



## From the Principal's Desk

October 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have come to the middle of the first term and I want to say a heartfelt thank you for the support you have given us so far. We had started on a high note and are continuing our focus on being learner centered, celebrating the progress and achievements of all our students. Not only do we consider our students' distinctive abilities and their performance in classwork, homework and the term's exams, we also spend time reflecting on how they learn, how to raise their confidence as learners and how to harness their motivation and enthusiasm for learning. All this will be only too evident in all that has transpired in the last one month!

**Innovation Day:** On 26<sup>th</sup> October, our PYP students celebrated Innovation Day. The theme for the Innovation Day was Tikkun Olam which originally in Hebrew means to repair the world by finding our purpose and meaning for life. It is within each child's innate self to care for the world and see the world as a beautiful place to be. This was a forum and a day to express that one most important issue that touched their hearts and needed a solution. Each student created a poster using illustrations to express how they visualized their purpose and also displayed innovative solutions to reach there through the models they built. Thank you parents for being an encouragement to our students on this journey.

Students of Grades 6 – 9 celebrated the Innovation Day with gusto when they presented select innovative projects on 27<sup>th</sup> October. These innovations aimed at solving real world problems by arriving at solutions through the design thinking process. The design thinking process is a systematic strategy to arrive at a

creative/innovative solution through empathy, problem finding, problem defining, ideating and prototyping.

The Innovation Day was an exciting day for all the students and teachers as it was a culmination of all the units taught so far. Students displayed critical and creative thinking skills to propose and develop innovative solutions to real-world problems linked to their units. Each of these projects were summative assessments for the respective unit and were supported by in-depth research, critical thinking, use of advanced technology and able teacher guidance.

I accompanied our chief guests, CEO- Lt. Gen. Arjun Ray and Director- Schulich School of Business, Dr. Viswanathan Raghunathan for the gallery walk who were impressed by the work produced by our students.

**PYP:**

On 26<sup>th</sup> October, parents attended the Agora where they shared and discussed their concerns to find solutions. We also thank parents for making time to attend the induction for the upcoming PYP Evaluation scheduled from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019. They were briefed regarding the process and purpose of the same. We shared survey sheets to get parent perspectives of the level of achievement with respect to the IB Standards and Practices. Looking forward to hear your views and suggestions.

Students of Grade 1 went for an excursion to Bannerghatta National Park, on the 10<sup>th</sup> October in connection with their unit of inquiry, 'Sharing the planet'. In this unit, students have been learning about how the survival of animals is dependent on their habitats. It was an exciting experience as the students were able to actively observe the habitats of different animals and contrast them to their natural and man-made homes. They were also able to observe the living conditions and had discussions about how it can affect the animals.

Grade 2 participated in the Leadership Camp conducted at the Indus International Community School (IICS) grounds on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The Indus School of Leadership (ISL) team conducted team games to bring about aspects of self-awareness, growth mindset, mindfulness and key leadership skills and competencies. The rope course, as challenging and enjoyable at the same time, was an opportunity for students to identify their strengths and challenges.

## **MYP:**

The Gold Star is a Leadership award which is awarded to a student who has consistently demonstrated the qualities of a whole person, who has shown in distinct ways that he/she has the makings of a leader. This award was bestowed on students in a special assembly on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. We are proud to announce that Shaila Dinesh Malkani (Grade 8) received the Gold Star for her dedicated focus in whole education and academics.

Under the purview of protection of children against sexual offences (POCSO), students of Grade 6 attended a gender sensitization session conducted by Srishti Foundation. Members of the MYP core team attended a session on Reporting via ManageBac to gain clarity on features of reporting. A group of students from Grade 9 attended a presentation arranged by the Placements department where they interacted with representatives from several Ivy League schools who visited school. On 10<sup>th</sup> October, PSAT was administered in school and students from Grades 8 and 9 appeared for the test.

After the first reporting cycle, PTM was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> October. Concerns of parents were addressed and specific feedback was shared by teachers to help prepare students for improved academic performance. Programme leaders met with Parents Advisory Committee (PAC) on 15<sup>th</sup> October to address concerns raised by the larger parent body.

We are also proud to announce that Shristuti Srirapu (Grade 7) won a poetry competition conducted by Storymirror, a creative platform for school children. This competition was open for all ages in India.

Here is her poem:

<https://storymirror.com/read/poem/english/vd476nok/because-of-you>

The winning streak continued in October when our students did well in INTACH India Heritage Quiz 2018, Bangalore which was organized by Xpress Minds Edutainment for INTACH, held at Sri Kumarans School on 4<sup>th</sup> October. Through this quiz, students from across India were tested on their knowledge of Indian culture and heritage and this encouraged them to learn and know more about the country. Out of 50 schools Anaya and Navya of Grade 9 qualified for the finals and bagged the third position.

The annual Scholastic Writing Awards calls for outstanding original works by students, in the category of fiction/short story in English. The Writing Awards is an annual competition that encourages students to use their writing skills and creativity. Three prize-winning entries from each group along with two runners-up entries gets featured in an anthology published by Scholastic India. Two students of IISB have done us proud in this. Naveen David of Grade 10 has come first in his group. Anvi Kurade of Grade 7 has stood third in her group. We are immensely proud of their achievements!

### **IGCSE:**

Satvik Elayavalli and Amritaa Basu of Grade 10 received the Gold Star award for their commitment to work for the community school besides their dedicated focus in whole education and academics. Students who have proven exemplary grit and resilience and have received Gold Star thrice, are awarded the Red Star and we are proud to announce that Sriya Chinatalapalli (Grade 9) was awarded this rare award. I presented these awards and reinforced the significance of bringing balance to one's life through enhancing cognitive and spiritual quotient.

On 5<sup>th</sup> October selected Grade 10 students got a splendid opportunity to meet delegates from five Ivy Colleges and get pertinent information of subjects offered and guidance on applying and pursuing for these colleges.

Grade 10 students went to ISL as part of their experiential leadership training. Students participated in a wide range of outbound learning activities that have been modelled to enhance their self-awareness, problem solving, critical thinking, change management and team building skills. First aid and emergency drills were facilitated to help students prepare for emergency situations.

Substance abuse workshop was organized for students of Grade 9 and 10 on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The objective of the workshop was to reinforce in our students the health hazards that could emerge due to various substance abuse agents. Our guest speaker for the session was Dr. Sunil, from Cadabam's de-addiction centre, Bangalore.

Parent teacher meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October for Grade 10 parents to understand the progress of their ward. The teachers have provided their valuable feedback and

guidance to parents and students on how to prepare for their upcoming IGCSE Board exams.

Clustering has really seen a huge progress in the performance of students across clusters. The dedicated guidance and support provided to students in each cluster has culminated in an increase of at least 10% in the scores of most students. We will continue to review our targets and benchmarks for each cluster to ensure we maximize our students' performance further.

### **DP:**

We are proud to announce that Sanjna Agrawal (Grade 12) was the recipient of the Red Star award, as a result of winning the Gold Star award thrice. We congratulate all the Star award winners who have displayed servant leadership qualities and have gone beyond self to make a substantial difference to sections of the society. They have demonstrated that they are capable of maintaining the right balance between academics, aesthetics, physical, emotional and spiritual quotients.

After the mid- term exams, students of Grade 11 went for their Leadership camp at ISL. The camp had many new students who had their first taste of outbound learning and stretch goals. Students came back invigorated as they were pushed out of their comfort zones through challenges which required for them to set goals, display strength, resilience and team work. On the academic front the weeks after the camp have been reflective.

The month of October is a challenging time for the students of Grade 12. The wait finally got over as students got their predicted grades and began planning for early decisions and colleges of their choice. Apart from this, the core team and other students from Grade 12 worked hard to make the Eagle Cup, the mega sports event a great success. Students from over 30 schools took part in this mammoth event and Indus hosted about 1500 students for various sports events.

### **CAS:**

**Pegasus** house successfully completed one month of training in tailoring with 11 Ammas where they learnt to stitch various items like clothes, shopping bags, mobile pouches, wall hangings and socks holders. Students also developed their entrepreneurial skills by getting involved in the production of candles. Candles of

different shapes and sizes including terracotta, marble painted candles, tea lights, lanterns and cupcakes have been produced keeping in mind the festive season.

Organic farming has successfully began in MYP and IICS plot, where beans, peas and lemon plants are sown. Students of all houses have been intensely involved in organic farming.

**Phoenix** house students responsible for making the IICS Leadership journals have identified IICS children from Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 and have begun the process of making the journals. The production of sanitary napkins showed progress and students have been involved in working on a solution made from banana fiber to enhance sanitary napkin quality, which they exhibited on the Innovation Day. Two dental camps were conducted for IICS students of Grades 1 to 5 and one more will be conducted shortly.

**Hercules** house students who were divided into groups have done a great job at de-weeding the plots. They have also taken charge of different crops. The House has also decided to recreate a self-sustaining biosphere. The prototype of it will be displayed during the Science Exhibition. Students of Grade 11 have done an excellent job working towards their House Vision and have made bags, diaries, cards, envelopes and stationery boxes out of re-cycled paper. Students of Grades 6 to VIII are in the process of learning vermicomposting from the waste collected from the school cafeteria.

**Orion** House students conducted a workshop on Tikkun Olam for the students of IICS and the collection of articles for the magazine have been initiated. As a part of Women's Empowerment projects, students have embarked on the project to teach the housekeeping Ammas communicative English. Towards this, students created pamphlets for the course with the mention of a certificate to be provided at the end of the programme. Students have been assigned three levels of teaching the ten Ammas who have enrolled for the course. For the introductory class, clips from film "English Vinglish" was screened in Tamil and Telugu as a motivational start to the class.

### **Placements:**

Apart from setting up appointments to meet with various universities, our Placements department was busy preparing to administer the PSAT examination which was held on 10<sup>th</sup> October. The PSAT 8/9, like the PSAT 10, PSAT/NMSQT and SAT, has **three testing areas: Reading, Writing and Language, and Math**. The Reading and Writing subject areas are combined for an **Evidence-Based Reading and Writing** section

score. **Math** has a separate section score. The PSAT 8/9 is a way to practice for the PSAT 10 and PSAT/NMSQT so that students will be used to the test format and achieve high enough scores to possibly qualify for a National Merit Scholarship. Along with scores, students will get percentiles to help you discover how your scores compare to other students'. This can help you figure out whether you're on the right track for getting a high score on the PSAT 10, PSAT/NMSQT and SAT.

Director of Placements met with Grade 12 boarder students after school on 9<sup>th</sup> October (boys) and 11<sup>th</sup> October (girls) and talked to them candidly about the important points to be aware of while applying to universities of different countries. His discussion touched upon the importance of doing a good research and preparation to apply to universities and colleges that are a good fit in terms of budget, size, research opportunities, internships and other relevant factors. He also highlighted the use of predicted grades. Mr. Leon met with Grade 9 parents to discuss how to help prepare their kids for Grade 10 and beyond.

Indus proudly hosted 5 Ivy Leagues: University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University, Princeton University, Cornell University and Yale on 5<sup>th</sup> October. A select group of freshmen, sophomore, junior and senior students were invited to attend and get the opportunity to meet and interact directly with admissions officers. Their academic achievements along with their stellar behavior afforded them this opportunity. These students gained valuable knowledge on 'What it takes' to get admission into an Ivy League institution.

### **Sports:**

**Eagle Cup 2018:** Indus hosted the mega sports event, Eagle Cup where about 30 schools and not less than 1500 students participated. Sports is defined as an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another. But athletes know that it is so much more.

Students came in as teams to display so much more than just physical exertion and skill, because there is more to life than just the competition. Team sports are about trust, achieving goals and most of all learning to be both a follower and a leader. Eagle Cup was our platform for just that, and students were encouraged to earn their wings by believing in themselves and pushing the limits.

Eagle Cup was the accumulation of the efforts put in by the students and they got to showcase their leadership skills that they have acquired through the core value of Indus- love, empathy, discipline and respect. By coordinating this event they not only learnt time management but also learnt how to balance extracurricular activities with academic rigour. The details of the results after verification will be published in the next newsletter.

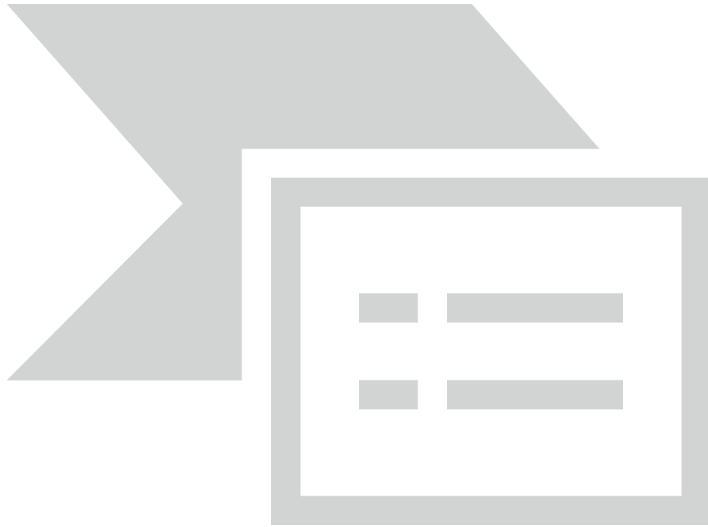
Naren Ramesh (Grade 9) won second place in Under 16 open District level Chess Tournament conducted by Bangalore Chess Academy which is affiliated to Chess Association of Karnataka, on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Five International rated players also participated in the same category.



We would like to congratulate Vidushi Keni (Grade 9) who was the runner up at the South Zone Junior Golf Championship held in Hyderabad, from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> October. We wish her all the best and many more such success as she continues to pursue her talent.

Our very own Natasha Jaichandra (Grade 7) won the ongoing south zone golf tournament in Hyderabad and has already qualified for the nationals though she has one more qualifying tournament to be played in Vizag next month. She is ranked number one in the south zone at the moment. Natasha has also won the TSG golf tournament held at Prestige Golfshire on 16<sup>th</sup> October. We are extremely proud and wish her more such successes in the future.





We are also proud to announce that Snigdha Goswami (Grade 8) also performed exceptionally well in junior tournament at Bangalore Golf Club. She won in 2 categories, category A and category B girls' event.

We are also proud to inform you that four of our students have been selected for IBSO Under 17 Football team for 64th National School Games to be held at Jammu & Kashmir soon. Students will represent All India International Board Schools. Our students who have been selected are: Prem Sharda (Grade 10), Jay Ashiya (Grade 10), Dharmil Bhudelia (Grade 11) and Devansh Surana (Grade 11).



We are also proud to announce the result of inter-school swimming competition organized by TISB on 1<sup>st</sup> October. Team Indus has performed extremely well in the competition and brought laurels to the School. Congratulations to the students for their performance and also credit goes to our swimming coaches, for their continuous effort with our students.

#### Summary of Results:

Overall Medals - 43

Gold - 11

Silver - 15

Bronze- 13

Relay team Silver - 04

Bharathraj Sankar of Grade 11, Shristuti Srirapu of Grade 7 and Krish Varma of Grade 7 were awarded with the Individual Champion Trophy. Results are in Appendix 1.

#### Boarding:

Despite the holidays this month, boarders have been a busy bunch. To mark the occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, they watched a short documentary on the life of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of Nation which reflected on his life and teachings.

One of the most enjoyed weekend activities was the Master Chef Style non-flame cooking competition. The boarders prepared one main course and one dessert in one and a half hours' time. Their planning, culinary and presentation skills were incredible and noteworthy.

Boys and girls wore colorful costumes and celebrated Dussehra. Puja and mangala arati to seek blessings of Maa Durga was performed. Afterwards, students reveled in traditional garba dance and authentic Gujarati thali for dinner.

During the long weekend between 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October, we planned two days trip within Bangalore. The first trip was to Wonderla Amusement and Water Park. Students had loads of fun, adventurous dry rides and amazing water rides. The second trip was a visit to Hindustan Aeronautical Museum and the Forum Neighborhood mall. Students learnt about the journey of HAL, one of Asia's largest and most important aeronautical companies, and gathered all the information it had to offer - be it historical, scientific

or academic. They also enjoyed one sumptuous special lunch and one special dinner in the dining hall during this long weekend.

The girls boarding also started their gardening project this month. Each hostel was given a plot of land for gardening. They came up with wonderful plans which involved cleaning the land, ploughing, sowing seeds/ planting saplings and regular watering.

As evident Indus is a kaleidoscope of ideas and a riot of activities. With the festive season around the corner, I wish you all a peaceful Diwali break with your families. If you are going away, travel safely and may we all return to school fully recharged for the final half of the first term.

Regards,  
Sarojini Rao  
Principal

<b>Dates For Your Diary: November 2018</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
<b>1st November</b>	<b>Kannada Rajyotsava – Holiday; Autumn Break commences; Boarders airport drop off</b>
<b>10th November</b>	<b>Boarders airport pickup</b>
<b>12th November</b>	<b>School reopens after Autumn break</b>
<b>14th November</b>	<b>Children’s Day Celebrations</b>
<b>15th November</b>	<b>ACER IBT Science Exam</b>
<b>16th November</b>	<b>ACER IBT Reasoning Exam</b>
<b>17th November</b>	<b>Working Saturday; PYP 3 Way Conference</b>
<b>29th November</b>	<b>Grade 10 Half yearly exams commence</b>

**Appendix 1:**

Results of Indus Swimming Team in the 11th TISB Inter School Swimming Meet held on 1st October 2018.

Name	Grade	Division	Event	Medal
Bharathraj Sankar	11	Boys B Division	50 m Butterfly Stroke 50 m Breaststroke 50 m freestyle 4 x 25 m Medley Relay 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay <b>Won the Individual Championship trophy</b>	Gold Gold Gold Silver Silver
Shristuti Srirapu	7	Girls D Division	25 m Breaststroke 50 m freestyle 100 m Individual medley 4 x 25 m Medley Relay 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay <b>Won the Individual Championship trophy</b>	Gold Gold Gold Silver Silver
Krish Varma	7	Boys D Division	25 m Back stroke 50 m freestyle 25 m Butterfly 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay <b>Won the Individual Championship trophy</b>	Gold Silver Silver Silver
Adrien Lee Jasserand	12	Boys A Division	50 m Butterfly Stroke 100 m Individual medley 50 m freestyle 4 x 25 m Medley Relay 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay	Silver Silver Silver Silver Silver
Shaila Dinesh Malkani	8	Girls C Division	25 m Back stroke 4 x 25 m Medley Relay 25 m Butterfly Stroke 100 m Individual medley	Gold Silver Bronze Bronze
Tanvi Dinesh	12	Girls A Division	100 m Individual medley 50 m Breaststroke 4 x 25 m Medley Relay 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay 50 m Butterfly Stroke	Gold Silver Silver Silver Bronze
Maanya Singh	7	Girls C Division	25 m Butterfly Stroke 50 m freestyle	Gold Silver

Rachanaa Bodugu	8	Girls C Division	100 m Individual medley 25 m Breaststroke 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay 50 m freestyle	Silver Silver Silver Bronze
Nikita Vinay Kishan	10	Girls B Division	4 x 25 m Medley Relay 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay 50 m freestyle 50 m Butterfly Stroke 25 m Back stroke	Silver Silver Bronze Bronze Bronze
Aman Sharma	9	Boys B Division	50 m Butterfly Stroke 100 m Individual medley	Silver Bronze
Dominic Reil	8	Boys C Division	4 x 25 m Medley Relay 4 x 25 m Freestyle Relay 50 m Freestyle 25 m Butterfly Stroke	Silver Silver Bronze Bronze
Kanishk Adeha Singh	5	Boys D Division	25 m Breaststroke 100 m Individual medley 4 x 25 m Medley Relay	Silver Silver Silver
Rohan Rajan	7	Boys C Division	25 m Breaststroke 25 m Back stroke	Gold Bronze
Michael Jeffrey	5	Boys D Division	25 m Back stroke 25 m Breaststroke	Silver Bronze
Gonzague Demoulin	12	Boys A Division	50 m Breaststroke	Silver
Aidan Smith	8	Boys C Division	25 m Back stroke	Silver
Alexandre Oliveira Marques	12	Boys A Division	50 m Back stroke	Bronze