



From the Principal's desk

January 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to school. I was delighted to see so many happy faces returning to Indus on the 4th of January after the winter break. It was lovely to welcome the children this term and how quickly January flew by! I very much look forward to an enjoyable and productive term and year ahead. All the three programmes at Indus have been busy. There is a real buzz around the school as we near the annual Indus Day and Leadership Day, as everyone prepares for the various activities and events. The days are busy and the calendar is full, but I am delighted to see everyone remaining focused and enjoying all that they do.

PYP:

To further their inquiry into the current unit based on the theme "How we organize ourselves," the students of Grade 4 visited the Panchayat office of the Handenahalli village. They met the Panchayat officer, who answered student questions through which he explained not only the roles and responsibilities of the local government system, but also some of the practical challenges faced by the officers in meeting the needs of the community.

Grade 4 invited Ms. Darshini, a resident of Laos who helped our students understand better a communist government. She spoke about her life in Laos and how it was different from that of living in a democratic setup.

The team from Indus School of Leadership along with Caesar Huret (Grade 8) shared with the Grade 3 students their expertise on exploration. They spoke about

how one can prepare for an exploration, the different tools used and the challenges one may encounter. They also demonstrated mountaineering skills using appropriate tools.

Grade 5 is tuning in to a new unit on Business under the transdisciplinary theme 'How We Organise Ourselves'. They explored businesses within our local community this week and visited a sericulture farm and an organic milk farm near our school. Our young inquirers asked relevant questions about the structure and organisation of the company and reflected on the way business is run.

MYP:

On the 4th of January, school reopened post winter break and Half Yearly Exams concluded for Grades 6 to 9. After the Half Yearly Exams, parent teacher meetings were organised. This provided parents with the opportunity to interact with teachers to gain insights into their child's performance and consider feedforward for improvement. On the same day, parents of Grade 8 attended a presentation where requirements for subject selection and different aspects of Grades 9 and 10 in MYP were clarified.

In an effort to emphasise on the transformational effect that reading can have in all spheres of life, our CEO, Lt Gen Arjun Ray, PVSM, VSM (R) conducted a workshop on deep reading for all the teachers on 5th January. Following this, our teachers attended a workshop on emotional wellbeing, conducted by Cadabams.

In a bid to understand the emotional quotient and to develop it, similar sessions were conducted for students of Grades 6 to 9 where they were made aware of various techniques to manage their emotional wellbeing through age-appropriate strategies.

In January, students of Grade 9 attended a presentation on MYP Personal Project. The objective of the session was to introduce the students to the relevance of personal projects and share strategies and best practices to complete their projects successfully. On the 21st of January, parents of Grade 9 attended a presentation on MYP Personal Project to understand the aims of a core component of MYP and their role in this journey. Parents took away a wealth of

information and gleaned strategies which they could use to support their children to complete the Personal Project successfully.

There were two groups of students – one from Grade 7 and another from Grade 6 who attended the ISL camp in January. In this camp organised by Indus School of Leadership, students will be involved in a multitude of activities to strengthen their leadership competencies.

Shristuti Srirapu (Grade 7) got an honorable mention for her poem The Oceans' Dream in the ocean awareness international poetry competition at Bowseat, Canada. Many congratulations to Shristuti and we wish her all the best to continue to nurture her artistic abilities.

It's with pleasure I inform you that Snigdha Goswami (Grade 8) has performed quite well in the two South Zone Juniors Golf Tournaments held at Coorg. She was the first runner-up in Category B Girls in the first tournament held at Coorg Golf Links on the 12th and 13th of January. She was also the winner of the second tournament held at Mercara Downs Golf Club on the 15th and 16th of January, in the same category.

A group of 22 students accompanied by their teachers Ms. Greta Gomes and Ms. Wilma Lewis attended the Harvard Model United Nations Conference on 24th January. It has proven to be an excellent avenue for our students to meet teams from various parts of the world while being able to hone their debating skills at an international level. We are happy to share that Rehaan Bicha of Grade 9 has received HMUN medallion from Harvard Model United Nations for Diplomatic Commendation. His standing is in top 8 and has received the recognition for our school. More than 3,300 high school delegates and their faculty advisors gathered to address some of the world's most pressing challenges. The delegates were asked to step into the role of international decision makers, negotiate on major international crises, and craft innovative policy solutions.



IGCSE :

Grade 10 Half yearly exam reports were published online on 17th January for students and parents to view. Answer scripts were reviewed by the teachers in their respective lessons and students identified areas of concern. The teachers have analyzed the results and action plans have been drawn out to work in the months ahead.

Syllabus for all subjects have been completed and intensive revision has commenced. Teachers have prepared dedicated paper component wise plans to ensure students are able to approach each exam confidently.

We are immensely proud to announce that Nitisha Iyer of Grade 10 Batch 2017-18 has topped the country in Enterprise IGCSE Board Exam 2018 and will be receiving the Outstanding Cambridge Learners Award on 9th February from Cambridge Assessment International Education. Congratulations to Nitisha and her teachers on this wonderful achievement. Your efforts and hard work has been outstanding.

As part of raising awareness for emotional wellbeing, our Grade 10 students attended a workshop conducted by Cadabams on 17th January which focused on the symptoms and measures to overcome depression.

School Computer Science Fest Synt-Hacks'19: Greenwood High International School hosted an inter-school Computer Science fest Synt-Hacks'19, on 12th January. 38 students from Grade 9 and 11 participated in various events including

Hackathon, Robotics, Enders game and Brai.E.N.I.A.C. We are proud to announce that Rishabh Sharma and Namit Kumashikar of Grade 9 won the first place in Brai.E.N.I.A.C, where participants raced against each other to find cryptographic keys in a website. Yogesh Naresh, Om Kodavalli and Krithik Dinakaran of Grade 9 bagged the first place in Robotics for creating a rescue-bot that completed an obstacle course, filled with twists and turns. Ashwin Jalan, Avish Kumar, Nishant Abhishek and Abhinav Manohar of Grade 11 finished at the second place. Fardeen Hans, Akharsh Reddy, Varun Ramakrishnan and Nikhil Nambiar of Grade 11 reached the semi-finals of the Enders' game, a gaming competition. The list of participants is in Appendix 1.

Parikrama Festival Of Science: The Parikrama foundation had organised a three day Science festival for which 4 of our students of Grade 8 - Avni Bansal, Ansh Kothari, Gayathri Jain and Pranav Iyer had taken part. It was conducted on the 17th, 18th and 19th of January. Students from 50 other schools in and around Bangalore took part in this event. This festival of Science was themed 'Wildlife'. Students were privileged to independently identify the significance of wildlife in the quality of everyday life, even in urban India. Workshops in wildlife photography and cinematography were conducted with eminent scientists from Indian Institute of Science, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, National Institute of Advanced Scientific Research and National Centre for Biological Sciences. Students were made to identify life on Earth and discuss the hazards they encounter in the urbanization of the country. They were given projects on various life forms where they brainstormed to find solutions for alternative conservation. Overall, it provided a life changing understanding of wildlife and its implications in a child friendly and fun, interactive way.

We are also happy to announce that Siya Marwah of Grade 10 and Ria Jaitley of Grade 9 have won the first prize in the Dance World Cup in the National and Folklore category. They were competing against 45 teams across India. They will now be representing India in the Dance World Cup event to be held in Portugal on 6th July 2019. We are very proud of them and are confident that they will do well in the World Cup.

DP:

Ten students from Grades 8 to 11 went for the Mt. Kilimanjaro expedition from 18th to 27th January. The expedition provided a great opportunity for the students to enrich their leadership skills by challenging themselves to climb the highest peak of the African continent and to have a great mountaineering experience at the same time. We welcome back our adventure lovers and would love to hear your stories.

The Grade 11 students have got into the mode of increasing their aesthetic quotient with participation in orchestra and choir, in preparation for Indus Day. While some of them have been involved in choreographing an Indian dance, some others have been stretching their imagination with western dance. The students who have taken up Art, have also been busy in January preparing for the art carnival. Students have also been preparing for innovative projects and ILead talks for the upcoming Leadership Day.

The Grade 12 students had a very hectic schedule post winter break. Most students submitted their mid-year grades and few students have got acceptances from prestigious institutes like Cambridge. The IB submissions are also taking place simultaneously. The intensive revision has started and all the students are gradually gearing up for their board exams.

Three students from Grade 11- Rahul Kumar, Roshan Bharat and Jyotiraditya participated in the inter-school Math competition “Infinity 2019” organised by Aditya Birla Academy Mumbai. It was conducted on 11th and 12th January in Mumbai. Rahul Kumar received Silver and Roshan Bharat received Bronze in the individual rounds.

Infinity is an annual prestigious inter-school mathematics competition organised by Aditya Birla World Academy in association with BITS Pilani. This year 33 schools participated and around 100 students entered the competition.

Placements:

It was a busy time at the Placement Cell with applications being reviewed and submissions being done for all students. The Placements department also hosted a few university visits in January like the University of Sussex, Lynn University, Alfred

University, Blue Mountains International & William Blue – Australia, Griffith University, Australia. As evident the placements department has been busy and the students are making most of these visits.

CAS:

Vermicomposting for Organic farming: The students of Grades 6 to 8 participated in vermicomposting the organic farm. MYP students were involved in introducing worms in a phased manner, to the mixture of cow dung, leaves and vegetable waste which had been allowed to decompose earlier.

After produce like lettuce, methi, palak, mint and radish were harvested, a new set of seeds and plants have been sown in preparation for the Leadership Day sale and display.

The Pegasus house students who were involved in the vocational training of rural women as a part of the women's empowerment projects, have been successful in enrolling 10 local women for the beautician course. Women who took up the tailoring course have made products that come in handy for daily use like grocery bags, aprons, sling bags and pouches from reusable material. These will be exhibited on Leadership Day.

The Hercules house students were involved in the production of items using recycled paper like greeting cards, gift bags and flip type notepads. Preparations for the Science Exhibition are also underway and students have begun work on their projects with the help of their teachers.

Apart from collecting and editing articles for the IICS magazine, the Orion house students have been involved in conducting a Communicative English Course for the Ammas in IISB and IICS. They have been coaching the Ammas and preparing them to present for Leadership Day.

Phoenix house students have been working on their women's empowerment project and have been trying to improve the quality of sanitary napkins produced. They are trying to use natural alternatives like banana fiber which they hope will

improve the quality. Phoenix house has also been involved in conducting the auditions for the IICS journals.

Boarding:

Weekends continue to be busy for boarders who see a mix of activities, sports, academics and new learning opportunities. Our junior boarders have been actively involved in gardening in January. They have been assigned areas to look after and they have been involved in removing weeds and watering plants.

Quite a number of boarders competed in individual and team events on Sports day and won several medals. Few of boarders from Grade 9 to 11 participated in the Synt-Hacks event at Greenwood High on 12th January.

Boarders celebrated Lohri and Makar Sankranti on campus in full spirit. For Lohri, a bonfire was lit and students, house parents and campus staff celebrated the end of winter and arrival of longer days with the sun's journey into the Northern hemisphere. A kite flying competition was organised as a part of the celebration. The students had lots of fun as they challenged each other in what turned out to be an afternoon thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Sports:

Students, parents, teachers, guests and dignitaries gathered together at the school playground of Indus International School to celebrate the 16th Senior School Annual Sports Day on 11th January. The programme began with hoisting school sports flag. This was followed by a well-coordinated march past by the houses with outstanding performance and uniformity evident as they marched along the race tracks. The chief guest, Shri Sandeep Somesh and our CEO, Lt Gen Arjun Ray, PVSM, VSM (R) graced the occasion. Shri Sandeep Somesh, is a national level hockey player and has also represented India in various Test series in the 1990s. In his speech, he shared a few personal sporting experiences and enlightened the audience on the essentials of sports in a child's life and emphasized on developing a hockey team at Indus.

The students displayed a wide array of colorful and captivating events such as Aerobics display and the Sports Tableau display. Students put up a spirited

performance in the Tug of War and races. The best march past trophy and the overall champion trophy was awarded to the Phoenix house.

In the end, Vice Principal Mrs. Aditi Pant delivered vote of thanks by expressing gratitude and applauded the effort of the students and the teachers for making the event a huge success. The Sports Day results are attached in Appendix 2.



It gives me immense pride to announce that Indus International School has won the Okinawa Shorin Ryu KIAI National level Kumite Karate championship. Okinawa Shorin Ryu KIAI Karate - Do Federation of India, had organised the National level Exclusive Kumite Karate Championship on 27th January at AMC Institution Auditorium, Bannerghatta, Bangalore. Indus won 2 Gold medals, 2 Silver medals and 2 Bronze in Kumite (fight). The results are in Appendix 3.



So as you can see, we are off to an exciting new year to continue our journey of learning. The coming months are full of activity and community engagement. Whole education is an integral part of the Indus journey, and thank you dear parents for celebrating the creative and aesthetic aspects with us.

Regards,

Sarojini Rao

Principal

Indus International School, Bangalore

Dates For Your Diary: February 2019	
DATE	EVENT
2 nd February	Working Saturday; PTM for Grades 10 & 11
4 th - 8 th February	Grade 7 Group 2 Camp
8 th February	PYP Sports Day
12 th & 13 th February	ACER-ISA Exams for Grades 3 - 8
16 th February	Working Saturday; 3 Way Conference for PYP; IBDP Orientation & Career Counselling for parents
22 nd February	Senior School Indus Day

Appendix 1: Students who participated in the Synt-Hacks 2019:

Synt-Hacks-2019				
D3COD3(Hackathon)	BRAIENIAC	Prog- ramage(Code wars)	Cross-roads(Robotics)	Ender's Game(Gaming)
Prathiba Pradeep	Sriya Chintalapalli	Vidhushi Keni	Om Kodavali	Fardeen Hans
Sai Rutvij Reddy	Shradha Desai		Krithik Dinakaran	Akarsh Reddy
Harikrishnan M	Namit Kumashikar		Yogesh Naresh	Varun Ram
Usha Sophea Janardhan	Rishabh Sharma		Ashwin Jalan	Nikhil Nambiar
Akhil S Kasturi	Varun Agrawal		Avish Kumar	Abhishek Jain
Ann Edwin	Garvitaa Arora		Nishant Abhishek	Samarth Surya
Kunal Agrawal	Sharanya Agadi		Abhinav Manohar	Aryaman Verma
	Snigdha Chowdary		Aadarsha Reddy	Shuban Mootha
			Sushanth Reddy	Manan Aggarwal
			Nischit Karunesh	Yogeshwar
			Junsu Kim	Aryan Saigal

Appendix 2: SENIOR SPORTS DAY, 11th JANUARY 2019

Individual Championship Award

CATEGORY	NAME	HOUSE
Boys U-12	Ilan Said	Phoenix
Girls U-12	Adhya Bobby Surendranath	Pegasus
Boys U-14	Mark Philip Jayan	Phoenix
	Saahas Sandeep	Orion
Girls U-14	Pooja Parthasarathy	Phoenix
Boys U-16	Chaitannya Choudhary	Hercules
Girls U-16	Avni Bansal	Phoenix
	Zaina Nida Imam	Hercules
Senior Boys	Ritvik Singh Kumar	Phoenix
	Dharmil Budheliya	Phoenix
Senior Girls	Ines Maria Huret	Phoenix

MARCH PAST STANDINGS

POSITION	HOUSE	POINTS
I	Phoenix	40
II	Orion	20
III	Hercules	10
IV	Pegasus	05

OVERALL CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY 2018-19

POSITION	HOUSE	POINTS
I	Phoenix	1020
II	Hercules	605
III	Pegasus	570
IV	Orion	560

Appendix 3: Okinawa Shorin Ryu KIAI National level Kumite Karate championship Results

Name Of Student	Grade	Kumite(Fight)	Achievement
Aaryaman Verma	11	Kumite	Silver
Fardeen Hans	11	Kumite	Gold
Aryan Saigal	11	Kumite	Silver
Yogeshwar Guntur Naidu	11	Kumite	Gold
Rakshit Sathyamurthi	11	Kumite	Bronze
Vinay Narsimha	11	Kumite	Bronze