules	97
II	Pegasus	83
III	Phoenix	80
IV	Orion	77

Appendix II

Inter House Swimming Results - Senior School Overall Positions

Phoenix House	- First	- 125 Points
Pegasus House	- Second	- 91 Points
Hercules House	- Third	- 64 Points
Orion House	- Fourth	- 44 Points

Appendix III

**Greenwood High Inter-School Swimming Meet2012-13 held on 22nd
January 2013.**

SL NO	NAME	GRADE	EVENT	MEDAL
01	Erika Weimann	05	25 M Breaststroke 4x25 M Medley Relay	Gold Gold
02	Eujin Shin	05	4x25 M Freestyle Relay 50 M Breaststroke 50 M Freestyle	Gold Bronze Bronze
03	YuiTakemura	04	4x25 M Medley Relay 25 M Breaststroke	Gold Silver
04	NikhitaKishan	05	25 M Backstroke	Gold
05	GokulGanesan	05	4x25 M Medley Relay	Gold
06	Vinay Narasimhan	05	4x25 M Medley Relay	Gold
07	Narayan Roy	04	4x25 M Medley Relay	Gold
08	Pauline Klink	03	4x25 M Medley Relay	Gold
09	Anais Sophia Utting	03	4x25 M Medley Relay	Gold
10	SachaEdanUtting	05	4x25 M Freestyle Relay	Gold
11	LeneStyrdom	05	4x25 M Freestyle Relay	Gold
12	Young You	05	4x25 M Freestyle Relay	Gold
13	John Wilmot	05	25 M Freestyle	Silver

			4x25 M Freestyle Relay	Bronze
14	SiddarthChakravarthy	05	4x25 M Freestyle Relay	Bronze
15	Suvir Wadhwa	05	4x25 M Freestyle Relay	Bronze
16	Aman Sharma	03	4x25 M Medley Relay	Bronze
17	Kiran Antose	04	4x25 M Medley Relay	Bronze
18	Rajvir Wadhwa	03	4x25 M Medley Relay	Bronze
19	Charles Wilmot	03	4x25 M Medley Relay	Bronze