



May 2017

From the Principal's Desk

"Infuse your life with planned action that stems from a vision".

Dear Parents,

Quality is not an act, it is a habit. As we step into June and look back at May, we see a month of celebration of tasks planned and completed. Infused by a desire to do more, June will be a busy month as teachers plan for the academic session ahead.

PYP: The PYP proudly sent Prep 2 to Grade1. The Prep 2 Graduation Ceremony on May 18th, completed an early phase in life at school for our children in their early years. The Vice Principal Ms. Selina Krishnan graced the occasion as the chief guest and Ms. Navita Kishan, the Head of School welcomed all the parents. The ceremony was articulately compered by the students of Prep 1 who put up a wonderful performance to bid their seniors a heartwarming farewell. Ms. Leenaz Bicha, Ms. Jeevitha B and Ms. Cristina Oralu were among the parents who addressed the gathering, sharing their fond memories and sentiments at Indus. The graduating class then took to the stage to receive their certificates as the proud parents watched on.

May 19th ushered in a new era for Grade 5 as it marked the successful completion of their learning in the PYP. As they step into MYP, we welcome them to the edge of a whole new experience and wish them all the courage they need as they settle into the Programme. The **Graduation celebration** was co-hosted by Grade 5 teachers and the

Grade 4 community. The well attended ceremony had all the traditional elements of a heart touching graduation commencement.

The day began with an MYP orientation by Ms. Nandini Ramesh for Grade 5 parents. This was followed by the graduation march by our 63 graduands. The event was interspersed with music and dance performances by the students of Grade 4. The speeches from the valedictorians, Ranveer Mishra and Maanya Singh, was marked with meaningful moments etched in the mind of the year gone by. Ms. Jackie Cook and Ms. Rama Varma, both very active parents reflected on their journey as parents. The day was special as it not only marked a milestone achieved but it also opened the door to the Senior School.

Students and teachers of Grade 4, collectively, nominated students to contest in the election for the Junior Student Council. Preceding the election, PYP saw a round of colourful and enthusiastic campaigning by the nominees. Posters, badges, bracelets and bookmarks were a few of the innovative ways the students used to promote themselves as ideal candidates for their respective posts. The election was held on the morning of Wednesday, 24th May, 2017.

Mere subject teaching, which is content based has no meaning unless it is connected to the realities of life. Keeping this philosophy in mind, Grade 3 children visited Amity Supermarket on Sarjapur Road to apply the concept of money in real life situations.

Ms. Lakshmi Chaudhry, parent of Mallika shared her insights on different media with the students of Grade 3 on 23rd May. She talked about how the media has evolved over time. She additionally shared her perspectives on the changing role of media in today's world, with examples of how media can be helpful or misdirecting.

MSP & IGCSE: The MSP students have been busy with their final exams in May. Meanwhile, the IGCSE Set 1 exam results were published on 18th May. The students have displayed a fantastic performance. The hard work that they had put in was reflected in their excellent scores. The number of A*s and As in Biology, Chemistry, Economics, English Language, Geography, Hindi, History and Physics is a testimony to this. My special appreciation goes to Preeti and Heta for their unwavering support to the students which has played an important role in motivating them to put in their best efforts. We are confident that the Set 2 results will also be just as brilliant!

As Grade 10 make their subject choices for the IBDP, and plan their career, selected students attended the presentations made by the university representatives from Harvard, Stanford, Dartmouth and Wellesley.

DP: The Group 4 Projects and reflections were completed by Grade 11. The focused manner in which the students worked set the right mood and tone for the Final Examination. This will contribute to their first Predicted Grade.

Nominations and the first round of interviews for the Student Council were completed. The canvassing and the elections for the student council was held on 23rd May.

CAS: It was a winding up of CAS for this session.

Pegasus house has transferred the house boards and the Sewing machines to the new room allotted.

The packing of the sanitary napkins, which is a project by the **Phoenix** house happened at a slow pace due to the final examination. However an order for 20 packs of Sanitary napkins for one of the girls' orphanages in Bangalore was completed.

The waste papers are collected on a regular basis by **Hercules**. This is soaked regularly by the Ammas as they continue with the paper production. Paper collection drives are happening. As it is the end of the academic year, students have set up paper collection boxes in each block.

The students of **Orion** meet the Ammas whenever they find time through the week and revise on the content covered so far.

Sports: Our sports team has been active to ensure that students get opportunities to play with other schools. Friendly matches were conducted on 5th May after school.

A friendly 10 over cricket match was played between the students and members of the Indus faculty on 13th May 2017. This exciting match was won by the staff team. It was a good bonding exercise which relaxed both body and mind.

Football is a much loved game at Indus. Be it the short break or the lunch break we see a number of students playing football. On 13th May, boarder boys from Grades 8, 9 and 11 played a football match. Cricket is not far behind. Boys of Grades 8, 9 and 11 played two cricket matches.

Pre-IB Workshops: Self development workshops are given immense importance in Indus. The Pre IB students had a session on Self Discovery and Self Esteem by our school behavioral counsellor which gave them good insight of their own self on 13th May. Gen Ray also conducted workshop on Goal setting for the Pre-IB students. Gen Ray emphasized on the importance of setting meaningful and challenging goals to help one to unlock his/her potential to achieve success. They also attended a workshop conducted by me, on developing their emotional quotient. These workshops intend to prepare students for life. The little nuggets of wisdom inspired the students to work hard at realizing their potential.

Boarding: To mark an end to this year's outings, all the boarders were taken for a lunch. Students enjoyed themselves dancing to foot tapping music and the sumptuous wide spread lunch.

Placements: The end of the academic session is a busy time for the Placement Cell. Besides hosting University visits which included Harvard, Stanford, Dartmouth, Wellesley and the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill they continue to meet with juniors and parents on a One-on-One to discuss and guide them through the process.

Annual PAC meeting: The annual meeting with the PAC on 24th May reviewed the achievements during the year gone by and looked at parental feedback on transport, food and some concerns in each of the three Programmes. As always the school looks forward to such meetings and constructive feedback as they help serve the students better. We thank Dr. Anju Agadi and the PAC for their interest, involvement and support. We took this opportunity to bid farewell to our Co-Chairperson Mrs. Raadha Kapai, who has been an active member of the PAC. Her eye for detail and her solution to concerns has always been appreciated. Mrs Renu Kalagnanam takes over from Mrs. Kapai as the PAC Co-Chairperson. Mrs Kalagnanam has been with the PAC for over three years.

Leadership Track 1: It was an experiential learning day as the teachers in the Leadership Track 1 engaged in serious discussion that two books triggered, namely "The Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell and "Peak" by Anders Ericson. The big ideas from both the books were discussed and deliberated on to understand the importance of practical intelligence which enables one to seek opportunities. The inevitable role of deliberate practice to nurture talent and gain mastery was also explored. The biggest takeaway was how to train our children to be imaginative. It was an enriching session conducted by Gen Ray which inspired the teachers to take up initiatives for self-

discovery and development. This is when the ordinary become extraordinary and an outlier is created.

With the final examination in progress, it promises to be a busy time as we evaluate academic achievement. We are confident that our students will do their best as they have been given the opportunities to do so.

Regards,
Sarojini Rao
Principal
Indus International School, Bangalore