



May 2016

From the Principal's Desk

“Success comes to those who move out of their comfort zones creating opportunities that rejects the good to conquer the great.”

Dear Parents,

The penultimate month of an academic year is a month of celebrating learning through graduation, end of term displays and more seriously, examinations. The students in middle school and senior school attended their final examination which was a culmination of the hard work and preparation that they have put in through the year.

In the PYP, the first to graduate on 19th May was Prep 2 from the Early years to Primary school. It was an emotional yet proud moment for both parents and teachers to watch their children walk up the stage with confidence in their purple robes. A few selected parents like Mrs. Viji Sundharajan, Mrs. Heidi Hojnicky, Mrs. Ami Diwan and Mr. Ivan Oneca spoke for the event and expressed their gratitude towards the school, teachers and the PYP administration for inculcating values and lessons that have shaped their children to move ahead.

The Grade 5 Graduation was on 20th May. In my address I underlined what international mindedness means and the importance of understanding one's own culture to be able to understand the common threats and challenges that will help to develop sustainability. We thank Mrs. Prafulla Shetty, a Grade 5 parent who addressed the audience on the journey of our young eagles and their preparedness to take flight to middle school. Our graduating students also spoke about their personal journeys of learning through the year. Their confidence and poise whilst speaking held the audience spellbound.

Grade 1 was no less as they presented their End of Unit celebration on the same day. Students meaningfully showcased their learning of the last unit of inquiry based on the central idea 'Light is all around us and behaves in many ways'. Moving forward, students used a puppet show through Shadow Play and showcased representations of their research and investigations.

The students of Grade 2 in a special assembly brought out their understanding of various cultures through dance, drama and song based on the central idea 'The arts can be used to express culture'. The unit helped the students reflect on how one can belong to any culture but still have the same values like love, empathy and respect.

The IGCSE March 2016 results for Hindi, Economics, Physics and Chemistry have been outstanding. It is heartening to note that over 30% of the students have scored an A or A*. The examination in the June series is in progress and we are sure that they will excel in these as well.

The Placement Cell has been busy working with the Naviance portal for 2017 and also meeting parents of Grades 9 and 11.

As part of our outreach to Kalahalli, the 1st dental check camp for the village was completed as planned. We would like to thank our PAC chairperson, Dr. Anju Agadi and her team which included Dr. Vandana for initiating this.

In a special assembly on 13th May for the senior school, I announced the house positions for the year 2015–16. In first place is Phoenix House, second Hercules, third Pegasus followed by Orion House in fourth position. I must congratulate all the houses for working with commitment on their house visions and for competing with a healthy spirit of competition. The deciding factor was the commitment that the students showed towards the house vision which were as follows:

Phoenix House: Production of low cost sanitary napkins and the Leadership Summit for the IICS.

Hercules House: Conduct Science Exhibition for IICS and fund raising to procure a paper recycling machine.

Pegasus House: Fostering Entrepreneurship through candle making and vocational training in beautician course for the under-privileged women in the community.

Orion House: Publish the IICS magazine and convert the families in Kalahalli village to use the RO water from the plant that the house has setup.

At ITARI, the 8th batch of teacher trainees completed and graduated from the PGDIE (Post Graduate Diploma in International Education) course on Friday, 27th May. Prof Simon Spencer, Deputy Head, School of Education Birmingham City University, UK addressed the young graduates, commending them for their excellent effort and learning. In his address, the CEO stressed on the transformational role of a teacher that is required. Congratulations to Dr. Moses and all the ITARI staff for the hard work and dedication that they have put in to make the course a success.

As we break for the summer, here's wishing each one of you a holiday that is meaningfully spent with moments to cherish.

Regards,
Mrs. Sarojini Rao
Principal