



August 2013

From the Principal's Desk.....

We are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. We are here to enrich the world, and we will impoverish ourselves if we forget the purpose.

Dear Parents,

Another academic session opened with continued commitment to reach the targets set both in the academic field and in the co-curricular arena.

The month began with the Curriculum Road Map Day on 2nd and 3rd August, for the programmes across the school to help parents gain an understanding of what has been planned and to also provide time to interact with subject teachers. Thereafter students were introduced to their respective courses ahead. Students in Grades 9 and 11 have made their subject choices and have settled down to the regular routine which includes the after school activities as well. Grade 12 are working **hard** to meet their deadlines.

As we gear up for our Concert in March after school practices have started.

Following close to the heels of our success in the Grade 12 IBDP results were the outstanding results in the IGCSE. Over 50% of our students have scored a distinction. The students who have excelled worked with a commitment to achieve the high scores that they gained.

The highlight of the month was the Habba on 15th August, as we celebrated both the Indian and Korean Independence **day**. The Habba was a triumph to the rich cultural diversity that is India! It underlined firstly the high level of pride and commitment that each house possessed to work with verve despite the incessant rain the day before. Kudos for the extensive display of the various aspects of the states projected! The rich cultural heritage particularly of Bengal and Tamil Nadu held all in awe, making them respect the freedom fighters, the warriors, the scholars and the artists that have left an indelible stamp on the footprints of time. The hospitality of Gujarat and Punjab with their invigorating colours and beat will be remembered for a long time. **The outstanding feature that needs mention is that it was a student led initiative, with equal involvement of students of the Indus International Community School. Well done Indus Eagles!**

To be ranked the number one International School in India by C-fore, for the second year is succession not only fills us with a sense of pride but also a sense of assurance that the standards and benchmarks set to enforce academic rigour and to balance the same with equal emphasis on whole education through co-curricular activities is just right. C-fore as some of you may be aware is a premier market research and consulting firm. They have conducted surveys and research in various spheres like education, elections, budget, leadership, and politics and so on. We will do our best to stay on top with our focus on creating leaders who will be agents of change.

The MSP struck a note to check preparedness with the Entry Point Test in Mathematics and English. These tests serve as a tool of clarity to give both the student and teacher an understanding of what needs to be addressed.

Support Classes and Study Circle have already started from Grades 6 upward. In the IBDP we have also introduced support for high achievers. This step right at the commencement of the academic year is bound to step up the scores as we are determined to ensure more scores of 40+ that will place our students in the best universities across the globe.

The delivery of the Leadership Curriculum follows a structural approach. The target so far is Goal Setting and developing a vision. This is done primarily to equip our students with the power of reflection that looks deep within to gain a sense of purpose and direction. The Student Leadership for Grades 9 and 11 scheduled for the 10th and 11th September will further strengthen their understanding with workshops and interactive sessions conducted by both General Arjun Ray and me.

Just three weeks into school both the twelfth and tenth graders, were thrust into yet another grueling Leadership Camp. Though it was only few days long, the trainers had plenty of new activities in store for them. This year, they faced a challenge that they never had attempted before; a 30 hour Outbound Learning activity which held spirits high.

Sports:

The basketball exposure match against Delhi Public School – East, for our Sub - junior boys (Grades 6 and below) and Junior Boys (Grades 10 and below) was aimed at giving the teams a good experience and exposure to build a competitive spirit.

The Indus International School & Indus International Community School athletes participated in the 6th State Level School Olympics held at Kanteerava stadium on 3rd and 4th August 2013. Shagun VK from Grade 8 won the Silver Medal in the Short-put girls U-14 category.

Activities:

The activity Clubs for the Academic year started from 22nd August. We have enrolled students from Grades 6 and above, excluding Grades 10 and 12 in 13 Clubs. The Clubs for this year include Public Speaking, Culinary, Gardening, MUN, Pottery and Sculpture, Indian

Dance, Stitching and Craft, Entrepreneurship, Chess, Robotics, Film Making and Western Dance.

Six students from Grade 12 participated in the TCS - IT WIZ 201 on 8th August at the Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Bangalore. This was an Information Technology quiz conducted by Tata Consultancy Services and over 1400 students from across Bangalore participated in the same.

Selected Students also participated in a Quiz competition organized by the Reserve Bank of India on 13th August. The quiz master Shri Gautam Bose of "Greycells & Associates" had questions that centered around finance which certainly had our students thinking.

Boarding:

The Boarding Activities continue as per plan to ensure that each activity is meaningful and addresses the aesthetic and cognitive aspects of learning. On 9th August the boarders were shown a movie in the sports complex entitled "A Beautiful Mind" a 2001 American biographical drama film based on the life of John Nash, a Nobel Laureate in Economics. The film directed by Ron Howard, is from a screenplay written by Akiva Goldsman.

On 11th August 2013 our students watched a play ['Middle Class Tendencies', Hinglish stand-up comedy by Amit Tandon and Kanan Gill](#) at the Jagriti Auditorium. The play is about growing up in a middle class Indian household, the obsession for saving money, giving unsolicited advice and the constant need to show off set them apart. It deals with parents, kids, family, friends and also family friends.

On 16th August 2013 our students watched [the Mannequins present 'Being Sartak Majumdar' by Karan B. Shetty](#) also at the Jagriti Auditorium. In the mystical land of India, where boredom and middle-class existence brought fear into the hearts of the innocent millions, one man stood up against monotony. One man stood up to bring back excitement. One man stood up to make a difference. With suspense, drama, live action, comedy, surrealism and much more, this box-office entertainer kept us on the edge.

On the 24th August 2013 our boarders were taken to the Visvesvaraya Museum. The Engine hall, Electrotechnic, Fun science, Space, Science for children, Biotechnological revolution, BEL hall of electronics & the Dinosaur corner are some of the highlights seen.

On 31st August we had an in-house workshop on gender sensitization which was conducted by our school counselor Ms. Sanaaz Doust for the boys and girls. This workshop centered around creating an awareness that will ensure safety. In the evening we had our boarders' socials coupled with dinner wherein we welcomed our new students to our boarding fraternity.

Creativity, Action and Service (CAS):

In the Diploma Programme Creativity, Action and Service continues to engage our students to take their House Visions forward.

Pegasus in fostering entrepreneurship continues with better designs in candle making. All the designer candles made this month were sold out during the Habba.

The Phoenix House finalized its core team of IISB Students to involve them in various activities in the Leadership Summit. Ten books have been prescribed to the students of IICS. They are currently working on designing a schedule where training will take place after school.

The Hercules house members worked mainly for the HABBA held on 15th August 2013. They were also involved in planning for the Sponsorship for the Math Olympiad and Science Exhibition.

The Orion House members conducted an Art competition for IICS students. They organized Workshops on creative writing and argumentative writing. Two students of IICS were trained to speak about last year's Leadership Summit during the HABBA. The first e-newsletter is in the process of completion.

The Middle School Programme for Creativity, Action and Service has clearly defined their understanding in the following words: "In helping others, we shall help ourselves, for whatever good we give out completes the circle and comes back to us." *Flora Edward*. Helping our children make connections and building understanding is an important piece of the education puzzle. The CAS component will develop the child's awareness of community and their role within that community. The Focus areas for Grades 6, 7 and 8 include a Reading Programme through a Buddy System for Grades 2 and 3 and ICT for Grade 1.

Participation in the CAS program encourages a caring attitude and instills a sense of responsibility in students. It creates a venue for students to take on leadership roles, work cooperatively with IICS students and share their special energies and talents. A Buddy log sheet has been created for students and throughout the academic year students will reflect on their experiences. Through this, students are encouraged to record their reflections not only after the project is done but during the process as well.

College Placements:

The Indus College Counseling this month hosted Universities from Canada: The University of British Columbia, Carleton University, Concordia University, Guelph University, McGill University, Queen's University, Ryerson University, The University of Toronto, York University on campus. Students had a one on one interaction with all of them and gained better knowledge about the courses, university and Canada as an educational destination. We had faculties from Hospitality schools from Switzerland who visited us last week and gave us a brief presentation about their courses and programs. Also had Hong Kong

University visiting us which is one of World's top school for engineering courses. Few universities from US Chapman University, California, Santa Clara University, California, Rollins College, Florida, Kettering University, Michigan also visited us this month which are best known as safety universities and mainly majoring in Business.

We also hosted the Trinity College , Dublin (IRELAND) on 26th August, Bentley University (USA) on 27th August, Boston University (USA) ,University of Warwick (UK), University of Denver, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, University of Minnesota, University of Nebraska Lincoln, Rutgers University, Salve Regina University, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point all on the 28th August and last but not the least the Ashoka University (INDIA) which is tied up with University of Pennsylvania & Carlton College(USA) on 29th August. The sessions have been interesting and have given our students a wide range of opportunities.

With so much covered in August we know that the road ahead has much more. We look forward to your continuous support.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Sarojini Rao

Principal

Indus International School, Bangalore