

# Newsletter

## From our Principal

**Creating Leaders of Tomorrow  
Issue 118, Nov 2012**

**“If you focus on results, you will never change. If you focus on change, you will get results.”**

**Dear Parents,**

November brought in a note of seriousness after the Autumn Break, when school reopened on 31<sup>st</sup> October with the customary tests in Mathematics and English for Grades 6 upward. Academic rigour was at a high to help students prepare for the Half Yearly Examination that began on 22<sup>nd</sup> November for Grade 10 and for the rest of the senior school on 26<sup>th</sup>. The Syllabus Focus and the Schedule for the examination was mailed to parents on 5<sup>th</sup> November. In addition to the written examinations, the practical examinations for Science subjects, ICT, Music Dance, Drama and Art were conducted.

The International Benchmark Test in Science provides a comprehensive assessment of student performance and ability against a broad cohort of students worldwide. This examination was held on 23rd November.

Students across the school who study music appeared for the Associate Board of Royal School of Music Examination on 13<sup>th</sup> November at St. Mark’s Music Academy, MG Road.

The IB Inter Active Oral Commentary for English A, Grade 12, commenced on 05<sup>th</sup> and concluded on 26<sup>th</sup> November.

### **School Trip:**

30 students from Grades 6 to 11 along with three members of staff returned from Europe on 8<sup>th</sup> November after a hectic and enjoyable learning experience of 8 days. This group first went to Prague, where they spent two nights. The long flight did not dampen spirits despite the cold wind and the mercury reading two degrees. The walking tour was mesmerizing as the entire place had a fairy tale look with cobbled stones and Gothic architecture. Arriving at Wenceslas Square enabled the group to see the Jewish quarters, the busy activities of the evening, the tram lines, the astronomical clock and more. The two hour boat cruise with dinner was much appreciated as the entire group awaited the excitement to follow. Day 2 once again had a feast for the eyes as the group enjoyed the scenic view as they walked the slope to see the Prague castle. This was followed by the visit to Charles Bridge, with its array of sculpture and live artists who engaged in painting and music. Later they feasted their eyes with the Bohemian crystal and the countryside, the souvenir shops and the array of blood red garnets which left all wanting to spend more time in Prague. The drive to Salzburg the following morning was enchanting as the picture perfect scenery was awe inspiring. At Salzburg the group went

on an evening walk. The most important landmark seen was the baroque architecture of the Salzburg Cathedral with its prominent dome, the church of Mozart's baptism. Places seen included the home of Mozart and his parents, the old city square with shops decorated for Christmas and the Trinity Church. After a night halt the drive to Venice, in and out of Germany, in particular Bavaria and Austria was breath taking with the snowcapped Alps to the left and the evergreen Alps on the right and the Danube flowing. There was much to see. Despite the rain the group arrived at St. Mark's Square and was able to see the Piazzetta, Doge's Palace, the Bell Tower, the Bridge of Sighs and the Rialto, the last two from a distance. An hour was spent on souvenir shopping and taking a look at the colourful and exquisite glass that Venice has to offer. The trip to Pisa gave the students enough time to see the River Arno, the Cathedral, the Baptistry and the Leaning Tower. The evening was spent in Florence, one of the most beautiful cities in Italy. The architecture and sculpture had all enthralled. The last two days at Rome, included a visit to the Vatican and ancient Rome. The Sistine Chapel with its ceiling and the Last Judgment filled all with admiration and wonder at Michael Angelo's creativity. The Trevi Fountain, Capital Hill, remains of the Forum and the Colosseum to name a few will always be remembered. The evening concluded with an hour of shopping at a Mall and so ended the Roman holiday.

On 10 November, 2012, the Student Council organized the Indus Run. The main objective of the Run was to raise awareness of the Indus International Community School. To promote the event, posters and banners were put up all over Bangalore. The Run took place at the RSI Grounds on MG Road, between 7.30 am and 11.00 am. It consisted of two events: a 1 km relay and a 3 km run. About 100 students of ages 10-18 from Indus and other schools participated in the Run, each contributing 300 rupees towards the cause. They were also joined by about 50 children from Indus International Community School. The proceeds generated from the Run would go towards enhancing the equal learning opportunities for students of IICS. Role modeling the core values of love, empathy, discipline and respect, the message sent out by the organizing team of the Student Council through the Run was that of reaching out and serving.

The Action Initiative for this month in the PYP took off when the students of the Hercules House visualized a goal of enhancing the library for the Indus International Community School children. There is a reading program which is actively being taken up by these students. They are collecting books in this context. The books collected are appropriate for Grades 1-8 (age group- 6-12 years). The collection drive will go on till mid December 2012.

It was time for the PYP teachers to express their love for their students and let them know how special they are. The teachers celebrated Children's day on 9<sup>th</sup> November. They had a small stage show planned for the students. There were dances, songs, skits and the students enjoyed the performances too.

A Rock show on 16<sup>th</sup> November that featured the Rock band Lagori had a twofold purpose. It was not only to celebrate our having stood first in the country by the survey conducted by C- fore and

Education World but also to celebrate the children's day. The one hour show rocked all present with its vibrant and loud music.

The two day Principals' Conference on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November was a time for reflection to take stock of the Programmes across all three schools as the road ahead continues. It was time well spent as it was interactive. The conference had all the Principals and Coordinators of the Indus group of schools in attendance chaired by the CEO of Indus Trust.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Leadership Retreat was held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November. The theme was "Talent Building". It afforded a Platform for teachers to share their views and efforts in Self-Directed Learning and the challenges they have faced while developing talent. The CEO in his address pointed to the essentials of a High Performance School. In my address to the teachers, I spoke of the Challenges that exist in Talent Development in International Schools.

The prize of the Apprentice Scientist Competition was held at the NIAS and conducted by the Section of Excellence in Science, Lycée Français de Pondichéry on 28th Nov 2012. The competition was designed and headed by scientist Professor Nicole Ostrowsky. The objective was to ignite the scientific fervour among school students. Five students from Grade 8 - Hersh Singh, Sara Saini, Arjun Mishra, Anshuman Medhi, Ashmita Sampathkumar participated with great enthusiasm and eagerness along with 9 other schools selected jointly by NIAS and Lycée Français de Pondichéry. Later they were actively involved in a discussion session based on the experiments done during the competition.

#### **Parents Advisory Committee:**

The meeting with the PAC on 9<sup>th</sup> November was a time to consider feedback and concerns from parents. An action plan is already in place.

#### **Community, Action and Service:**

CAS activities continue. The Winter Wear and Clothes collected in MSP/ IGCSE Block during the Joy of Giving Week were handed over to IICS. The Rice and Dal that was collected as part of the Food Drive was donated to the Kalahalli Orphanage.

The sale of Candles, an initiative of the Pegasus House generated approximately Rs. 7000. This amount is being reinvested to manufacture new lot of candles for PYP Indus Day and for Christmas.

The IICS Yearbook is being reviewed and edited. The final version should be out by the end of November.

In relation to the Book Drive by Hercules, for IICS Library, mails and announcements have been made to create awareness. Few books have been collected. The second part of the book drive will be within the school by placing the boxes in all the blocks so that books may be collected in these. Also books have been ordered for IICS Library from the funds raised by the Rose Sale.

Preparations for the Santasa Habba, a cultural extravaganza are underway. Sponsors have been contacted by the core team to raise funds for the event.

Worksheets are being prepared by the students of the Orion House for the NTSE and Support Classes for the students of IICS. Grade 11 students of Phoenix have started assisting Sports Coaching in Football and Basketball in the IICS. These are part of the House Vision.

Apart from the activities, All the DP students have been busy documenting their CAS Reflections. Submissions are in progress. Detailed review will be followed by a feedback session, thus giving scope for the students to improve on their reflections.

### **College Placements:**

The Placement Cell has been busy with a number of Universities that visited our school. To mention a few, we hosted visits from Arizona State University, Milwaukee School of Engineering, Moravian College, Northwest College, Oregon State University, Pittsburg State University, Savannah College of Art and Design, South Dakota State University, Suffolk University, University of Southern California-Viterbi School of Engineering, the ACT, College Board,, American University in Washington D.C., University of British Columbia and London School of Economics.

The Computer science students of Grades 11 and 12 participated in a workshop conducted by Dr. Russell Lock of Loughborough University, who is the Programme Director for the ITMB and Computing & Management degree schemes. The PSAT results will be available to the students in January 2013.

### **Sports:**

Our Badminton Team won Gold **and two Silver medals** in the **Inter School Badminton Competition** held at **S E A International School (K.R.Puram)** on **2nd November 2012**. Hemanth Sethi of Grade 11 has moved to the Semi-Finals. Please refer to Appendix I for details.

In the Youth Champions League in Goa our U-17 Football Team competed, and secured the 4th place and our U-14 team secured the 5<sup>th</sup> place. This is no mean achievement as more than 61 teams participated from all over India which included professional teams like Salgoacar Football Club, Vasco Goa Football Club, Brazil Football Academy etc...It was a very good learning experience for our students as they had the opportunity to play against some strong teams. They also got to watch Portugal Star Luis Figo playing a friendly match. Please refer Appendix II for details.

Our Cricket U-14 Team and the U-16 Team were the Runners Up in the XLR8 Indoor Tournament. They were also the winners in the Tug of war. We were awarded the overall second place with 75 points. Please refer Appendix III for details.

With the Half Yearly Examinations in progress the air of academic seriousness is clearly seen. The PYP too wears a look of seriousness as they are practising in earnest for the Indus day. Preparation for the Leadership Summit will continue across all programmes and in the Senior School alongside, will be the heats of track and field events that will lead up to Sports Day. So the calling in December is hectic!

**With Warm Regards,**

**Mrs. Sarojini Rao**  
**Principal**  
**Indus International School, Bangalore**

### **Appendix I**

Winners of the Inter-School Badminton Competition held SEA International School, Bangalore:

<b>SI.No</b>	<b>NAMES</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>
1.	Chindu Palakal	10	Gold
2.	Anoki Bafna	10	Silver
3.	Adarsh Suresh	11	Silver
4.	Hemant Sethi	11	Semifinal

### **Appendix II**

Football Team at the Youth Champions League in Goa:

#### **U-17 FOOTBALL TEAM**

<b>SI.No</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
1.	Aiyanna MB	11
2.	Vandit Ladha	11
3.	Smaran Shantharaju	11
4.	Suraj Iyer	11
5.	Krish Tripathi	11
6.	Dhruv Jain	11
7.	Thananchai Singhthakral	10
8.	D Vishalpathi	9
9.	Krit Sacchasiri G K	9
10.	Jahan Gilani	9
11.	Akash H Gowda	8

#### **U-14 FOOTBALL TEAM**

<b>SI.No</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
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1.	Skanda Srinivas	8
2.	Aditya Thomas	8
3.	Rajath Rao Talpady	8
4.	Dilsher Ahluwalia	7
5.	Daniel Carver	7
6.	Zaid Ahmed	7
7.	Rethvik Shastry	7
8.	Rahul Raju Thadhani	6
9.	Jason Suresh Dodani	6
10.	Saiswabanu	9
11.	Anish K seety	6
12.	Augustin Boulard	5
13.	Darshan Hari	6

### **Appendix III**

Runners Up at the XLR 8 Indoor Cricket Tournament and Winners of Tug of War:

#### **BOYS U-16 CRICKET TEAM**

<b>Sl.no</b>	<b>NAMES</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
1	Nadeem Akram	11
2	Naman Bansal	11
3	Digveer Singh	11
4	Pranav Ramesh	10
5	Lohit Prasad	10
6	Chaitanya Bali	9
7	Abhisyant Anasapurapu	9
8	Shreyas Srivatsava	9
9	Vikram Aditya Bairathi	9

10	Suraj Santoki	9
11	Kaustubh G	9
12	Sahil Mathur	11
13	Aditya Elayavalli	8
14	Nihal B K	7
15	Aryaman Ghulati	11
16	Kunal R Aathri	11

### **BOYS U-14 CRICKET TEAM**

<b>Sl.no</b>	<b>NAMES</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
1	Tunvir Arora	7
2	Bilidale Karunesh Nihal	7
3	Manav Srivastava	8
4	Aditya Elayavalli	8
5	Aditya Sheaker	9
6	Shreyas Srivathsan	9
7	Pranav Mathur	9
8	Shreyansh Singh	9
9	Rohan Ramkrishna	9
10	Kaustubh Gadhia	9
11	Vikram A Bachani	9
12	Chaitanya Bali	9
13	Abhisyant Anasapurapu	9
14	Neil Sharma	9