



March 2015

From the Principal's Desk

"Success lies in your potential to inspire and affect those who are around you."

Dear Parents,

As we marched into March the focus has been on academics with monthly tests and internal submissions for Grade 12. Support classes in the senior school have been conducted to ensure that the grades improve especially in the board classes.

Trinity Examinations - Students from Grades 6, 7 and 8 appeared for the Trinity examination in Drama on 03rd March. It is heartening to share that most of the students have scored above 80%.

Primary Years Programme - PYP Agora - On March 6th 2015, PYP had their 2nd Agora. We thank the parents for taking the time to come to school and strengthening our relationships through increased communication. The PYP Colloquium titled: *Habits and Foci for Growth Mindset with Positive Psychology*, was presented by Reena Sonigrah. It was aimed at enabling parents to understand habits and the positive role parents can play in developing optimism in children. This was followed by Grade-wise forums.

IELC Indus Day and Leadership Summit were held on 12th March 2015. It was an evening well spent in the midst of budding leaders and energetic young eagles. The journey into the past, present and future and the dances that brought these times to life were showcased in a charming manner. The children were very endearing and the beautiful costumes enhanced the visuals. The I-Lead talks were inspiring and well presented. The distinctive orchestra with church bells and variety of instruments was unique with such little children participating.

The PYP students had taken the International Benchmark Test (IBT) in science, in November 2014. We have received the results and the certificates and analysis sheets

have been sent home. Our students have performed very well and have achieved levels higher than the Indian and International averages.

PYP Leadership Summit- This year the PYP students showcased their journey towards excellence on the 31st of March (Early years to Grade 2) the 1st of April (Grade 3 to 5). At the beginning of the year; during a goal setting workshop they identified a tangible strength in a particular area and have actively pursued this chosen goal to achieve high standards. In this pursuit of personal excellence, they have become more self-aware, researched what mastery in that field can look like, set their targets and reflected on their own progress.

Creativity Action Service - The Phoenix House has assisted the students of the Indus Community School in preparing the Community school students to write their journals.

The Pegasus House in a bid to enhance Women Empowerment have taken up a Project at the Handenahalli, village. A room has been rented to start a course on beauty to help women work in beauty parlours. A tailoring course will also be held. Banners and pamphlets have been made to create an awareness among the women folk of the Handenalli village.

The Hercules House conducted a survey at Billapura cross regarding the Garbage collection and importance of cleanliness. The Students working to keep our school campus clean by involving all the students of Hercules house across various grades. The Grade 11 Students have come up with a street play to create more awareness.

The Orion House installed a watertank at Kalahalli at the site of RO plant to recycle waste water from the plant. Students created awareness campaign for the same in the village.

The workshop on Emotional well-being was conducted in two parts, the first part by Ms. Ishita the Senior School Behaviour Counsellor and the second part by Mr. Madhusoodan, a DP Teacher in Psychology. The Kalahalli Ward member has offered to generate awareness about the workshops. The school will prepare a pamphlet in English and Hindi about the objectives of the workshops. This will be translated in Urdu and Kannada and distributed in the village.

The students of Grade 6 and 7 helped IICS children with arithmetic, while the students of Grade 8 helped the students of Grades 1 to 5 (IICS) in the reviewing of chapters taught in English so far for the Final Examination.

Grade 8 is currently involved in the completion of the anti-bullying wall and Grade 6 is actively involved in the completion of the World Map Mural at IICS.

Examinations - The Mock Examination has started for Grade 10 and as always set the tempo and seriousness for the examination ahead.

Workshops - The workshops related to Substance Abuse and Gender Sensitization were conducted for Grades 9 and above by the Behaviour Counselors of the MSP and the DP.

Pre IB Course - The first Pre IB course has been successfully completed. We are confident that this head start has helped our students understand the demands of the Diploma Programme.

Placement Cell - The Placement Cell has had Skype meetings with Naviance and the proposal is under consideration to strengthen Indus Placements.

A 40 page College Placements Handbook has been developed by the Placement Cell. They have Hosted universities from Switzerland, U.S., Scotland, and France. It continues to be a busy time with meetings with parents of Grade 11 and with Grade 12 late admissions. In addition to all this, they also conducted a Career Counselling Workshop for teachers on 19th and 20th March.

Boarding - On 14th March our boarders embarked on a day trip to Mysore. They visited the Ranganthittu Bird Sanctuary, Tippus Gumbaz a large mausoleum in the middle of an expansive garden that houses the cenotaphs of Tipu Sultan, Chamundi Hills, Mysore Zoo and the Mysore Palace. Students went on a guided, informative tour of these places. The outing concluded with dinner at the Gold Coin Resort, close to the Electronic City, Bangalore.

Sports - The Department of Sports has launched a cricket tournament on 14th March 2015. The new cricket field was inaugurated with the match between TISB and the Indus A team. The Indus A team won the match. We have 9 schools taking part in the tournament. The tournament will be played on Saturday and Sunday. It will go on till 13th April 2015.

Chess - Three students, one from the DP and two from the MSP participated in the 3rd Bhubaneswar All India Open Fide Rating Chess Championship - 2015 which was held from 25th to 29th March 2015.

Principals' Conference - Principals of the three schools engaged in the 24th Principals' Conference to plan the way ahead on 4th March 2015.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands - Far from the madding crowd in a resort where there is no internet, television or satellite connection, students and teachers spent 3 days on the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on a diving expedition. The divers were clear in their briefing and students experienced two dives at 50 feet and 35 feet. The students also experienced sea skiing at Ross Island, also known as the Paris of the East. Photographs and ruins underscore the glamour of the British lifestyle that once existed. Indian labour was free and exploited to the maximum. The Japanese entry only heightened the suffering. Once they surrendered, the fury of the waves breached the sea wall that surrounded the islands and what remained became a mere ghost town. The island was handed over to the Indian Navy in 1979. It was a trip that encouraged the students to take risks, take in the visuals remnants of the island's history, and develop courage.

Everest Summit - Major Mohit Tomar, an instructor in the Indus School of Leadership, addressed students of Grades 6 and above on 25th March during a special assembly in the Activity Period. Major Tomar will leave Bangalore shortly to complete the final leg of his journey to reach the Everest Summit. In his address he spoke of a dream realized. Highly motivated as he is, he stressed the need for commitment and discipline. The preparation has been rigorous and in the last few months he has run over 300km. It is not so much the physical ability but the mental strength that makes all the difference. Aware of the risk to his life where the chances of survival is 1:10, he spoke about the spiritual aspect that is important. With yoga and meditation he has fortified both mind and body to reach the summit. He will carry the Indus Flag to plant atop Everest to celebrate his achievement as a result of the support given. The short film about the climb was much appreciated. We wish Major Tomar a truly meaningful and safe climb. His effort will surely inspire our students and we hope that some of our eagles scale the summit soon.

April will see our students refreshed after the Spring Break all set for the final phase of this academic year. We wish all of you happy and memorable moments during the break.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Sarojini Rao
Principal
Indus International School, Bangalore