



May 2015

### From the Principal's Desk

**“Accomplishment stems from forethought, system, planning and an honest purpose.”**

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of this academic year we can confidently say that our success in whatever we have undertaken to accomplish is a result of our enthusiasm which gives us a new meaning to press on to make a difference.

**Final Examinations** - In the senior school, it has been a busy time with the Grade 12 and Grade 10 examinations and the other grades with revision and Final examinations. Our second batch of Pre IB students too have completed their final assessment on the course.

**Workshop on Emotional Intelligence** - The Pre IB students and ITARI students had a workshop on Emotional Quotient conducted by me to help students control impulsive behavior. During the workshop, they learned more about the concept of emotional intelligence and applied their insights to themselves to discover how they could overcome their personal barriers to progress and improve their facet of their personalities. The workshops covered a variety of topics such as Learner Profiles, Instant Gratification, and a Positivity Test.

**Primary Years Programme** - The **PYP Exhibition** is one of the most important events in the life of any PYP student. The transdisciplinary theme under which for PYP exhibition was conducted this year, was 'How we organize ourselves'. The Central Idea 'Businesses Shape and Reflect Society' offered opportunities for the children of Grade 5 to extend their critical thinking and develop conceptual understanding. On May 8<sup>th</sup>, students confidently explained the journey of their inquiry through posters, art, models, PowerPoint presentations and movies. Parents and teachers were amazed at the

knowledge and understanding the students had gained in just seven weeks. Representatives from Silver Oaks School and Diamond Stone School also visited the exhibition.

The **Grade 5 Graduation** which took place on May 22<sup>nd</sup> was a solemn occasion, to commemorate students' time in the PYP. They now look forward to new horizons in Middle School. The programme started with the lighting of the lamp, followed by an invocation dance by Grade 4 students. There were addresses by me as Principal and our Head of School, Ms. Apoorva Saini. Two students, Akhil Sagaran Kasturi and Yasha Goel shared their personal experiences of life in the PYP. Graduation certificates were conferred, and students got ready for the customary hat toss. It was a heart-warming occasion for parents, as they watched their children become PYP Graduates.

A day earlier was the **Prep 2 Graduation**. The graduation ceremony is a traditional rite of passage for our children, as they move into Grade 1; a world of uniforms and greater challenge. Our children looked very regal in their purple and gold gowns and mortar boards. The children showed great discipline, as they sat patiently waiting for their names to be called, so that they could collect their certificates. The ceremony was punctuated by engaging and lively speeches by Grade 1 children, who spoke about what life would be like in Grade 1. We also heard from four Prep 2 parents - Ms. Chioma Acholonu, Ms. Avaneetha Nanda, Ms. Vishaka Sawlaparkar and Mr. Hariharan Bojan who shared their heart-felt, personal reflections. Prep 1 students sang 'The Graduation Song' which was written by Ms. Keerthana, one of our SMA teachers, and the finale was an energetic performance by the Prep 2 graduates, who danced to a parody of Taio Cruz's song 'Dynamite'.

The **Annual PYP Aquatics Meet** was held on May 25<sup>th</sup> for students from Prep 2 to Grade 3, and May 26<sup>th</sup> for students from Grades 4 and 5. Swimming is a life-skill, and it was wonderful to see even our youngest students demonstrating such confidence and proficiency in the water. The timings of all the students were recorded, and the 3 boys and girls with the fastest time in each grade, were awarded the Gold, Silver or Bronze medal for each stroke. Our students enjoyed participating in all the various races, and cheered their classmates. Please see Appendix 1 for details.

**Boarding** - The Boarders were part of an interactive theatre performance on 10<sup>th</sup> May in which they shared their thoughts, feelings and opinions and the actors created creative compositions, a play, and poetry impromptu. The actors are part of a troupe headed by Ranji David, an actor, Director and TED Speaker. The Playback 'form' as developed by Fox and Salas utilizes theatrical elements developed from improvisational theatre, storytelling, and psychodrama.

**Community, Action and Service** - As part of gaining an insight into CAS, the Pre IB students worked on the class boards of the Community School by creating a stimulating and differentiated classroom environments across the grade levels.

**Robotics** - Students from the Robotics team participated in the National level IRCJ (Indian Robo Cup Junior) 2015 Competition held at Bishop Cotton Boys' School Bangalore on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of May 2015, in which 25 teams competed. Our team won the Best Team Work Award, out of 25 teams. We congratulate Suvir Wardhwa, Nishchit Karurena and Nishchit Karurena all of Grade 7.

**Placement and Career Counselling** - Our Placement Cell continued to host universities that included the Australian National University, American University of Antigua, St. Andrews University, S.P. Jain and Duke University despite their busy schedule with family conferences and meetings with Grade 12 students in their final decisions on which university offers to accept.

**Manufacturing of sanitary towels** - "Udaan", the initiative to manufacture the sanitary napkins was flagged off on 26<sup>th</sup> May when a skilled personnel from Jayashree Enterprise, Mr. Kannan was invited to train the teachers from IICS and Phoenix House. A group of six teachers, six students and three support staff was trained on how to manufacture these towels. The rigorous training comprised churning of the pulp paper to form the biodegradable absorbent cotton, the process of making the compressed units, adding the protective layer and sterilizing each of these towels. The trainees were also made aware of the safety measures and taught the various means of maintenance.

**PAC Meeting** – The final PAC meeting for the year was held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015. As always valuable suggestions were given which are being considered. The PAC has always been our well-wishing guiding force. They have not only supported our initiatives but have also added value to enhance what we are doing with meaningful critical feedback. Always on the alert, they have at all times showcased their interest in the organization by thoroughly knowing the systems, processes and the people who are a part of Indus. We thank the PAC for their support throughout the year.

**ITARI Graduation** - An important highlight of the month was the graduation of the sixth batch of PGDIE (Post Graduate Diploma in International Education) students at ITARI (Indus Training and Research Institute). PGDIE is a full-time professional course

offered at ITARI. This intensive course is customized to meet the requirement of IB Schools and is a structured pre-service international teacher certification programme. The academic curriculum, course-plan as well assessment standards are high and on a par with Universities in the UK; we follow guidelines for teacher competencies laid down by the Government of UK. The course is offered in association with the Birmingham City University, UK Dept. of Education. Several P.G. Diploma batches have successfully qualified since 2009 and qualifying teachers have been placed in leading IB schools.

It is with a sense of pride and satisfaction that we welcome these graduates as part of the teaching fraternity and wish them years of good experiential learning and growth. The graduation ceremony was graced by Mr. Simon Spencer, Deputy Head, the School of Education, Birmingham City University.

As we move into June, the first half will be busy with marking and reports and the second to relax during the summer. We wish each of you a meaningful and relaxed time with family.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Sarojini Rao  
Principal  
Indus International School, Bangalore

## **Appendix 1**

### **Results Of PYP Inter House Swimming Meet 2014-2015 held on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

#### **Individual Championship Award**

<b>Sl No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Points</b>
1	Nicolas Patrick Needham Cook	1	Hercules House	Grade 1 Boys	20 Points
2	Ines Lee Jasserand	1	Orion House	Grade 1 Girls	14 Points

3	Ciaran Bailie	2	Orion House	Grade 2 Boys	20 Points
4	Johanna Klink	2	Phoenix House	Grade 2 Girls	13 Points
5	Julian Gordon Needham Cook	3	Hercules House	Grade 3 Boys	25 Points
6	Shristuti Srirapu	3	Orion House	Grade 3 Girls	25 Points
7	Toki Bokaer Wilkinson	4	Hercules House	Grade 4 Boys	25 Points
8	Mercedes Angel B Hutter	4	Phoenix House	Grade 4 Girls	25 Points
9	Aman Sharma	5	Hercules House	Grade 5 Boys	23 Points
10	Pauline Klink	5	Phoenix House	Grade 5 Girls	23 Points

### Overall Team Position

Sl No	House	Points	Position
1	Hercules House	171	I
2	Orion House	129	II
3	Phoenix House	129	II
4	Pegasus House	57	III