



## February 2016 | From the Principal's Desk

*A well-developed sense of moderation fueled by a sense of purpose is the pole that adds balance to each step taken as one walks the tightrope of life.*

Dear Parents,

As we march ahead, February has been witness to tests, matches and preparation for the Senior School Indus Day.

First of all, we would like to thank all the parents who came in for the PTM on 20<sup>th</sup> Feb. The interaction and feedback that you have had with the teachers, would certainly help us to continue to make a difference in our students' lives.

The highlight of the month was the inauguration of the new building to house the Indus International Training and Research Institute (ITARI). Mr. Sushil Mantri, our Chairman who laid the foundation stone was present to inaugurate the new building which has been completed in a record time of less than six months. ITARI was started in 2009, as a platform to create and mould our own teacher talent pool. The building is state of the art and has 17,000 square feet construction on two floors, located on the Indus Bangalore School Campus. The building has an auditorium, library, conference room, Innovation Centre and Design Studio for Neuroscience, to name some of its state of the art facilities. We had a few dignitaries invited for the occasion like Prof. Kevin Mattinson, Dr. V Raghunathan and Mr. Premchand Palety. They graced the occasion by speaking about the transformational role that a teacher has to imbibe to teach the child and not just the subject and about fostering creativity in international schools.

**PYP:** The PYP students have been engaged in a few field trips this months, in connection with the units they are covering. The Grade 1 students visited Prestige Ozone and a village near the school, in connection with their unit on Communities. The students were able to make connections with urban and rural concepts and compared and contrasted the various facilities like the water purification systems, recycling, grocery stores and entertainment centers. They inquired into the needs of the community along with the roles and responsibilities of the members in both types of communities. It was an eye opening experience for the young inquirers.

On a similar note, the students of Grade 5 visited a garment factory as part of their unit, 'How We Organise Ourselves' in which they are studying businesses. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to study a company that has all the infrastructure in place to account for both social and environmental conditions such as creating unbiased employment opportunities, women's empowerment, priority employment for the physically challenged, an effluent treatment plant, a medical centre as well as a crèche facility for the children of the workers.

The Prep- 2 students have also been busy with their unit of inquiry about food sources and they visited Sahaja Organic Milk dairy and the plantation area where students saw, touched and smelled all the plants, and even plucked those they liked. The lessons from a farm field trip have expanded children's horizons about the foods they eat.

The Robotics Club has evinced a keen interest in this area as the students enrolled have increased this year. 70 PYP students from Grades 1-5 had an opportunity to participate in the Robofest competition on the 13<sup>th</sup> Feb, which was held in the city. It was an opportunity for students to come together to explore, experiment and experience their technical skills.

Our PYP fledglings, Aadvik Reki, Ritvik Elan and Dev Veer Singh participated in a friendly cricket match against DPS South on 13<sup>th</sup> February. This was conducted on the Indus cricket ground. They have now spread their wings and have ventured into greater heights to participate in the Sri Lanka Cricket tour as well. They left on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb for the tour.

Students from Grades 3-8 had the opportunity to write the ISA (International Schools' Assessment) exam which is designed specifically for students in international schools. The results of this exam will provide diagnostic information that can be used at the school, class, or individual level and the performance on the ISA can be related to international benchmarks.

The PYP Chess Competition on 19<sup>th</sup> February had around 60 students from Prep 2 to Grade 5 participate eagerly in the battle of mind and skill. They engaged with focus and had the opportunity to apply and showcase their quick strategic and logical thinking skills. The student pairing for the chess event was created by FIDE approved chess software. The results are enclosed Appendix 1.

The PYP held their second 3 Way conference on the 20<sup>th</sup> Feb. It was an opportunity for the parents, students and teachers to discuss student progress and set goals together.

Our business savvy Grade 5 students organized a fun filled and exciting business fete on 24th February. This was based on the central idea- 'Businesses Reflect and Shape Society'. They effectively applied skills gained through the Unit of Inquiry, like planning, marketing, accounting, communication and technology as they organized stalls with games and sold a variety of food and craft.

**MSP:** Grade 8 has moved into the IGCSE mode and therefore after school Support Classes have started from the 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb.

The students of Grade 8 appeared for the PSAT, a preliminary version of the SAT on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. This two hour test gives the students an idea of what they are pitted against to appear for the SAT.

Students from Grades 2 to 8 have been preparing for the Trinity Guildhall Communication Skills Examination. The examination which started on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb is in progress. Students have been trained during their English classes on how to deal with the topics given. Tips on various aspects like how to use the examiner's questions to one's advantage have been dealt with, to enable the students to talk with presence of mind. All those who have appeared so far have enjoyed the experience and the feedback received is positive.

**DP:** After the half- yearly examinations, the results were published online this month. The grade 11 students also worked on their class boards and House Boards this month. A series of workshops have also been conducted for the Grade 11 students by the Placement Cell to guide them through the application process for universities. Grade 12 Final IB Submissions are in tow for Extended Essay, Internal Assessment and Theory of Knowledge.

With the Indus Day coming closer, the momentum for the practice sessions have caught on. The students have been seen practicing hard for the orchestra, choir and their dance performances.

The inter house One Act Plays were staged on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. The battle of histrionic talent was spirited. There were some wonderful plays enacted, the names of which are provided in Appendix 2. 'Antigone' by the Pegasus house was adjudged the best and will be enacted again on Indus Day which is on 11<sup>th</sup> March. The best actor award was presented to Karam Poddar of grade 11 and the best actress award to Ananya Dalal of grade 6.

**Placements:** Several university visits have been going on as per the schedule during the month. The universities include - Technion International , Liverpool Hope University

College , Keele, Duke, the American University of Antigua College of Medicine, University of Surrey, Cass Business School, City University, London, Hult International Business School in San Francisco and London, LDU: NABA Milano, Italy LDU: Media Design School, New Zealand, and Xavier University and many others.

**CAS:** The four houses have continued working on the tasks assigned to them.

The **Pegasus** house students have been preparing for the vegetable garden at IICS by engaging in activities like weed removal, digging, ploughing and cleaning. In their endeavor to foster entrepreneurship, the students have been involved in making candles. They have made sets of scented candles in various shades.

In the **Phoenix** house, as a part of their CAS project of 50 acts of kindness, the grade 6 continued to help students of IICS to make posters for the library on the school's core value. Grade 7 worked on stationery drive for IICS students. They made some handicrafts and cards and sold in their respective housing complexes and have raised a sum of Rs.4, 000. This money will be used for buying geometry boxes for the grade 9 IICS for the forthcoming exams. The students have also been able to keep to the target set in the sanitary napkin production on a daily basis. Grade 11 students brain stormed for the ideas for House Board and also worked on fund raising. They organized a bake sale on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb and raised funds (Rs. 13, 200/-) for a bigger sale on 20<sup>th</sup> Feb.

The **Orion** house students have been working to encourage reading habits in the IICS students and this month, they have come up with a plan to conduct a reading programme using methodologies like flash cards for difficult words, role plays, flip teaching and jigsaw, to enhance their motivation and interest in reading.

**Hercules House** students made note books with waste paper, as an effort towards recycling paper. The unused pages from old and used notebooks were collected to make new notebooks which can be utilized. This way, the students learnt not only to save paper but also engage in a meaningful activity that teaches the value of thrift.

**Trips:** The leadership camps were conducted at Yelagiri in 4 batches (two each from grades 9 and 7) during the month as per schedule. As always, it has been both a learning and team building experience for the students. Survival skills through the treks and camp outs provided a learning ground for survival skills for our students which will be cherished and become meaningful as they move on in life.

**Boarding:** 5<sup>th</sup> Feb saw a group of students set out for a trip to Shimoga. The tour began with a visit to the breath taking Abbey Falls, the royal tombs and the Omkareshwara temple. The scenic beauty was enjoyed by all and the historic tombs made the day truly meaningful. The next day was spent crossing a hanging rope bridge to reach the Cauvery

Nisargadhama, an island that is known for its deer park, lush foliage of bamboo groves, sandalwood and teak trees. The day ended with a Visit to the Tibetan Colony and the Tibetan Monastery.

Boarders in two batches went on a day trip to the Rangathittu Bird Sanctuary and Mysore. Rare migratory birds were spotted at close quarters as the students were taken into the islands of the sanctuary. A visit to Tipu's palace enabled students to see the resplendent gardens and rich architecture. Post lunch was spent in the Mysore Zoo and the baby giraffe drew the attention of all.

About 20 boarders set off on a cycling expedition on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. They cycled 120 km and covered that stretch from Yelagiri to Bangalore. Col. Sathya Rao cycled alongside the students. This expedition not only kindled the spirit of adventure but also tested their stamina levels. Such trips are much sought after.

**Sports:** The Senior School Aquatics Meet as scheduled was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> Feb. The spirit of competition was intense as our swimmers vied for victory. The details are attached Appendix 3.

The Department of Sports also conducted the inter house matches which commenced on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. These matches were conducted after school. The results are attached in Appendix 4.

We congratulate Yohann Dalal of Grade 9 who has been selected to be coached by the National Basketball Association. Ms. Natalia, from Portugal, the Junior NBA Coach conducted a coaching clinic at Indus on 5 Feb. Subsequently our students also attended the Jr. NBA Elite Coaching Camp on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb at Marathalli.

We commend the notable performance of Ishan Mathew, Krish Kerkar and Arjun Mahajan in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Karnataka State Chess Championship in the Under 7, Under 11, and Under 18 categories at the Greenwood High School. These students have qualified from this chess championship to the National School which is scheduled to happen on 24<sup>th</sup> June at New Delhi.

The **Badminton junior boys team**, which consisted of students from Grades 6 and below won the Silver Medal in the Inter School Badminton Competition held at TISB on 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> February. The details are attached in Appendix 5.

Our school took part in the Under 12 and Under 15 Cricket tournament held at Sri Lanka from 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The tournament was organised by Sanath Jaysuriya Cricket foundation. We had 8 teams taking part under various categories. We were

winners in Under 12 category. The experience gained through these matches will help them improve their existing game technique.

**Professional Development:** Indus has always nurtured the professional growth of her teachers. Several teachers from the IBDP, the PYP, and the Early Learning Centers have attended the various IB workshops from the 26<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb at the Stonehill International School, organized by the IBO. This will help them keep abreast of not only the nuances in their respective fields but also enable them to interact with practitioners from other international schools across the country.

**Principals' Conference:** The three Principals of the Indus schools met at Hyderabad along with selected Core Team members at the Principals' Conference on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Feb. The conference focused on Data Analytics and the way ahead.

As we continue our journey with courage, we will continue to inspire our students to go beyond with absence of fear.

Warm regards.

Mrs. Sarojini Rao

Principal

Indus International School, Bangalore

## Appendix 1: PYP Chess competition (19<sup>th</sup> Feb)

### Final Results:

Name	Points	M-Buch	Buch	Programme	Grade	Tie-Break
1.Krish Kerkar	5	11	18	15	4	2
2.Aniketh Kalagara	5	11	18	15	4	0
3.Gabriel	4	10	17	14	4	

### Special Prize

Name	Points	<u>M-Buch</u>	<u>Buch</u>	<u>Programme</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Ryan Reynolds Shalin	1	9	6	1	Prep-2
Ruan Ram Ravipati	1	6	10	3	Prep-2
Ishaan P Jain	2	9	15	9	Prep-2
Abhinav Kalagara	1	7	11	5	Prep-2
Jin Tokumasu	1	7	10	3	Prep-2

## Appendix 2: The Inter-House One Act Plays

Phoenix: An Inspector Calls

Pegasus: Antigone

Orion: The little match girl

Hercules: An actor's nightmare

## Appendix 3: Senior School Aquatics meet results

### Individual Championship Award

Name	Grade	House	Category	Points
Aman Sharma	6	Hercules House	Boys U 12	15 Points
Navya Agarwal	6	Hercules House	Girls U 12	15 Points
Kiran Antose	8	Phoenix House	Boys U 14	15 Points
Nikita Kishan	7	Orion House	Girls U 14	13 Points
Saagarika P Gowda	7	Hercules House	Girls U 14	13 Points
Kavin Lingaraju	10	Phoenix House	Boys U 16	11 Points
Adrien Lee	9	Phoenix House	Boys U 16	11 Points
Drisyaa Antose	9	Phoenix House	Girls U 16	15 Points
Lee Jae Ho	11	Pegasus House	Senior Boys	15 Points
Samantha Mary Alexander	10	Hercules House	Senior Girls	15 Points

**Overall Team Position**

House	Points	Position
Phoenix House	178	I
Hercules House	176	II
Pegasus House	99	III
Orion House	92	IV

**Appendix 4: Inter house matches**

**BASKETBALL MATCH 2015 – 16**

Category	House	Position	Points
<b>Senior Boys Grade- 9 To 12</b>	Phoenix	I	10
	Orion	II	7
	Hercules	III	5
	Pegasus	VI	3

Category	House	Position	Points
<b>Girls Open Grade- 6 To 12</b>	Hercules	I	10
	Phoenix	II	7
	Pegasus	III	5
	Orion	VI	3

**Total House Points in Basketball**

Category	House	Points
<b>All</b>	Phoenix	17
	Hercules	15
	Orion	10
	Pegasus	8

**FOOTBALL MATCH 2015 – 16**

Category	House	Position	Points
<b>Senior Boys Grade- 9 To 12</b>	Phoenix	I	10
	Orion	II	7
	Hercules	III	5
	Pegasus	VI	3



Category	House	Position	Points
<b>Girls Open Grade- 6 To 12</b>	Phoenix	I	10
	Orion	II	7
	Pegasus	III	5
	Hercules	VI	3

#### Total House Points in Football

Category	House	Points
<b>All</b>	Phoenix	20
	Orion	14
	Hercules	8
	Pegasus	8

#### INTER HOUSE BADMINTON

Category	House	Position	Points
<b>Senior Boys Grade- 9 To 12</b>	Hercules	I	10
	Phoenix	II	7
	Pegasus	III	5
	Orion	VI	3

Category	House	Position	Points
<b>Senior Girls Grade- 9 To 12</b>	Orion	I	10
	Hercules	II	7
	Phoenix	III	5
	Pegasus	VI	3

#### Total House Points in Badminton

Category	House	Points
<b>All</b>	Hercules	17
	Orion	13
	Phoenix	12
	Pegasus	8

**OVERALL POINTS IN ALL THE SPORTS**

<b>House</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Position</b>
<b>Phoenix</b>	49	I
<b>Hercules</b>	40	II
<b>Orion</b>	37	III
<b>Pegasus</b>	24	IV

**Appendix 5: Inter school Badminton competition conducted at TISB (9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Feb):**

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>NAMES</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>
<b>1</b>	Manjunath .B.S	6	Silver Medal
<b>2</b>	Woosung Jeong	6	Silver Medal
<b>3</b>	Namit Kumashikar	6	Silver Medal
<b>4</b>	Kanishk Guptha	5	Silver Medal