



## From the Principal's Desk

March 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Just as spring is swiftly changing to summer in Bangalore, Indus welcomes the changing seasons with some new beginnings and some familiar events. Dear parents your children remain the most important part of our school as they get more and more involved in both academics and in extracurricular activities. They not only set individual goals, 'Tikkun Olam' for their meaningful journey towards future but also continue to be involved in team work and myriad school projects. With remarkable success in both the authorization visit (MYP) and an evaluation visit (PYP) the school is poised to take on greater challenges.

The March newsletter will showcase just some of our achievements.

**Leadership Day:** At Indus, leadership is looked upon as one of the core competencies, necessitated by the fourth Industrial Revolution. The Leadership Curriculum at Indus seeks to transform students and help them connect to their environment, society and themselves. Students of Grades 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 celebrated Leadership Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019. The day celebrated each student's journey in this academic session. Apart from I-Lead speeches and display of Leadership Journals, the students also put up a display of some of their innovative projects. The theme for this academic session was "Tikkun Olam" or "Repair the World".

The four houses i.e. Orion, Hercules, Pegasus and Phoenix not only showcased their successes in their house vision tasks but also competed against each other in two competitions: JAM (Just a Minute) and Panel Discussion. The panel discussion revolved around the following topic: “Does individual social responsibility end with paying one’s taxes and corporate social responsibility?”

The day also honored students who have showcased immense resilience and grit during difficult and trying times in their lives. The Resilience award for 2018-19 was awarded to Ananya Choudhari of Grade 12 and Jashwant Jayaram of Grade 9. The Young Achievers award was given to students who have been involved and achieved remarkable success in academics, whole education and/or leadership projects. The list is attached in Appendix 1.

**Phoenix house** won the Women Empowerment Project Award for their success on the focused attention on women’s health and sanitation. **Hercules house** bagged the House Vision award for their success in the science exhibition. Here are some glimpses from the Leadership Day.



**The Art Carnival:** The annual Art Carnival was also conducted on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Students of Grades 6 to 9 & 11 expressed their creativity and had more than 400 pieces of art on display which ranged from realistic, semi-realistic to abstract works of art created using a variety of medium such as oil painting, acrylic, water colour, mixed media, charcoal, etc. Further, there was also an exclusive display and sale of products (like mugs, clocks, coasters) and stationery created through digital printing of our students' art work.

**Guest Speaker:** On 15<sup>th</sup> March, select students interacted with author, psychologist and public speaker Ms. Shilpa Raj a beneficiary of Shanti Bhavan Residential School. Her book, 'The Elephant Chaser's Daughter' was discussed as she chronicled her struggles with poverty, caste and gender discrimination and how her alma mater helped her overcome these societal hurdles.

### **PYP:**

The PYP evaluation is both a requirement and a service provided by the IB Organization to the IB schools. The aim is for the IB to ensure on a regular basis that the standards and practices of the programme are being maintained. Our evaluators visited the classrooms, met with the PYP teachers, students and some of our parents as well to understand the implementation of the programme. The initial feedback looks positive and a report regarding the same is due and will be shared with us in a few weeks from now. We would like to thank all the parents who made the time to come to school and share your experiences with them.

Based on the transdisciplinary theme 'How we express ourselves', students have identified problem statements and are planning the process to arrive at deeper understandings regarding the same through various field trips and insights from guest lecturers. A guest lecturer's visit from Rimagined, got the students thinking deeper. Her inspirational talk on how to reduce the waste by using it to produce usable products, motivated students to re-look within the school community and think of plausible solutions that could reduce the generation of waste from the use of paper and plastic. Students also visited the paper recycling unit on campus and learnt the process involved in recycling. They got hands on experience of the entire process

of recycling paper and are chalking out a plan to work in tandem with the PYP Student Council to recycle paper in a systematic manner and will create a plan to make their school a plastic free zone. PYP students also visited the MLA, Ms Sowmya Reddy this month, to understand the political and legal perspective of plastic management in Bangalore. Our children were inspired by her zeal to contribute towards a solution to the escalating issue of plastic mismanagement.

Grade 5 inquirers exploring internet addiction were visited by multiple guest speakers including psychologists, pediatricians and social and behavioral medicine doctors, who lent their expertise on the subject.

A field trip into the local village provided an authentic experience when exploring the needs and requirements of the local community. In order to empathize with the community our students interacted with the local villagers, visited a preschool and met members of the Panchayat. They also visited homes and were welcomed with warmth and genuine affection.

### **MYP:**

We are also pleased to announce that the MYP Verification visit which is a part of the MYP Authorisation process, was successfully completed in March. The verification visit was done by a team designated by the IBO to verify if the school adheres to the various standards, systems and processes that is required to authorise the school as an IBMYP school. The two day visit included meetings with subject teachers, heads of departments, students, parents and senior leadership team to obtain a 360 degree perspective of the implementation of the MYP practices. Our teachers put in a lot of effort to set high standards and went the extra mile to ensure that they achieved them.

Our MYP students communicated persuasively through their I Lead speeches on Leadership Day. They reflected on a crucible experience that set them on the path for change. Working as a grade, students identified local problems ranging from food waste to world hunger to mismanagement of waste. Students used the Design

Thinking Process to find innovative solutions to these problems. Over the next few months, students will take their project to completion.

The second set of Mid-term tests proceeded with limited invigilation to permit students to exercise discipline and display high levels of integrity from 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Every year, the ACER IBT is conducted in Science to allow students to gauge their skills in different areas of science and compare their skill level with students across the globe. This year, we also registered students for reasoning component. In both, Science and Reasoning, a large number of Indus students have scored well above the average scores for India and the world. We congratulate the top scorers in Science and Reasoning!

#### **IGCSE:**

Students appeared for their mock exams from 4<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> March by writing all paper components for each syllabus they have opted for. They were made to experience the same exam conditions as their June series board exams which will happen soon.

On 16<sup>th</sup> March, a special Question and Answer session for students and parents was conducted to address any queries/concerns regarding the IBDP curriculum. The Vice Principal, IBDP Coordinator, Placement Officer and specialist teachers provided an informed perspective about the programme and stressed on the benefits and uniqueness of IBDP program in Indus. Both parents and students were able to get clarity and benefit from this session.

#### **DP:**

The Grade 11 students put up an impressive show on Innovation Day, after a lot of hard work behind the scenes. The drones made by our Grade 11 Physics students were the star attraction as it lifted a payload from the main gate and dropped it at various locations. Now, they are being used as teaching aid and students are exploring the avenues to use them to understand concepts in science and math better.

Apart from this the students showcased several other innovative projects which included garbage upcycling, reducing noise through acoustics in amphitheater and efficient detergents using nano particles. The students had also prepared their journals which showcased their ideas on Tikkun Olam - personal journey of their service goal. Bhaavika Gupta was selected to present her transformative journey in the form of an I Lead speech as she started an initiative on managing e-waste. The Grade 11 students have also been working on a broad plan of uplifting the artisans of leather puppetry in their series on reviving folk art.

The Grade 12 students spent the month of March studying for their pre-final examination and taking feedback from their teachers to find their weak links. They are now all geared up for their final exams and the Graduation Day with all their IB submissions behind them.

In our endeavor to impart training to our teachers to become aware of the emotional need of the students, a workshop was conducted for the teachers by Cadabam's. In this series teachers were trained for the issue of recognizing signs of self-harm on 16<sup>th</sup> March. The teachers were also trained on imparting first aid in case of an emergency.

### **Placements:**

The placements department is busy with meeting with the parents of Grade 10 and 11, providing an insight into the strength of the placement department at Indus. They also help senior students decide on how to make their final decisions that fits them the best according to their criteria.

They continue working with Cialfo to make sure that the replacement for Naviance goes smoothly as possible. Training discussions and transferring data from Naviance to Cialfo is underway. They also continue to meet and guide the students in making their portfolio for admission into select universities.

The following universities visited us in March.

1. Australia's Study Gold Coast – Counselor Reception with Bond University, Griffith University, Southern Cross University & New York Film Academy, 12<sup>th</sup> Mar 2019
2. Babson College, USA, 18<sup>th</sup> Mar 2019

3. Pepperdine University, USA, 18<sup>th</sup> Mar 2019
4. The University of Missouri, USA, 21<sup>st</sup> Mar 2019
5. The University of New Mexico, USA, 21<sup>st</sup> Mar 2019

### **CAS:**

As the Leadership Day was a culmination event where the students showcased their journey through the house vision tasks, they ensured they explained their CAS projects to parents and others who attended. The novelty of the projects was appreciated as was the creativity and innovation that had gone into the successful implementation of all the house projects. The fresh harvest from organic farming which were produced after months of dedicated effort were sold on the Leadership Day. Farming was taken up as a special project as it teaches children life skills like raising food, working hard, communication and caring for others.

The Science Exhibition of the IICS students was another grand success. The students of Indus Bangalore had worked in collaboration with the students of IICS to create and fine tune several science projects that underscored cost effectiveness and natural options.

Ammas who completed the Communicative English Course successfully were given certificates and cash awards on the Leadership Day. The IICS Magazine which is a compilation of the writing and artistic talent of the IICS students was published on the same day. The students of Indus Bangalore had worked together with the IICS students to produce this magazine and it was received well.

### **Boarding:**

Apart from their enthusiastic involvement in the Leadership Day and the annual aquatic meets, the boarders enjoyed a formal dinner which was arranged in the dining hall followed by dance and music. Zumba sessions were taken up with utmost spirit during the morning activity. Boarders enjoyed Tibbs frankies arranged specially for them during the weekend. Boarders of Grades 6 to 9 and 11 prepared and attended their second midterm tests while Grade 10 and 12 boarders had mock

examinations. The festival of Holi was celebrated with much gusto and the students enjoyed the play of colors and water as they relished Holi delicacies prepared especially for them.

### **Sports:**

**Annual Aquatic Meet:** The annual aquatic meet was held for almost the entire school this month. The senior school aquatic meet was conducted on 8<sup>th</sup> March and the primary aquatic meet was conducted over two days, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Swimming as you will agree is a critical life skill and something every individual should know. It not only helps build endurance, muscle strength and cardiovascular fitness but also helps maintain a healthy weight, heart and lungs. During the aquatic meet, our students showcased remarkable sportsmanship and took part in a variety of events. The sportsman spirit in each child was evident as our risk-takers participated in a range of events like the freestyle, breast stroke, back stroke and the relay through the day. Please refer to Appendices 2 and 3 for results of the Senior and PYP Aquatic Meets.



Hence as is evident, Indus as usual has not only been busy but has been eventful in a meaningful, holistic way. If the Art Carnival and Leadership Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> March is anything to go by we know we are not only nurturing talent but also preparing our

students for the uncertain journey ahead. I hope you had a restful spring break as the school will be prepared with more such opportunities for learning when we reopen in April.

Regards,  
Sarojini Rao  
Principal

| <i>Dates For Your Diary- April 2019</i>           |   |
|---|---|
| <b>DATE</b>                                       | <b>EVENT</b>  |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> April</b>                       | <b>School reopens for all students after Spring break</b> |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> April</b>      | <b>Grade 9 Group 1 Camp</b>                               |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>     | <b>Grade 9 Group 2 Camp</b>                               |
| <b>12<sup>th</sup> April</b>                      | <b>PTM for Gr 10 and 12; IBDP Graduation Day</b>          |
| <b>17<sup>th</sup> April</b>                      | <b>Grade 5 Exhibition</b>                                 |
| <b>15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> April</b>    | <b>Grade 6 Group 2 Camp</b>                               |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup> April</b>                      | <b>Karnataka Lok Sabha Election day</b>                   |
| <b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>                      | <b>Good Friday</b>  |
| <b>22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> April</b>    | <b>Grade 8 Group 1 Camp</b>                               |
| <b>24<sup>th</sup> April</b>                      | <b>PYP Leadership Summit</b>                              |
| <b>29<sup>th</sup> April – 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b> | <b>Grade 8 Group 2 Camp</b>                               |

**Appendix 1: Young Achiever's Award:**

**Young Achiever's Award winners:**

| <b>Name</b>        | <b>Grade</b> |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Rishi Chakravarthy | 6            |
| Natasha Jaichandra | 7            |
| Shristuti Srirapu  | 7            |
| Anvi Kurade        | 7            |
| Aadiv Reki         | 8            |
| Agustya Singh      | 8            |
| Sahaat Poddar      | 8            |

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Cesar Huret               | 8  |
| Avni Bansal               | 8  |
| Naren Ramesh              | 8  |
| Shaila Malkani            | 8  |
| Snigdha Goswami           | 8  |
| Rehaan Bicha              | 9  |
| Vidushi Keni              | 9  |
| Divit Sujan               | 9  |
| Dharika Raj Singh         | 9  |
| Sriya Chintalapalli       | 9  |
| Chiradeep Varma Kalidindi | 9  |
| Alysa Vazhayil Joseph     | 9  |
| Tanvi Nanda               | 9  |
| Saanya Manoj              | 9  |
| Ishaan Sampath            | 9  |
| Cougar Harlowe            | 10 |
| Chaitannya Choudhary      | 10 |
| Priyam Sharda             | 10 |
| Saagarika Gowda           | 10 |
| Anoushka Saraf            | 10 |
| Satvik Elayavalli         | 10 |
| Amrita Basu               | 10 |
| Naveen David              | 10 |
| Beena Vaidya              | 10 |
| Sonali M K                | 10 |
| Rahul Kumar               | 11 |
| Nitisha Iyer              | 11 |
| Aanya Sehgal              | 11 |
| Varshika B                | 11 |

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Jyothiraditya       | 11 |
| Anika Sharma        | 11 |
| Roshan Barat        | 11 |
| Prerna Agarwal      | 11 |
| Anum Merchant       | 11 |
| Saniya Patel        | 11 |
| Shriya Kamath       | 11 |
| Geetha Damarapati   | 11 |
| Riya Lakshman       | 11 |
| JungJu Shim         | 11 |
| Ann Edvin Kollanoor | 11 |
| Devansh Surana      | 11 |
| Yash Zaveri         | 11 |
| Dharmil Budheliya   | 11 |
| Aryaman Verma       | 11 |
| Fardeen Hans        | 11 |
| Bhaavika Gupta      | 11 |
| Akshi Pant          | 11 |
| Ines Huret          | 11 |
| Rashmi Nair         | 11 |
| Sanjana Agrawal     | 12 |

**Appendix 2: Senior School Aquatic Meet Results: 08 March 2019**

**INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS**

| Category | Gender | Event             | Name         | Grade | House   |
|----------|--------|-------------------|--------------|-------|---------|
| Under 12 | Boys   | 50 m Freestyle    | Ilan Said    | 6B    | Phoenix |
|          |        | 25 m Freestyle    |              |       |         |
|          |        | 50 m Breaststroke |              |       |         |
|          |        | 25 m Breaststroke |              |       |         |
|          |        | 25 m Butterfly    |              |       |         |
| Category | Gender | Event             | Name         | Grade | House   |
| Under 12 | Girls  | 50 m Freestyle    | Venba Nathar | 6A    | Pegasus |
|          |        | 25 m Freestyle    |              |       |         |
|          |        | 25 m Backstroke   |              |       |         |
|          |        | 25 m Breaststroke |              |       |         |
|          |        | 25 m Butterfly    |              |       |         |

| Category | Gender | Event             | Name               | Grade        | House   |         |
|----------|--------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|---------|---------|
| Under 14 | Boys   | 50 m Freestyle    | Cesar Afonso Huret | 8B           | Phoenix |         |
|          |        | 25 m Freestyle    |                    |              |         |         |
|          |        | 50 m Breaststroke |                    |              |         |         |
|          |        | 25 m Breaststroke |                    |              |         |         |
|          |        |                   | 25 m Freestyle     | Dominic Reil | 8B      | Pegasus |
|          |        |                   | 50 m Backstroke    |              |         |         |
|          |        |                   | 25 m Backstroke    |              |         |         |
|          |        |                   | 25 m Butterfly     |              |         |         |

| Category | Gender | Event             | Name              | Grade | House |
|----------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|
| Under 14 | Girls  | 50 m Freestyle    | Shristuti Srirapu | 7D    | Orion |
|          |        | 25 m Freestyle    |                   |       |       |
|          |        | 50 m Backstroke   |                   |       |       |
|          |        | 25 m Backstroke   |                   |       |       |
|          |        | 50 m Breaststroke |                   |       |       |
|          |        | 25 m Breaststroke |                   |       |       |
|          |        | 25 m Butterfly    |                   |       |       |

| Category | Gender | Event             | Name        | Grade | House    |
|----------|--------|-------------------|-------------|-------|----------|
| Under 16 | Boys   | 50 m Freestyle    | Aman Sharma | 9B    | Hercules |
|          |        | 25 m Freestyle    |             |       |          |
|          |        | 50 m Backstroke   |             |       |          |
|          |        | 25 m Backstroke   |             |       |          |
|          |        | 50 m Breaststroke |             |       |          |
|          |        | 25 m Breaststroke |             |       |          |
|          |        | 25 m Butterfly    |             |       |          |

| Category | Gender | Event             | Name                  | Grade | House |
|----------|--------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| Under 16 | Girls  | 50 m Freestyle    | Shaila Dinesh Malkani | 8C    | Orion |
|          |        | 25 m Freestyle    |                       |       |       |
|          |        | 50 m Backstroke   |                       |       |       |
|          |        | 25 m Backstroke   |                       |       |       |
|          |        | 50 m Breaststroke |                       |       |       |
|          |        | 25 m Breaststroke |                       |       |       |
|          |        | 25 m Butterfly    |                       |       |       |

| Category | Gender | Event             | Name             | Grade | House    |
|----------|--------|-------------------|------------------|-------|----------|
| Senior   | Boys   | 25 m Freestyle    | Vinay Narasimhan | 11E   | Hercules |
|          |        | 50 m Breaststroke |                  |       |          |
|          |        | 25 m Breaststroke |                  |       |          |
|          |        | 25 m Butterfly    |                  |       |          |

| Category | Gender | Event             | Name             | Grade | House   |
|----------|--------|-------------------|------------------|-------|---------|
| Senior   | Girls  | 50 m Freestyle    | Ines Maria Huret | 11B   | Phoenix |
|          |        | 25 m Freestyle    |                  |       |         |
|          |        | 25 m Backstroke   |                  |       |         |
|          |        | 50 m Breaststroke |                  |       |         |
|          |        | 25 m Breaststroke |                  |       |         |
|          |        | 25 m Butterfly    |                  |       |         |

Overall House Position

| Sl No | House          | Points | Position |
|-------|----------------|--------|----------|
| 1     | Pegasus House  | 695    | I        |
| 2     | Hercules House | 525    | II       |
| 3     | Orion House    | 505    | III      |
| 4     | Phoenix House  | 465    | IV       |

**Appendix 3: PYP Inter House Annual Swimming Meet 2018-2019 : 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019**

**Individual Championship Award**

| SI No | Name                      | Grade | House          | Category      |
|-------|---------------------------|-------|----------------|---------------|
| 1     | Ismael Fromage            | 1B    | Hercules House | Grade 1 Boys  |
| 2     | Wan Chin Yin              | 1B    | Orion House    | Grade 1 Girls |
|       | Ishanvi Yejja             | 1A    | Orion House    | Grade 1 Girls |
| 3     | William Alexander Jeffrey | 2B    | Phoenix House  | Grade 2 Boys  |
| 4     | Parikaa Mehul Doshi       | 2C    | Phoenix House  | Grade 2 Girls |
| 5     | Joshua Shepstone Jeffrey  | 3B    | Phoenix House  | Grade 3 Boys  |
| 6     | Aashna Thaker             | 3B    | Pegasus House  | Grade 3 Girls |
| 7     | Dhruv Sinha               | 4B    | Pegasus House  | Grade 4 Boys  |
| 8     | Kayelvilli Yoganathan     | 4B    | Hercules House | Grade 4 Girls |
| 9     | Michael Hamish Jeffrey    | 5B    | Phoenix House  | Grade 5 Boys  |
| 10    | Manavi Varma              | 5A    | Pegasus House  | Grade 5 Girls |

**Overall Team Position**

| SI No | House    | Points | Position |
|-------|----------|--------|----------|
| 1     | Phoenix  | 650    | I        |
| 2     | Pegasus  | 575    | II       |
| 3     | Hercules | 535    | III      |
| 4     | Orion    | 375    | IV       |