



February 2014

From the Principal's Desk

Practice is a means of inviting the perfection desired. From Practice comes a shape of achievement, a sense of one's being, a satisfaction of spirit. Practice means to perform, over and over again in the face of all obstacles, some act of vision, of faith, of desire.

Dear Parents,

February witnessed an ideal balance of academic rigour, practice for the concert evening and preparation for the Leadership Summit in the Senior School, while PYP did it with camps, field trips, exhibitions and academics.

Our Middle School students, who are new to the MUN, attended a conference at Pathways Noida between 05th and 07th February 2014. Sunakshi Jindal of Grade 9 was adjudged the Best Delegate, Drisya Antose and Danny Carver both of Grade 8 received a High Commendation.

A team of students who qualified for the First Lego League (FLL) National Level Robotics Competition had a wonderful learning experience 10th Feb 2014 at Pune. Please refer **Appendix I** for the list of students who participated in the event.

Our Athletics team participated in the Head Start Inter School Athletic Meet on 4th February 2014, at the St. John's Medical College Grounds, Koramangala. Our athletes won 1 Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze medal. Please refer **Appendix II** for details.

The CAS activity for Grades 6 and 7 focused on providing support in Numeracy for the IICS students of Grades 1 to 3. Students worked in small groups, for a half hour session each week, with attention given to place value, counting, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Real-life stories involving numbers and a problem were included to enhance understanding.

As part of the ICT Support, the students of IICS were taught the flexibility to add and drag text wherever they want. The students also gained a general overview on Computer Vocabulary, the art of using a mouse, the keyboard, opening & closing files and shutting down the computer.

Students across the Senior School focused on designing posters for the Advocacy project. In the Diploma Programme the students in all four houses have completed the films the best of which will be screened on the 21st March, during the Leadership Summit. Students from the Orion House as part of their House Vision have completed the IICS Magazine and the Newsletter.

All four houses have made their presentation of their respective House Visions for the Academic Session 2014 -'15. The Grade 11 students are continuing their visits to the RLC to help the students in Reading and Numeracy.

During the CAS period on Feb 19, 2014, the Activities Captains had a meeting with the Principal of the IICS regarding the inclusion of three clubs which will include Dance, Drama and Public Speaking.

The Students of Grade XI are in the process of CAS Documentation and Submission. The CAS Logs of Grade XI till Jan 2014 have been reviewed and feedback has been given to the students. Students of Grade XII were also involved in CAS Documentation and Final Submission. A number of senior students have been involved in preparing an Awareness Plan for providing safe drinking water and garbage disposal at Kalahalli. The members of the newly elected Student Council were taken to the Kalahalli Village. This gave them an opportunity to see and understand why an Awareness Plan is required.

In the PYP Grade 5 went to the Yelagiri hills for their Leadership Camp in 2 batches. After being briefed about the purpose and goal of the camp, students took on some engaging and exciting activities such as Name Game and Hand Shake. Our young leaders participated in all activities with enthusiasm such as balancing a ball on a pipe or working together to carry a ball through tied ropes or guiding their blind folded partner through an obstacle laden path. They climbed nets with the help of their friends, pulled themselves up on poles and swung a rope picking up bean bags from the ground. The activities inculcated in them the values of responsibility, team work, cooperation, goal setting, problem solving and risk taking. It was a delight to see our children enjoying the bonfire and relishing the food. Dancing to the lively music added to the liveliness of the camp and made it a memory worth reliving in the years to come.

The inquisitive inquirers of Prep 2 had the wonderful opportunity to visit the Bannerghatta Zoo on Feb 13th. They engaged themselves in research and documented their findings about wild animals and their habitats. They were intrigued by the safari where they were able to see the animals in their natural surroundings and enjoyed the sights of elephants bathing, lions roaring and bears sleeping. Our students inquired about the various birds and animals in the zoo enthusiastically and did not let the heat dampen their spirits. They are also exploring facts about farm animals. To provide them an opportunity to experience the life in a farm and to interact with farm animals, they visited Gerry Martin's Farm on Feb 20th 2014 . It was an enriching fun filled learning experience for the children. The nature walk was a visual delight as they saw farm animals at close range, petted them and even got a chance to feed them.

The Leadership Camp on February 25th and 26th for Grade 2 was to provide the children with opportunities for shared experiences in team building, solving problems, experiencing nature, outdoor learning and fun. The trainers from the Indus School of Leadership (Yelagiri) assisted Grade 2 teachers in facilitating the activities and games for the students.

Grade 2 Science exhibition was conducted on February 21st, 2014. The children made presentations on experiments depicting physical change and chemical change, in connection with their unit on "Matter Matters". They researched each experiment and learned about the real life applications of the changes they saw.

Grades 3 to 8 appeared for the ACER Tests in English and Mathematics on Feb 11th and 12th. These tests are developed to track student progress from year to year and to provide diagnostic information to inform teaching and learning. Information provided to schools may include performance of students compared to a large national reference sample; expected improvement from year to year based on norm reference data; detailed information on skills and knowledge tested to inform teaching and learning; group and individual reports; and a variety of testing formats and delivery systems.

The Mid Term Tests were conducted for Grades 6 to 9 and 11 from February 17th to 21st. The Mock Exam for Grades 10 and 12 started on 28th February.

The activity Clubs for the Academic year are progressing effectively. The clubs meet every Thursday during the Activity period. The Clubs are actively preparing for the Club Displays which is scheduled on 21st March, 2014.

The boarders watched **“The Nuisance of Hamlet’** on 8th Feb. The play took them through an audio visual poetic journey. This adaptation of William Shakespeare`s play is set in Bangalore, and looks deeper into the lives of three children. The play is paused at crucial points and the audience is invited to reflect on possible solutions and suggestions on how these real-life situations could be handled. The three stories focused on bullying, being sensitive to others` dreams, and how cheating can lead to complications in life.

On the 22nd of Feb students from Grades 5-8 were shown a video on The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

McAfee, a global leader in Cyber Security Technology, in collaboration with the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA), a nonprofit community joined hands with Indus International School to teach children how to stay safe online. The session on 26th Feb for the students of Grades 8 and 9 focused on helping students recognize and avoid online risks to stay safe and have positive experiences online. This program is one of the many initiatives that McAfee has undertaken as a drive as part of their corporate social responsibility to make online space safe for everyone.

28th Feb also was a day of competition as the Inter House Aquatic Meet witnessed our swimmers in action. Phoenix House was ahead of all with 225 points to claim the First Place. Please refer Appendix III for the overall positions.

The Placement Team has continued the meetings with individual Yr. 11 students. They have also met not only incoming new Yr. 10 parents in preparation for their children joining Indus in Yr. 11 but also Yr. 10 Indus parents, as per request, in preparation for choice of IB courses related to their career interests. They have started meetings with groups of Yr. 11 students to inform them about the differences between foreign and domestic university systems, importance of Yr. 11 marks in admissions process and timeline for the SAT/ACT exams for those going to the U.S. They have also received admissions officers of foreign universities. from Germany, Czech Republic, Netherlands, U.S., Switzerland, and Ireland. Most importantly they have started Yr. 12 applications to Indian and Hong Kong universities and are continuing to update our information sheet on university admissions for this school year from which to draw many Indus-specific statistics to aid in the counseling process for next year`s batch.

We thank the members of the PAC for their time. The meeting on 11th Feb saw their commitment and support as together we discussed the many points that were raised.

Regards,



Mrs. Sarojini Rao
Principal
Indus International School, Bangalore

Appendix I

Participants Of The First Lego League (FLL) National Level Robotics Competition

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

Appendix II

Results of Head Start Inter School Athletic Meet

NAME	GRADE	EVENT	POSITION
Maya De Laet	3 (U-8 Girls)	60m	II Place
		Long Jump	I Place
Shagun V. K	8 (U-15 Girls)	Long Jump	III Place

Appendix III

Results of Senior School Inter House Swimming Meet 2013-2014 Individual Championship Award

Sl No	Name	Grade	House	Points
1	Vinay Narasimhan	6	Phoenix House	13 Points
2	Siddarth Chakravarthy	6	Pegasus House	13 Points
3	Reva Shinghal	6	Orion House	15 Points
4	Ben Grubb	7	Hercules House	15 Points
5	Drisya Antose	8	Phoenix House	15 Points
6	Lee Jae Ho	9	Pegasus House	15 Points
7	Samantha Mary Alexander	8	Hercules House	15 Points
8	Pranav Padode	11	Phoenix House	15 Points
9	Abhishek P A	11	Hercules House	15 Points
10	Shree Baphna	11	Phoenix House	15 Points

Overall Team Position

Sl No	House	Points	Position
1	Phoenix House	225	I
2	Pegasus House	119	II
3	Hercules House	105	III
4	Orion House	95	IV