



September 2016

From the Principal's Desk

"Daring ideas are like chessmen moved forward; they may be beaten, but they may start a winning game." – Goethe

Dear Parents,

An award and a ceremony underscores being focused as we strive for excellence. We at Bangalore have been ranked number one for the Fifth time in a row among the Day- cum-Boarding International Schools in India by Education World C Fore Rankings. We have also achieved the number one position in various parameters of excellence. We thank all stake holders especially our parents for their continual support and belief in all that we do.

Teachers' Day Celebrations: Teachers' Day on 5th September is a very special day when all of us think of our teachers and the role they have played in shaping our lives. This year, Teachers' Day was made special as the PAC members hosted a High Tea session on the lawns, as a tribute to all the teachers at Indus. It was a morning set aside to celebrate and appreciate the teachers for all their efforts to nurture the students. The highlight of the morning was the sumptuous tea that was served by the PAC members with an array of delectable savories and sweets. The thoughtful memento and the effort that the PAC put into the celebration is much appreciated. The tribute truly embodies the spirit of our partnership.

The day was celebrated in PYP to appreciate the role of teachers in our society and our own lives. The students of PYP hosted an assembly in honor of their teachers, past and present by putting up a variety of performances. While the younger grades entertained the audience with energetic renditions of a song or a dance, the older grades like Grade 5 talked about the significance and contributions of some of the

great teachers the world has seen. The teachers were touched by the handmade cards and the personalized messages in them. The effort and the sincere thoughts made the event special and memorable.

PYP:

PYP has been buzzing with activities in September. Here are some of the highlights of the month:

Grade 1 students showcased their learning from the first unit of Inquiry, 'Sensational Senses' through their assembly on 16th September. Our little fledglings presented their enduring understanding through the story, 'Little Red Riding Hood', which was effectively used to portray the functioning of each of the five senses. They wrapped up the assembly with the 'Five Senses' song that outlined the significance of the five senses in our everyday lives. Our young learners expressed themselves clearly and confidently in front of the entire PYP.

Grade 2 began their academic year on a healthy note. Under the transdisciplinary theme 'Who We Are' students inquired into the unit 'Personal Well-being'. They inquired into the various food groups, importance of nutrition and exercise. As a part of their learning engagement, students embarked on a field trip to RnR Fitness Center on 1st September. Students were involved in various activities which enlightened them to not just be fit but also have fun while being fit. Their take away from the trip was that exercising can be fun while it also keeps one happy and healthy.

Guest speakers have become an important part of the educational experience for students. To add meaning to their unit of inquiry 'How We Organize Ourselves', on 12th September, one of our parents, Ms Uma Mahadevan, an IAS officer spoke to the students of Grade 3 about the different systems that work together for the smooth functioning of the government. She also explained the role of different government systems in the development of a country's laws, education system, roads, waste management etc. and their impact, when any of these systems fail. Through this experience, students gained an understanding of interconnectedness of different systems in a community.

Grade 5 students are currently exploring the unit on 'Ecosystems' and are looking at the role of humans in maintaining a balance within ecosystems. As a part of their experiential learning, students visited Clover Greens in Sarjapur and witnessed how in our own little way we can lend a hand in saving the environment. Indus Parents Mr. Paul Needham Cook and Ms. Jackie Cook, took our students around and helped

them experience the ecosystem around their community. Many of our students have heard the term 'Rain water harvesting' and this trip opened their eyes to what it means and how it could be done by every individual. They were shown how the entire community had taken a deliberate effort to save water. Our students came back reflecting how water is a resource that can be replenished if used wisely. They also connected to the current Cauvery issue and now better understand why both states are fighting over water.

World Literacy Day was celebrated across PYP on September 8th to create an awareness about the importance of literacy. Through this initiative, students realized how fortunate they were to have access to education while millions of children around the world do not have the same opportunity. Teachers and students watched videos underscoring the role and significance of literacy in the modern day world and engaged in a discussion sharing their empathetic thoughts and ideas on the same. Following this, the students participated in a Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) activity, dedicating time to reading books of their choice.

Inquiry-based teaching is a pedagogical approach that invites students to explore academic content through various real life experiences, by posing questions, by investigating, and finding out the answers to their questions. On Friday, September 23rd, each grade in the PYP presented their first Unit of Inquiry to the parents. The teachers and students brought the Kathy Short Inquiry Cycle to life, through their inquiry into their respective Central Ideas.

Senior School: The students from Grades 6-12 had their first term midterm test this month. With these tests completed, the support class list has been revised subject wise. Support classes reinforce learning and are planned to help students score better marks. This increases academic rigour and it aims at two levels, high and standard. These classes also help the students to revisit the areas of concern and thereby reinforce learning.

Special Assembly - Following the Investiture ceremony in August, the members of the Student Council were assigned tasks where they had to collaborate on strategies to incorporate activities for women's empowerment projects which is a part of the house visions. On the 27th of September, a special assembly was conducted when presentations were made by the Head Boy, Head Girl and the House Captains. They presented an outline of the road ahead to complete the tasks on hand. The highlight was the training plan that they have drawn with a lot of thought, to hand over responsibility to the students of Grade 11 (present batch) to take charge from January onwards.

The Gold Star awards were also presented during the assembly. The Gold Star is a Leadership Award and is a precursor to the Mahatma Gandhi Award given on Graduation Day. This trophy is awarded to a student who has consistently demonstrated the qualities of a whole person, who has shown in many ways that he/she has the makings of a Leader, a servant leader who has gone beyond self to make a substantial difference to a section of society.

Unlike the Mahatma Gandhi Award, the Gold Star is awarded to more than one student. It recognizes excellence in Academics, Sports, Co-Curricular Activities/Clubs and Community Service, which goes beyond what is required. This aspect has been noted by the school for the respect, discipline and empathy shown towards the community.

We are indeed proud to have bestowed this award on the following students from the MSP, whose names will be included in the Honour List in the Administrative Block:

- Sriya Chintalapalli (Grade 7)
- Yohaam Dala (Grade 10)
- Satyajit Amin (Grade 10)
- Sanjna Agarwal (Grade 10)

Placements: The College Placement Cell has been busy hosting visits from various Ivy colleges and other top universities from across the globe. They have been interacting with students who are applying for early decisions mostly in the USA.

CAS: Our Community, Action and Service (CAS) projects continue with a focus on Women's Empowerment. **Pegasus** house has ordered four sewing machines from Singer, Bangalore and the support staff have been selected for training. The Students have been working on the clothes drive and donations of cloth from local textile businesses. IICS students are also involved with training, translating and designing the products.

The **Phoenix** house students visited IICS to work on the Leadership Journals. Students grouped themselves and assigned tasks under the guidance of the teacher in-charge for the Leadership Week. The students were briefed about the Leadership Summit and they have been assigned with various tasks that would contribute to the Summit. Samples of leadership journals were distributed to the IICS Students and they brainstormed about leadership skills.

The Sanitary Napkin Project has seen progress with the steps for the registration process underway. The brain storming phase with teachers and students of the **Hercules** House has concluded and the first phase of execution has started.

The Recycling machine will be set up by the first week of October and we are in a state of readiness to start production using the waste paper that has been collected. Training on making items that have been targeted is also on track.

Students of the **Orion** House are working on focused topics and exemplars that have been shared with the students of the Indus Community School. They are meeting the students after school to meet the deadline. Students involved with the training of the Ammas did a role –play involving greetings and making simple conversation in English. The first –aid training and salad making training has started. Meanwhile a manual is being compiled.

Trips: The students who returned from the Leh Ladhak Trip on 26th September are mesmerized by the rugged beauty of this Himalayan wonderland and its ornate Buddhist monasteries. It has also allowed them an experience on high altitude living.

Sports: The Indus International School Chess team has won four gold medals and one bronze at the Malaysian Chess Festival and has qualified for the European and American International Chess Circuits (Under 12 Category). We have done exceptionally well to win the 'Best Private School' award. The Malaysian Chess Festival is an Asian Circuit Chess Event which is a mandatory chess event to obtain a qualification to play at the European Circuit and World Circuit Chess Championship. 64 Schools and 256 players from across Asia participated in the event. The details are attached in Appendix 1.

We are proud to announce the results of the inter school swimming competition organized by TISB on 24th September 2016. The haul of medals is noteworthy and points to the effort of both the students and the coaches. We have bagged 4 Gold Medals, 25 Silver and 14 Bronze. Joseph Padavath_of Grade 11 was awarded the Individual Champion Trophy. We congratulate him for setting two new meet records in the 100 m Individual Medley and the 50 m Backstroke. Samantha Mary Alexander of Grade 11 has set a new meet record in the 50 m Butterfly style. The details are attached in Appendix 2.

Akash Gowda of Grade 12 was placed 3rd at the FIA F4 SEA Championship, round 1 at Malaysia. It was a proud moment when Akash was on the podium with the

Indian flag behind him. We congratulate him and wish him well as he is right now competing in another international event.

Principals' Conference: The core academic team from the three Indus schools convened on the 16th and 17th of September for a Principals' Conference. The CEO, Lt Gen Arjun Ray, in his address reinforced the idea that the purpose of education is to prepare students to lead from tomorrow. The conference was a platform to brainstorm on innovative ideas to enhance teaching methods. The CEO emphasized the importance of going beyond the IB mandate, to strive for excellence. This is possible if we live the school vision and promote self-growth ahead of professional growth. The road ahead considered how technology can help us as we design the school of the future.

Presentation by Mr. Robert Sun: It has always been our endeavor at Indus to seek methodologies and engaging tools that will enhance the learning process for our students, especially in subjects like Math. Math is one of the most important subjects that will empower the students with universal skills and it is imperative to look out for methods which will encourage self – directed learning. Towards this, we hosted a workshop for the teachers by Mr. Robert Sun, on the 30th September. Mr. Robert Sun is the CEO of Suntex International and inventor of First In Math, an online program designed for deep practice in mathematics. In his talk, Mr. Sun stressed the importance of constant, systemized and self-directed practice in mastering maths. He also spoke about the use of engaging tools that inspire students to take ownership of their own learning process. We hope to associate with Mr. Sun's programmes as we believe that the fruits of self-directed learning are invaluable and the most powerful.

With this note, we move ahead with sustained effort and determination in our journey to continue to excel.

Regards,

Sarojini Rao

Principal

Indus International School, Bangalore

Appendix 1: Results of Malaysian Chess Festival

Indus International School Chess Team – Under 12 (1st Datin Yee Wai Fong Merdeka Rapid Team Junior (Under 12) Chess Championship 2016)

1. Ryoya Ogino of Grade-7 played in Board-1 and scored 6.5/9 with a rating per of 1588
2. Naren Ramesh of Grade-6 played in Board-2 and scored 3/9 with a rating per of 1258
3. Aniketh Kalagara of Grade-5 played in Board-3 and scored 3/9 with a rating per of 1284
4. Krish Kerkar of Grade 5 and scored 8/9 (came fifth in the tie- break with a rating RP of 1674

Indus International School Chess team - Open

Indus International School-A

1. Aahan Aggrawal of Grade-12 played in Board-1 and scored 2/9. With a rating per of 1171
2. Samarth Kapur of Grade-12 played in Board-2 and scored 1.5/9 with a rating per of 1021.
3. Jai Sureka of Grade-12 played in Board-3 and scored 3.5/9 with a rating per of 1261.
4. Arjun Mahajan of Grade-12 played in Board-4 and scored 4.5/9 with a rating per of 1329.

Indus International School-B

1. Mustafa Gandhi of Grade-12 played in Board-1 and scored 1/9.
2. Hirak Shah of Grade-11 played in Board-2 and scored 1.5/9 .
3. Takumi Ogino of Grade-9 played in Board-3 and scored 2/9 with a rating per of 1084.

7th DATCC/SWENSEN'S OPEN RAPID AGE-GROUP CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Krish Kerkar of Grade 5 played in U-10 and scored 5/6 joint 3rd (5th Place) won the Bronze medal with a rating per of 1692
2. Aniketh Kalagara of Grade-5 played in U-10 and scored 3.5/6 with a rating per of 1362.

3. Naren Ramesh of Grade 6 played in U-12 and scored 4.5/6 and missed and came 11 with a rating per of 1592
4. Ryoya Ogino of Grade-7 played in U-12 and scored 4/6 with a rating per of 1271.
5. Takumi Ogino of Grade-9 played in U-16 and scored 2.5/6 with a rating per of 1085.
6. Hirak Shah of Grade-11 played in U-16

Appendix 2:Results of Indus Swimming Team in the 9th TISB Inter School Swimming Meet-2016 held on 24 September 2016.

SI No	Name	Grade	Division	Event	Medal
01	Joseph Padavath	11	Boys A Division	100 m Individual Medley 50 m Backstroke 50 m Butterfly Stroke 100 m Freestyle 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay 4 x 25 m Medley Relay Awarded Individual Championship Trophy	Gold(NMR) Gold(NMR) Gold Gold Silver Silver
02	Samantha Mary Alexander	11	Girls A Division	50 m Butterfly Stroke 100 m Individual Medley 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay 4 x 25 m Medley Relay	Gold(NMR) Silver Silver Silver
03	Nikita Vinay Kishan	8	Girls C Division	25 m Backstroke 50 m Freestyle 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay	Gold Silver Silver
04	Katy Louise Howell	5	Girls D Division	25 m Butterfly stroke 50 m Freestyle Stroke 4 x 25 m Medley Relay	Gold Bronze Silver
05	Shaila Dinesh Malkani	6	Girls D Division	50 m Freestyle 25 m Backstroke 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay	Gold Bronze Silver

06	Adrien Lee Jasserand	10	Boys B Division	50 m Freestyle 50 m Butterfly Stroke 100 m Individual Medley 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay 4 x 25 m Medley Relay	Silver Silver Bronze Silver Silver
07	Inia Bokaer Wilkinson	8	Girls C Division	100 m Individual Medley 25 m Butterfly Stroke 4 x 25 m Medley Relay	Silver Bronze Silver
08	Aagnika Ajai Kumar	11	Girls B Division	50 m Backstroke 50 m Breaststroke 4 x 25 m Medley Relay	Silver Bronze Silver
09	Aman Sharma	7	Boys C Division	25 m Butterfly Stroke 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay 4 x 25 m Medley Relay	Bronze Silver Silver
10	Alexandre Oliveira Marques	10	Boys B Division	50 m Backstroke 50 m Butterfly Stroke 50 m Freestyle	Silver Bronze Bronze
11	Toki Bokaer Wilkinson	6	Boys D Division	25 m Breaststroke 4 x 25 m Medley Relay	Bronze Silver
12	Andre Oliveira Marques	6	Boys D Division	25 m Breaststroke 25 m Backstroke	Silver Bronze
13	Gonzague Marie Jacques Yann Demoulin	10	Boys B Division	50 m Breaststroke	Silver
14	Zoya Imam	11	Girls A Division	50 m Backstroke	Silver
15	Jacob Daller Zerbe	10	Boys B Division	50 m Breaststroke	Bronze
16	Radha Ann	5	Girls D	25 m Butterfly stroke	Bronze

	Nambisan		Division		
17	Joshua David Howell	6	Boys D Division	100 m Individual Medley	Bronze
18	Asmitha Ajai Kumar	11	Girls B Division	4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay	Silver
19	Wandrille Marie Yaan Jean Demoulin	6	Boys D Division	4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay	Silver

Number of Medals won by Indus Swimming Team

Individual Gold	8
Individual Silver	10
Individual Bronze	13
Relay Team Silver	04