



From the Principal's Desk

June 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The school year has drawn to a close and we have much to consolidate and celebrate. Our students have enjoyed another wonderful year. They have excelled in many fields and it is impossible to list them all. I have attended many celebrations, events and have listened in awe as their achievements have been described. These achievements have been in their academic studies, sports, music, the arts to name just a few and we are justly proud of them.

I want to thank my team of teachers, coordinators and Heads of School for nurturing the students academically and for inculcating in them the core values of Indus. I would also like to thank the many parents who have come to see me and contacted me over the year. To have a good understanding of our parent body is very important to enable the school to meet the needs and aspirations of our families and students. Most of all I would like to thank all the students who bring such energy and positivity into the school. Without them the school is just an edifice.

During the summer break I will be working with colleagues to plan a smooth opening to the new academic year and setting the priorities to build upon the successes of the school so that we can improve still further. At Indus we always seek to do better; to challenge ourselves and our students to set the highest standards and achieve ambitious goals.

Here are just some of the things that the school was busy with before we closed for the break.

PYP:

The PYP Student Led Conference was held on 7th June where students updated their parents regarding their learning journey in each subject area. They not only showcased their portfolios which consisted of evidences of their transdisciplinary journey through the year, but also demonstrated their learning through various engagements that led to their understanding of concepts.

MYP:

From the 3rd to the 6th of June, final exams continued for Grades 6 to 9 under limited invigilation conditions to encourage student integrity.

Students of Grade 9 continued to attend classes for the following week. They received detailed feed forward on their final exams and spent time revisiting specific topics to clarify misconceptions. Students also met with their personal project supervisors to commence preliminary work on their personal project. They narrowed down on a goal, updated their process journals and signed a summer agreement.

IGCSE:

A College Placements session was conducted for Grade 10 parents by Ms. Uma Ravitharan, Head of College and Placement Counselling on 8th June. Parents were informed of the way ahead in planning the requirements for College Placements for their wards to enable more opportunities. The session was informative and gave a clear direction to parents for the next academic session.

IGCSE June Series Board exams finished on 14th June. Cambridge IGCSE results will be released on 13th August and further details will be communicated by Ms. Saba Husain.

DP:

Students of Grade 11 were busy tying up all the submissions. As the syllabus was 80% completed in most subjects the focus shifted to internal assessments. This effort resulted in most students identifying the research topic. The last week of school was eventful with students discussing the extended essay topic with their supervisor and completing their presentation for Theory of Knowledge. The last day of school was celebrated with a cricket match between students and teachers which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

The Pre-IB course was extremely successful with students and made the students IB ready by equipping them with skills and competencies required for a successful two-year programme. The students also attempted diagnostic tests to gauge their preparedness at the end of the course. During the party which was held at the end of the course, the teachers wished the students the best as they embark on the next important phase of their academic journey.

Placements:

Two new counsellors Ms. Nikitha and Ms. Susannah have joined the Placement team. Counsellors have been interacting with their advisees to discuss the summer plans. A presentation was conducted for Grade 11 parents to discuss the way forward.

CAS:

As an initiation into the community service projects, students of Pre-IB were involved in harvesting of vegetables. They also sold these vegetables to the school staff and the profit was given to the Indus Community Trust. Students learnt to make different types of candles and also learnt the process of sanitary pad making. Students had a session with seniors where they got to know their experiences with different house projects. The Pre-IB students were also involved in cooking in the Community Kitchen and distributed food to the under-privileged women and children in the nearby villages.

Boarding:

Life in the boarding continued to be fun-filled and exciting till the last day. The boarders have enjoyed every moment of the fun. Sports plays a major role in the development of our boarders. Senior boys engaged themselves in morning sports like football and cricket during the weekends. The boarding also welcomed this year's batch of Pre-IB students. Outings and other activities were organized for them to get a feel of Indus and Bangalore as well.

We have great plans for the boarding which will be disclosed in my next newsletter. It has been a truly positive year in the boarding and we look forward to another successful academic year beginning in August.

Central Leadership Retreat: The Central Leadership Retreat for Track 2 members was held from 17th to 20th June. The retreat is a time when the Principals and the core leadership teams from the three Indus schools come together with the CEO to brainstorm on progressive ideas generated from the experiences of the year gone by.

This served as a platform for the participants as a time to focus on oneself and realize that self-growth and self-actualization are pre-requisites for becoming great teachers and great leaders. The CEO, Lt. Gen. Ray addressed the importance of finding a purpose in life which could lead to innovation, in his opening speech. He vouched the importance of identifying the most significant dissatisfactions that one has in their surrounding environment, as a starting point.

Gen. Ray emphasized on the importance of considering oneself and the community and environment around us with respect, a trait which will set our students well on the path of becoming 21st century citizens. He also emphasized on the necessity to develop an entrepreneurial mindset which comprises of the ability to take initiative, and core competencies like risk-taking, creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, lifelong learning, and decision making. This is possible when one develops a passion which can ignite the desire to unlock one's potential and

creativity. This way students can be prepared to become anti-fragile so that they are prepared for life that is uncertain and chaotic.

During the retreat, I spoke to the teachers about what the best practices would be and how to develop a conceptual understanding of a programme/subject so that interdisciplinary application of knowledge is facilitated.

This was followed by brainstorming on the various attributes of the IB learner profile by the teachers and the leadership team so that they can exemplify to our students and guide them in their own journeys.

I would like to wish you happy and safe travels. All the very best for the summer vacation and for continuous learning during this time. I look forward to welcoming you all back, late July/August refreshed, for what will be an exciting, new academic year.

Regards,

Sarojini Rao
Principal

Dates For Your Diary

DATE	EVENT
22nd July	All teachers return - PD week begins; Boarders' Airport pickup Grade 12
23rd July	School reopens for Grade 12; Grade 12 Leadership camp Group 1 starts
26th July	Grade 12 Leadership camp Group 1 ends
27th July	Working Saturday for Teachers
28th July	Boarders' airport pickup for Grade 10 and 11
29th July-2nd August	Single Window
29th July	School Re-opens for Grades 10 & 11; Curriculum Road Map Day for Grade 11
30th July	Grade 12 Leadership camp Group 2 starts
2nd August	Curriculum Road Map Day for Prep to Grade 10; Grade 12 Leadership camp Group 2 ends; Holiday for Grade 10 , 11 & 12
5th August	School reopens for all students (Reception to Grade 9)

Appendix: Photos from the Organic farm

