



***"Greater energy and greater passion is more extraordinary than greater genius."***

**— Lt. General Arjun Ray, (Retd.), PVSM, VSM**

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**Dear Friends,**

We did it last year; we were pronounced no: 1 in the list of International Schools in India. We have held our position; and not by running in the same place. Competition has multiplied, but our sustained effort, our reiterated vision has paid dividends like this! This year, we are on top, yet again!

Ten years have passed, since we moved to 40 acres in idyllic settings, with spacious buildings on what looked like sandy ground. The lush green you see all around today is surely the fruit of labour, of dedication, of community and of the will to serve, to get ahead in learning, giving and growing . Change and challenges are constant; these we must take in our stride and overcome them with ferocity of purpose.

Teachers' Day and this distinction is indeed an occasion to celebrate, but there is really no time for fanfare, for self-congratulation, for smugness. We must remember success is dynamic, goals are stretchable and intrinsic motivation is a habit! It is and must be our duty, our pleasure and our *summum bonum* to grow not only vertically but also laterally. In a true learning community, each member, whatever subject and segment of children she teaches, has a responsibility to continue to learn to be a truly reflective, creative practitioner. We must rededicate yourself each day to being there for your learners in body, mind and spirit, and to make Whole education a practical reality, instead of just a theoretical ideal.

By example and zeal, each teacher, right from the Early Learning years takes on the responsibility to prepare our children not just for College and Career, but for true Citizenship. Leadership begins within these portals. Let us learn, practise and be exemplars of leadership.

Good teachers become great. That you are a master in your subject, that you prepare your students well for the next class or the final examination is a given. Great teachers capture the artistry and science of teaching. But, higher technologies, higher expectations are always knocking at the schoolgates. We must always look beyond declared results and published distinctions. Awakening, opening up and sharpening the potential packed in each individual child is your duty, your challenge and your cross, if you will.

Great teachers have a strong moral imperative for change. They seek that change for the betterment of people they will never see, never know and who will never reward them personally. They are doing this at our Indus schools now and it is our personal dream, that Indus and leadership nurture will become synonymous bywords in the near future.

Students don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. Empathy and engagement with your students are as much the tools of success as talent and personal charisma. Truly a child needs more than 2 parents. you must become the 3<sup>rd</sup> parent.

Whole teachers for whole children! That is your raison de etre at Indus. By careful and deliberate cultivation of young bodies, minds and hearts ( her own and that of her fellow learners' her students) can a teacher hope to play her complete role in society. At this time, I am reminded of the tremendous responsibility teachers have in their contributions towards the growth of these young spirits, to bring out what is beautiful, and true and good in every young person.

At Indus we seem to have balanced our priorities. Academic results have been consistently excellent and we have participated and won laurels in many co-curricular fields. We claim that we provide Whole education in its purest essence without compromising the importance of academics!

The formula is right, because the intent is right! We have not just hit the chance button correctly. Our teachers have come together as a learning community, with management, parents and students. We have worked with a will to succeed and the courage that is backed by IN OMNIA PARATUS - prepared for all challenges

With more summits to climb, more children to welcome through our gates and send off with fond farewells. our work will never be done. What a joyful thought, what a privilege to contribute, what an occasion to celebrate. Happy Teachers' Day!

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arjun Ray". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

**Lieutenant General Arjun Ray, PVSM, VSM (Retd.)**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Indus Trust**