



August 2014 - Newsletter

We can't merely sit on the track of excellence, we need to tell ourselves: 'What's next?'

Dear Parents,

A new session is always a happy one that promises and brings with it more opportunities to excel. Though the school opened on 4th August, the teachers and students of Grades 10 and 12 had already come in close to a fortnight ahead.

As already informed, for the third year in succession we have once again been rated as **India's Best International School** through a survey conducted by C fore. We thank all the parents for your trust in us and supporting us.

The Presentations on the Curriculum Road Map Days and the Single Window saw enthusiastic parents and students at the Sports Complex all set for the year ahead.

In keeping with our belief that each one is a Leader who through his or her effort can bring in change, we have developed a very structural approach to Leadership and it is dealt with with the same seriousness as any academic subject. Developing more on this approach, a workshop model has been devised and the CEO Lt Gen Arjun Ray himself conducts these workshops. August witnessed the first in a series of sessions for Grades 9, 11 and 12. The student learning was well displayed in the interactive sessions. Nominated teachers who will do the follow up during the Leadership Curriculum periods also attended these workshops.

Independence Day Celebrations: As the country geared up to celebrate its 68th Independence Day, students and faculty members observed the Day in a unique manner. Keeping its international spirit, the school hoisted not only the Indian flag but also the South Korean flag as 15th August also marks the S. Korean Independence Day. Along with the CEO Lt. Gen Arjun Ray who hoisted the Indian Tricolour, we had the privilege of having with us a Korean parent, Mrs. Yong who hoisted the Korean flag. Both national anthems thereafter added sanctity to the honour that was experienced.

Soon after the ceremony, students and parents assembled in the Sports Complex to watch a spirited Inter-House Competition where the various Houses showcased the country's rich diversity through folk dances, music and a depiction of the special traits of four Indian states, namely Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Assam. Adding a serious touch to the Day was the event called: "Your Opinion Matters", where participants expressed their views on current issues as diverse as the Garbage problem in Bangalore to the Save Ganga Campaign.

15 August also saw the inauguration of the **RO Water Plant at the Kalahalli village**, by Gen Ray, Col. Rao and the Panchayat President, Mrs. Uma Devi. The function began with the Flag Hoisting and singing of the National Anthem led by the Choir from our Community School. Gen. Ray gave the first ATW (Any Time Water) card to a resident of the village. Villagers of Kalahalli will get clean and pure drinking water henceforth at a very affordable cost. Each family is entitled to a minimum of fifteen to twenty liters of water per month for the small amount of Rs.70.

Model United Nations: Indus International Bangalore participated in the India International Model United Nations Conference in Mumbai which was held from 14th August 2014 – 17th August 2014. IIMUN is one of Asia's largest youth conferences where students play the role of the diplomats in a simulation of the working of the United Nations and discuss local and global issues aiming to reach a consensus. The conference saw participation from the best schools across 17 cities and 7 countries. The educational extravaganza also witnessed luminaries from different walks of life, like Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Mr Ronie Screwvala, Mr. Cyrus Brocha, and Mr. Lessile Lewis and many others.

A team of fourteen members participated from Indus International Bangalore in different committees. Although most of them were first time MUN'ers, there was no dearth of any leverage for the enthusiasm or zeal with which they debated. One of our youngest participants Danny Carver was highly appreciated by most of the delegates and luminaries for his presence of mind and unique sense of humour. He also was awarded the Mr. MUN trophy for the social event.

Mitluv Semwal, Arundhuti Menon and Mohil Duki also received a special verbal mention by the Chair for their participation and collaboration during the debate.

Our school also participated in the Harvard Model United Nation which was held at Hyderabad from 13th to 16th August, 2014. Ami Mehta, Vatsal Jaiswal and Mohammed received honorable mention for their significant contribution. They were pitted against tough delegates and the participation was a learning experience as evinced in their reflection.

IGCSE Results: The Grade 10 batch of 2014 has done us proud. The IGCSE results were outstanding. Three of our students have been ranked No 1 in India:

- Ami Mehta – English Language
- Uma Shekhawat – Entrepreneurship
- Mahesh Bhide – Chemistry

These three students have demonstrated excellence not only in academics but also in extra-curricular activities. These students are shining examples of the school's philosophy – "Whole Education but not at the cost of Academic Excellence". All three have been in lead roles in the school orchestra.

Gender Sensitization: Creating awareness is one way of increasing the safety measures at Indus. 'Child Safety and Gender Sensitization' workshops for students; parents and teachers are in progress.

On 23rd and 25th August, Enfold Health conducted workshops for all our teachers, admin staff, and support staff and for the IICS teachers as well. Between 28th August and 8th September, counselors from EvolveEd will conduct workshops for all students from Grades 1-12.

Primary Years Programme: In accordance with the POCSO Act and the directions given by Karnataka Police, a workshop on gender sensitization was held in two batches on the 23rd and 25th of August for all the teachers.

Guest Lectures: A guest speaker conveyed a perspective on a topic and promoted deeper inquiry into the unit. On 25th August, Grade 5 students had an interactive session with two guest speakers, Ms. Pooja Duglar and Ms. Meeta Baphna who spoke about their personal experiences related to migration.

Grade 2 also had three guest speakers Ms. Anitha Kholay, Ms. Rinka Banerjee and Ms. Nazia Begum (PE teacher) who spoke about the various aspects of being healthy. They emphasized on a balanced diet and regular exercise to keep one fit and healthy.

Middle School Programme: The present Grade 10 students on the Fast Track IGCSE, completed the Grade 9 Final exams this month. The answer papers were distributed and feedback given. While this was happening, Grade 9 students finalized their choice of subjects and regular classes have begun.

The support classes for Grade 9 to 12 have begun. Students have been identified by teachers. Support Classes are scheduled on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Boarding: The month of August saw the boarders go out on their first outing from school. An Odissi dance recital at Jagriti, Whitefield showcased what hours of exercising can do to perfect a difficult art form. Sharmila Mukerjee made her debut in 1982 as "Prakriti" in Rabindranath Tagore's dance ballet "Chandalika" which was staged in Kolkata during the poet's birth anniversary celebrations.

The students of Grade 8 were taken on 23rd of August for the Bangalore Walk and Grades 9 and 11 had their experience on 29th. The walk covers important historical landmarks in Bangalore. They were accompanied by a guide who enriched the experience with the history and importance of each place. The learning was put to test through worksheets and the fun element came in with a Treasure Hunt. Also on the 23rd, students of Grade 9 and 11 watched the movie "Dead Poets' Society". The movie centers on decision making and parental pressure. The most important aspect is how one teacher can inspire and make a difference through unconventional methods even if it means standing on a desk to look at the world in a different way. The month concluded with the boarders of Grades 6, 7 and 8 watching a film "The Towering Inferno". A fast-paced film, it conveys the importance of the need to be ethical in life and not risk lives for personal gain.

Sports: In the Sri Kumaran Inter School Basketball Tournament on the 21st, 22nd and 25th August, our Junior Boys won the First Round, The Senior Boys reached the Quarter Finals and were placed third and the Senior Girls Team reached the Finals and emerged runners up. The details are in Appendix 1.

Career Counselling: It has been a busy time for the Placement Cell. We have hosted universities from across the world. We recently had seven from Canada, the University of London Queen Mary's, the University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong; eight from the US and the British Council Fair of 11. The Placement Cell has been busy with more admissions for the Grade that just graduated. They also had a workshop that was well attended for parents of the present Grade 12 on the 13th. They have also been busy with the registration of the SAT coaching that has commenced during the weekends.

Creativity, Action and Service (CAS): The academic focus is in place and Grade 12 had their monthly tests from 20th Aug to the 25th. They were also able to go to Yellagiri in two batches earlier in the month for the Leadership Camp. The trainers had plenty of new activities in store for them. This year, students had great fun with Archery, wall climbing and a 30 hour OBL (Out Bound Learning).

The MSP students (Grades 6, 7 & 8) of IISB were mapped with Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 of IICS for the reading programme. On the first day of the orientation at MSP, the students of Grade 7 & 8 were asked to come out with strategies that are involved in reading a newspaper. Thereafter, the buddy system was created to ensure a smooth progress of the Reading Programme.

The introductory CAS class for the students of Grade 7 and 8 with the IICS students was started to establish a good rapport that will build on trust and respect between each other. In order to make the students of IICS feel capable, Students of Grades 7 and 8 spent time talking to the students of IICS about their interests, hobbies and briefed them about the importance of reading. Each IISB student is paired with 1 student of IICS. Reading, Understanding and Reproducing are the three focus areas in this program.

The students of Grade 6 were divided into three groups and helped the students of Grade 2, 3, 4 & 5 (IICS) read their textbooks. The children enjoyed the class and were engrossed in the reading programme.

Activities: The Activities Clubs for Grade 6 and upward have started and we have added more clubs this year as already communicated. The students for the School Orchestra have been identified and instrument-wise practice has just begun in the Zero Period. We are looking forward to identifying more students.

We have begun the year on a successful note and will continue to work to stay on top as we strive for excellence.

Warm regards,



Mrs. Sarojini Rao

Principal

Indus International School, Bangalore

Appendix 1

RESULTS OF SRI KUMARAN INTER SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT 2014 - 2015

JUNIOR BOYS:

Indus junior boys' team played against Kumaran State School. Indus won the first round (final score 20 -6).

Sl. No.	Name of the Participant	Grade
1	Lincoln Palmer	4 C
2	Akhil Sagarán Kasturi	5 B
3	Shrikar C	6 C
4	Nathan Paul	6 A
5	Naeem Saleem	6 C
6	Roshan Barat	7 D
7	Aditya Rao	7 D
8	Tejas Ashish Shete	8 D
9	Yohaán Dala	8 D

SENIOR BOYS:

Senior boys' team played against Kumaran State DKS School. Indus won the quartet final (Final score 34 - 15).

Senior boys' team played 3rd & 4th position match against NHVPS. Indus won the match (final score 36 - 20) and stood 3rd.

Sl. No.	Name of the Participant	Grade
1	Iman Taghvaei	9 C
2	Rithik Daneiel Raj	9 C
3	Tejus Gowda	11 C
4	Parv Sud	11 F
5	Jason Aditya Dudhane	11A
6	Akshay.V. Singanal	11 B
7	Heram Ravi Solanki	11 C
8	Asif Khan Chohan	11E
9	Hatim Zohar M	12 B
10	Keshava Navin Shetty	12 C

SENIOR GIRLS:

Senior girls' team played against Kumaran ICSE School. Indus won the quarter final (Final score 17 - 14).

Senior girls' team played against Kumaran TSF School. Indus won the semi final (Final score 46 - 32).

Senior girls' team played final match against Kumaran CBS School being the runners up. (Final score 17 - 43)

BASKETBALL SENIOR GIRLS TEAM

Sl. No.	Name of the Participant	Grade
1	Siddhi Sharma	6 C
2	Charvi Reddy	6 A
3	Hruthika Bhaskar	8 C
4	Laya Nagireddy	9 C
5	Naidile U Patel	9 C
6	Tarang Mittal	9 C
7	Divya Kopparapu	11D
8	Tanya Sarah Isaac	11 F
9	Nidhi Agarwal	11 D
10	Sreya Kosaraju	12 D
11	Ruth Sarah Mathew	12 D