



From the Principal's desk

"You must understand the whole of life, not just one little part of it. That is why you must read, that is why you must look at the skies that is why you must sing and dance, and write poems, and suffer, and understand, for all that is life."

- J Krishnamurti

March witnessed a fine balance between Whole Education and Academics. Hard work supported by a modified timetable facilitated practices for the Leadership Summit and a Celebration of the Performing Arts.

The month began with the Parent Teacher Meeting on 8th March across all programmes. This was well attended and as always gave each of you an opportunity to meet the various teachers formally to gauge your child's progress. In the PYP, the 3 Way Conference gave an opportunity for parents, teachers and the students to interact. The academic goals that the children set for themselves were reviewed and new strategies were discussed in order to support student learning at school and at home.

The newly introduced Aptitude Test, helpful for Career Counseling was conducted on 17th March 2014. About 30 students from Grade 8 appeared for the test. We seek your support and encouragement to help more students to appear for these tests in future.

On 18th and 19th March, students of Grade 5 displayed the risk-takers in them by taking up the challenging Low Rope Course activity under the guidance of the ISL team. For the students, it was 'learning in continuum'. Students commented it was "taking them back to what they had experienced and learnt in the leadership camp" that they had recently completed. Almost all the students

reflected that they had, “done away with their fear of heights and the challenge now is to conquer the Discovery Rope activity at the leadership center in Yellagiri.”

In the Senior School the Four Houses were busy completing the house task as part of the house vision and that was to make a film based on case studies that were given to them. A panel of judges had a tough time adjudging the best film. The film made by the Pegasus House once again was considered the best. The film was screened on 21st March during the Leadership Summit.

The Activity Clubs have concluded for the current session and the period henceforth on Thursdays will be used in our make-up timetable to enhance academic rigour when we reopen after the Spring Break.

The CAS programmes for this session also concluded with all four houses busy completing the Leadership Wall which was one of the striking features of the Leadership Summit on the 21st. They published “Wings” the Indus International Community School Magazine which was released on the 21st and sent out the third Newsletter – “Between the Lines” as well.

Despite the number of students busy with practices for the 22nd, students of Grade XI who were not taking part, visited the IICS and helped the students in providing academic support in Reading and Numeracy.

The Students of Grade XI are in the process of CAS Documentation and Submission. The CAS Logs of Grade XI were reviewed and feedback has been given to the students. Some selected students of Grades 6, 7, and 8 along with Grade 11 were also involved in the coordination for the documentary on Kalahalli for providing safe drinking water and handling garbage disposal at Kalahalli. Mention must be made of their involvement in helping the student council members for the door to door visits in the identified ward at Kalahalli to convey the message of how to dispose garbage. They also shared different aspects of the hazards of an unclean environment and unsafe drinking water. The film documenting their efforts and success was screened during both the Leadership Symposium on the 15th and the Leadership Summit on the 21st.

The students of Grade 6 and 7 helped the IICS children with arithmetic-addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and patterns. The IICS children were introduced to MS paint, font formatting features and inserting text and pictures.

The MSP Leadership Summit this year on the 10th, 11th and 12th March 2014 in the Sports Complex enabled our students to display the learning outcome of a structured leadership curriculum in the academic year 2013-14. This included an artistic portrayal of the significance of the Core Values of the school and how the students imbibed them in their lives. Some sample mission statements were also on display.

Overall, the Summit and most importantly the Journey has impacted our students in a meaningful way that has sensitized them to global issues that are of concern and have made them look for solutions that are sustainable.

21st March, was another important day in our Leadership Calendar. The Leadership Summit showcased the outcome of our journey across all three programmes, through ILED talks, Visual Art, Leadership Journals, Dance and Films. We had both documentaries and winning short film from each of the Indus schools made by the four houses. It was a close competition. Indus Hyderabad was adjudged the best for their short film that centered on the problems of rejection that old people face in their own family. Indus Bangalore was adjudged the best for the documentary on the Community School which focused on identifying and nurturing talent in the school.

Grades 12 and 10 completed their Mock Examinations. The students were able to discuss the answer paper with the respective subject teacher. The Spring Break serves as a good opportunity for revision and noting down areas that may require reinforcement during the month ahead before the Examination.

The Guidance and Placements cell have been busy advising the Grade 12 students in applying to Australia, India, Singapore, Hong Kong, Ireland and Germany. They have also had meetings with Grade 11 parents and students and

advising Grade 10 students and parents on IB subject courses to keep the maximum career options open. We have also hosted representatives from Australia, the U.S., France and Switzerland.

All the Internals of Grade 12 that were scheduled to reach the IBO have been submitted on time.

The Leadership Symposium on the 15th at the Ritz Carlton provided an excellent platform for eminent speakers from varied sectors on defining the leadership gap in the country and make specific recommendations on what schools can do to redress the imbalance .The Governor of Karnataka, Dr. H R Bhardwaj, was the Chief Guest. Justice Santosh Hegde, Mr. Mohandas Pai, Mr. Harish Bijoor, Ms. Malathi Holla, and Mr. Ashwin Mahesh proposed ideas on how schools can play a pivotal role in creating the leaders that we require.

The 17th Principal's Conference was held on 20th March which focused on the annual review of all aspects of education at Indus.

The last day of this term ended on an enthralling note in an evening that celebrated the Performing Arts. Almost 450 students participated in this event. It is with pride that we would like to state that at least 85% of our students have learnt their music here at Indus.

The much needed Spring Break will rejuvenate each one of us and when we return it will be time to complete the syllabus and prepare for the Final Examination.

Regards,

Mrs. Sarojini Rao
Principal
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