



## November 2015 | From the Principal's Desk

*Press forward, strive to give your best, to be of value. Apply your will power to overcome apathy, doubt or fear.*

Dear Parents,

The month gone by was both a colorful and eventful month. The first highlight of the month was the celebration of Indus Day in the PYP.

The Indus Day Celebrations reflected the creative vision of our talented students and their inquiring minds as they challenged the perception of friendship, morality and 'goodness' through a customized rendition of two novels, namely, 'The Big Friendly Giant' written by Roald Dahl and 'Wicked' written by Gregory Maguire. 'The Big Friendly Giant' was performed by the Early Years to Grade 2 on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 'Wicked' was performed by Grades 3-5 on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The spectacular events began with the lighting of the lamp accompanied by the invocation song, 'Mahaganpathi' for an auspicious start to the evening. Next the song, 'Where the mind is without fear', sung by our PYP fledglings, was a reminder of the potential within every one of us. This was followed by the plays which enthralled the parents, students and teachers. The ballet performance, invocation dance, choir and orchestra were undoubtedly a visual and auditory treat for our parent and teacher audience.

Our continuous efforts are to ensure that our children read. To improve on this we had Ms. Heera Bhojwani from the American School, Mumbai who conducted an engaging session on Raz-Kids, an online teaching resource for a few of our PYP teachers. Raz-Kids with hundreds of eBooks offered at 27 different levels of reading is a resource that can be used to enhance reading fluency, comprehension, written and oral expression. This will help in the extra reading that is promoted in the PYP.

Aarohan , the Science and Tech Fest organized by Amrita School of Engineering on 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 saw 30 students from Grade 7- 11 participate. While Grades 8 – 11 took part in the competitive events, Grade 7 took part in the fun science activities as well as the techibition.

Grade 7 were exposed to the latest trends in engineering in India pertaining to the effective use of laser technology. The interesting activities tested the understanding of

the fundamental principles of Physics and Mathematics where our Grade 7 students excelled. The competitive events were designed to test the students' general knowledge, their understanding of Physics, Mathematics and Science.

**PYP:** The Student Council is a representative structure through which students in primary school are empowered to liaise with teachers to amplify student voice and encourage student action, undertaking teacher guided and independent tasks. They have been nominated largely by peers, by previous student council members as well as by teachers. On 23<sup>rd</sup> November, the nominees spoke confidently about their leadership qualities and how they can exercise their skills to empower the PYP students through some of the proposed initiatives. They presented their speeches before the students of Grades 3, 4 and 5 which was followed by the voting process. Voting was held through secret ballot and students with the highest number of votes have been selected for the 12 student council roles.

On 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 students of Prep 2 visited a children's science exploration museum. Through a wide array of scientific play experiences, children inquired into the *Science of Friendship*. The amazing wonder of learning through play opened opportunities to explore water science with activities like making their own real life fountains and dams. They got a chance to operate real diggers and cranes to dig sand and build a wall and built unique constructions with giant soft blocks. They also experimented with magnetism, air and music in nature and did water painting. The other things they also explored in the museum included observing a sand pendulum, building lego race cars and a giant space ship with a small planetarium. This field trip has not only allowed our young explorers to enjoy playing with their friends but also has helped the children to put their learning into action - buddies were spotted helping each other, sharing materials and taking turns to play with a toy or trying out a new activity.

Children's Day in the PYP was celebrated with gaiety and fervor on 18<sup>th</sup> November. The teachers made the day special, as they had arranged for an extravaganza in the afternoon. The programme began with a presentation on the significance of the day. This was followed by a Spanish dance number put up by the Spanish language teachers. Next we had a song and act by all the PYP teachers, which emphasized the reason why children are so special. After the show, the students participated in several fun activities in their classrooms.

Students of Grades 3 to 5 appeared for the International Benchmark Test (IBT) in Science, on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The test questions are based on reasoning and thinking skills. The individual student report is expected sometime in February, 2016.

On November 20<sup>th</sup> 2015, PYP had their 1st Agora. We thank the parents for taking the time to come to school, despite the rains and strengthening our relationships through increased communication. At the PYP Colloquium, yoga expert, Deepa Nair, conducted a session that taught techniques for relaxation of the mind and body. This was followed by the Grade-wise forums.

Selected students from the PYP sang along with Shankar Mahadevan at the India Inclusive Summit at the Park Plaza on 21<sup>st</sup> November. This annual summit provides a platform that brings together thought leaders, performers and entertainers from the field of Inclusion to enthrall and inspire the audience. Indus is proud to partner with Shankar Mahadevan to use music to create awareness that will bring social change.

**MSP:** The November Session of the IGCSE Set 1 subjects was conducted for the Grade 10 students. Students in the MSP also appeared for the IBT (International Benchmark Test) conducted by ACER on 19<sup>th</sup> November.

Our school hosted a two day CIE Professional Development Course in Chemistry and Biology respectively.

These courses were led by Mr. Andrew Ayers for Chemistry and Mr. Ronald Pickering for Biology. Both trainers who are based in the United Kingdom have considerable experience in teaching the CIE curriculum and have also authored books. A total of 36 participants from different parts of India participated in these sessions and the focus was to review teaching practices, the various changes in the Science curriculum that are being introduced and Science practical sessions.

Routine Monthly tests for the Reporting Cycle B was conducted for Grades 6 and above. The Extended Essay Camp for the students of Grade 12 helped them gain the necessary last minute feedback to complete their essays. The in house

**DP:** At the recently concluded Ivy League MUN, we had twelve delegates from grades 9, 10 and 11 take part as delegates of countries like Turkey, Columbia, Pakistan and Egypt in various committees including SPECPOL, UNODC, H-HRC and DISEC. Although all of them did not win awards, the feedback given by the chairs of the different committees to our delegates was good. One of delegates, Satyajit Amin of grade 9 won the 'Best Delegate Award' for representing Turkey in the UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) committee. Overall the experience was an enriching one for all students.

The grade 11 and 12 students had their monthly tests and extended essay camps this month.

The teachers from the Senior School attended a self-development workshop conducted by Aashwasan, which was called "**Meet your creative self**". It provided a time for the teachers to reflect and connect with their inner creative selves, which in turn helps them to develop professionally.

Since the IBO has stressed the need to include innovative and creative approaches to learning, 12 teachers from the DP attended a two day workshop at Indus with this motive. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Gillian Ashworth on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November. **ATL (Approaches to Teaching and Learning)** is an evolutionary development in pedagogical leadership. The main focus is to improve both teaching and learning.

**SPORTS:** We congratulate Saloni Jain of Grade 12 who won the gold in Table Tennis in the Karnataka State Level Tournament.

In tennis, Deepshika Sriram of grade 7 won the AITA TS7 National tournament which is a matter of great pride for our school.

In the TISB Inter School Cricket Tournament conducted from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, we were placed Runners Up. Chaitanya Bali was awarded the "Best Performer of the Tournament" trophy. The names of the students of the cricket team are attached in Annexure 1.

Friendly cricket matches were held in our school on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November against Ebenezer International School. We won both the matches. The names of the students in the team are attached in Annexure 2.

In the Parikrama Champions League 2015 that was conducted from November 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> in Bangalore football stadium, our Under-16 school team took part and won the 3<sup>rd</sup> position. This prestigious ranking tournament had 16 teams taking part from all over India. Roshan Neel Anand from grade 10 achieved the Best Goalkeeper award. The team list is attached in Annexure 3.

**CAS:** In MSP, the students of the **Phoenix House** have continued with their 50 Acts of Kindness Programme. They have completed the making of the goodies box for IICS students of Grades 1, 2 & 3 and distributed it on 19<sup>th</sup> November. The stationery drive is also underway. In this project, students have collected and distributed geometry boxes.

The DP students have put in commendable effort and worked with IICS for the Leadership Summit. They have also had a hands-on experience helping in the production and packing of the low-cost sanitary napkins.

The students of the **Pegasus House** continued to work in the vegetable garden at IICS. The first harvest of greens enabled students to raise Rs.1000. In the DP, the students engaged in Fostering Entrepreneurship through candle making and vocational training for women empowerment at Handenahalli. Plans are underway to introduce an advanced beautician course. Money was raised through the sale of candles, painted diyas and baked items.

**Orion House** students have continued their Book Drive, which is an initiative to collect books for the IICS students. They also worked on creating awareness on reading through posters, jingles, four catchy liners and bookmarks. A group from Grade 9 are working on fund raising to buy a vehicle to realize the mobile library. The efforts put in by the DP students have resulted in the IICS Magazine reaching its final stages of completion. They have also started collection of tetra packs for making something creative out of it.

The Shoe Box Project and Quilt Making are a part of the **Hercules House** CAS activities. These activities have provided an opportunity to the students to connect with the world around them and to wish for the good of a stranger they may never meet but who will benefit from their gift. Grade 6 & 7 have also collected things to put in the box and some students have completed their project. The quilts are in their finishing stages. The DP students are working on the science projects with IICS.

**PLACEMENTS:** The members of the Placement Cell have continued to be busy with family counselling meetings with parents and students of Grade 12 as per the schedule. A lot of preparatory work like preparation of predicted grades and compilation of transcripts for the Grade 12 has been underway. They have also been assisting individual students in the submission and review of applications to various university application systems. The submission of documents on Naviance have also been made easier by synching it with other applications.

This month, a pre-IB orientation was conducted for the Grade 10 students by the team. For the grade 11 and 12 students, a portfolio workshop from the California College of the Arts, Arts University Bournemouth was organized on the 5th and 18th November respectively. This was of particular interest for students who want to pursue arts.

The team also attended a Virtual Education fair conducted by the US Consulate (Trade and Commerce) which will enable us to increase our visibility to the plethora of courses available to the students.

Apart from these, there has also been ongoing university visits scheduled during the month which included universities from Canada, US, UK, India and France, like California College of the Arts, Bournemouth University, Arts University Bournemouth, Flame University, University of Chicago, London School of Economics, Indian School of Business and Finance, University of Surrey, University of Waterloo, University of Ottawa, University of Saskatchewan and University of Victoria.

As we believe in excellence we will continue to strive to do better to make a difference.

Before I sign off we wish you an enjoyable December as you plan special moments with family during the winter vacation. May the New Year bring in reasons to celebrate life!

Warm Regards,

Mrs. Sarojini Rao

Indus International School, Bangalore

**Annexure 1:** The team that played the inter-school Cricket Tournament conducted at TISB

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>
1.	Chaitanya Bali	12
2.	Vikram Bairathi	12
3.	Suraj Santoki	12
4.	Kaustubh Gadhia	12
5.	Dasari Vivek	12
6.	Rahul Gandhi	12
7.	Abhisyant Anasapurapu	12
8.	Vedaang Prasad	11
9.	Siddhant Agarwal	6
10.	Aditya N Elayavalli	11
11.	Ashwin Tantia	9
12.	Deep Marwadi	7
13.	Sarthak Gupta	9
14.	Monish Reddy	7
15.	Karan Athri	11
16.	Ashray Talwar	12
17.	Rebhanth Amin	07
18.	Varun Venkatesh	06
19.	Arham Srisrimal	06
20.	Luqman Danyal Hakim	07

**Annexure 2:** The cricket team who won in the friendly matches against Ebenezer International School:

<b>Sl no</b>	<b>Name of the student</b>	<b>Grade</b>
1	Ayan Sapru	6
2	Arham Srisrimal	6
3	Chaitanya Ajay Khandelwal	6
4	Vishal Ramnani	6
5	Ritvik Elan	5
6	Aadiv Reki	5
7	Jayanth Saini	4
8	Varun Venkatesh	6
9	Dev Veer Singh	5
10	Siddhant Agarwal	6
11	Krishi Prakash Koliwad	7
12	Monish Reddy	7
13	Rebhanth Amin	7

**Annexure 3:**

**PARIKRAMA FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT**

**DATE : 26 /11 /2015 TO 28/11/2015**

**STUDENTS LIST**

<b>Sl no</b>	<b>Name of the student</b>	<b>Grade</b>
1	Ghalib Al Halim	9
2	Shrikritt Poddar	9
3	Kevan Keane Lyngdoh	9
4	Dilsher Ahluwalia	10
5	Kamal Vaswani	10
6	Sharan Mehta (Goal Keeper)	10
7	Woo Hyun Lee	10
8	Pemmasani Venkat Prajyesh	11
9	Dhruv Prasad	11
10	Bharat Maheshwari	11
11	Rohit Narasimhan	11
12	Rohan Deb Roy	11
13	Nischal Kishan Jain	11
14	Skanda Srinivas	11
15	Roshan Neel Anand (Goal Keeper)	10
16	Arjun Mahajan	11
17	Rahul Rawat	10