

Dear Parents,

I keep to my promise of not sending you the Monthly Newsletter late!

1) Let me begin with a few highlights of the Academic programme:

- a) PYP students practised mediation in class as part of their Mindfulness plan.
- b) Grade-3 went on a field trip to the Zoo in connection with their Unit of Inquiry process of Change. It was fun-filled and a good learning experience for the students.
- c) Grade-5 students went on a field trip to the Salar Jung museum as a part of their UOI process. In connection with their Unit of Inquiry on Imagination and Creativity, they were also introduced to the Design Thinking process and its stages.

d) **IGCSE:**

- i) The academic session for 2016-17 commenced on the 2nd of August with 38 Grade-9 students entering the IGCSE Programme with a lot of enthusiasm and expectations. The IGCSE Coordinator conducted the introductory orientation for subject selection on the 2nd of August. The teachers delivered individual subject presentations with regard to the scope of their subject for career choices.
- ii) The IGCSE May 2016 results were declared. With this, we had the complete set of results (November 2015, March 2016 & May 2016) for the IGCSE batch of 2016.

Abhishek Deb Bathina was the topper with 8 A*s & 3 As to his credit.

Ria Thimmaiahgari was second with 8 A*s and 1 A.

Congratulations to all parents and students. This is the first Board examination for our students and everyone would have been a little nervous.

Special congratulations to Abhishek and his family for their toil and the many sacrifices they made. Congratulations to Ria and her family, too, and the rest of the top performers for their achievements. May this result be only one in a long series of successes.

The following were our top performers:

Name	No. of A*	No. of A
Abhishek Deb Bathina	8	3
Ria Thimmaiahgari	8	1
Arjun Andra	7	2
Ria Sardesai	6	4
Ishita Chawla	6	2
Paavan Anish Alluri	5	3
Dhruv Mudambi	1	5

A few highlights of the results are:

1. 86% of our students received the International Certificate of Education, of which 33% have got a distinction.
2. 53% of our grades are A* / A / B. This was 52% in 2015 & 44% in 2014. 32% of the grades are A* / A, up 2% from the previous year.
3. 6 students have secured a combined total of at least 8 A*s & As this year. This was 5 in 2015 and no student achieved this feat in 2014.
4. The percentage of A*, A & B grades combined is the highest in the last 3 years in almost all the subjects, group-wise.

e) IBDP

Support classes started for Grade 12 from the 17th of August. Students finished their TOK Mock Presentation in August and have started preparing for the final one.

Grade 11 students had an IBDP orientation and an Orientation on Selection of Subjects spread across two days. They were given time for two weeks to sit through the classes to understand the subjects offered in DP and make informed choices. In the last week of the month they were introduced to the techniques of writing the Extended Essay.

2) WHOLE EDUCATION

This year, we have made a conscious effort to increase the Whole Education programmes across school and give as many opportunities to our students to develop themselves in areas beyond academic work.

- a) In a national art competition hosted by the Kala-Mithra Foundation, Ujjwal Mantha of Grade 12 won a Gold medal. The theme of the competition was 'Swachh Bharat'. Congratulations, Ujjwal! (Please find as an attachment a picture of Ujjwal's work.)

b) Independence Day:

Independence Day for India and for Korea was celebrated on the 15th of August. There were speeches by students from both countries; PYP students came dressed as important figures from the freedom movement; the choir sang two melodious patriotic songs. These were followed by an Inter-House debate competition for the IGCSE students. Rida Samreen of Orion House and Ananya Paripally of Pegasus House jointly won the 'Best Speaker' award. The motion for the debate was: "In the opinion of the House, India is a successful democracy."

The debate was followed by the IBDP Extempore competition. The topic was "THINK GLOBAL AND ACT LOCAL".

- c) The first Inter-House Quiz Competitions were conducted on the 18th and 19th of August for the MSP and Seniors, respectively. Phoenix won both competitions.

The MSP had their Inter-House elocution on the 26th. Aditi K Mullapudi (Grade 6), Simridhi Sastry (Grade 7) and Utshaa Basu (Grade 8) stood first in their respective divisions. Orion stood 1st among the Houses.

Best out of Waste Inter-House competition: The MSP organized a Best-Out-Of-Waste competition on 11th August. The students recycled old, unused items to come up with various useful items. Phoenix was again the winner!

- d) Students participated in the Harvard Model United Nations held at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre from 12th -15th August. Students represented the school in numerous prestigious committees under the guidance of Ms. Deepti Chitkara.

e) I omitted to mention this in the last newsletter, so I do it now. Twelve students took part during the Summer vacation in the Young Entrepreneur Challenge 2016 run by Boston University alumnus students. The competition aims at facilitating the students to be able to understand and experience the dynamics of a business right from conceiving an original idea until launching it into the market. Among other things, the students learned business concepts and terminology, improvised public speaking and presentation skills, financial planning and analysis – an extremely important learning concept for a budding entrepreneur – and, through their guided explorations of the Universities, about the life at Harvard, MIT and Georgetown.

The team that included Maalavika , Sachet and Ajay was the winning team. Two teams were in joint 2nd place. One team included Sivani, Tushaar and Surya while Nirmay and Tanmaya were in the other. (39 students from different countries were put into 8 teams.)

Suraj Kalidindi was awarded the prestigious YEC founder award.

Hearty congratulations to the students and Ms Indra Kola for mentoring them all through and giving of her time during the vacation to be with the students.

f) Insignia:

The Grade 11 students organized a fete for charity, Insignia. We collected Rs 3,28,530 as profit. This money will be used to complete the I-Care project of helping re-build the Kondakal Primary School. A big ‘Thank You’ to the Insignia Organizing Committee for the hard work put in. Thank you also to our sponsors, all other students, staff and parents for their contributions in different ways.

g) Sports:

We took part in the Basheeruddin Babu Khan Memorial Football Tournament organized by Glendale Academy. In the Under-18 Boys category, we defeated Chirec and Oakridge but lost to DPS in the semi-finals.

Our students also participated in the Inter-School Swimming Competition conducted by Glendale Academy. About fifteen schools participated in this competition.

The Results are as follows:

U-12:	Kantaphol	(Gr 7) 25m Freestyle	Silver
U-12:	Aditya Itha	(Gr 6) 50m Freestyle	Silver

	Aditya Itha	(Gr 6)	25m Breast Stroke	Bronze
U-14:	Eshaan	(Gr 9)	25m Breast Stroke	Bronze
U-18 :	Sukeshwar Reddy	(Gr 11)	100m Breast Stroke	Bronze
	Sukeshwar Reddy	(Gr 11)	50m Breast Stroke	Bronze
U-18 :	Aanchal Chaterjee	(Gr 12)	100m Breast Stroke	Bronze
	Eunwoo Yang	(Gr 12)	50m Freestyle	Silver

U-12 Boys Relay : Aditya, Kantaphol, Yash Zore, and Phuriphat won Silver

U-18 Girls Relay : Panipak, Aanchal, Eunwoo Yang, and Manussanun Itsarangkul won Bronze

U-18 Boys Relay: Charan Reddy, Sukeshwar, Arif, and Sahil won the Bronze

Time to get Gold medals now! (which we will)

3) Elections to the Student Council:

Elections were held for student leaders for this academic year. Students made their speeches at special Assemblies and then votes were cast. Based on staff and student polls, the following students were nominated to the Student Council for the year 2016 – 2017.

SCHOOL POSITIONS (DESIGNATE)

HEAD BOY:	ABHISHEK DEB BATHINA
HEAD GIRL:	RIA THIMMAIAHGARI
ACADEMIC CAPTAIN:	RITHVIK VENKATA TURAGA
SPORTS CAPTAINS:	VIVEK VARDHAN REDDY and VEDHA BANDARU
BOARDING CAPTAINS:	SUKESHWAR REDDY and ANERI HALANI
ACTIVITIES CAPTAIN:	ANAM ZEHRA, MIR MUJTABA ALI, NIRAV JAIN and SIDDHARTH THUMATI
INTERNATIONAL CAPTAIN:	SUBEEN PARK
SCHOOL EDITORS:	SHREE SHRUTHI and HYEIN YOON

HOUSE POSITIONS

PEGASUS

HOUSE CAPTAIN: PAVAN ANISH ALLURI

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR: DHEER SANGHAVI

HERCULES

HOUSE CAPTAIN: ISHITA CHAWLA

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR: VISHESH KUMAR AGARWAL

ORION

HOUSE CAPTAIN: DHRUV MUDAMBI

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR: YUVANTH REDDY

PHOENIX

HOUSE CAPTAIN: SRI CHAKRI PAMIDI

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR: SHAGUN DHANANIA

GRADE PREFECTS

GRADE 10 PREFECTS: NEIL NATH BATHINA, M. MAALAVIKA

GRADE 9 PREFECTS: MOHAMMAD AMEEN, RIDA SAMREEN

GRADE 8 PREFECTS: RISHIK THIMMAIAHGARI, CHARANI N

GRADE 7 PREFECTS: SINDHUJA MUPPANENI, SIMRIDHI SASTRY

GRADE 6 PREFECT: NISHANT AGARWAL, ARYA DHAROD

PYP HOUSE POSITIONS

PEGASUS HOUSE CAPTAIN: ABHIRAM BODDU

HERCULES HOUSE CAPTAIN: KRISH SWAMY

ORION HOUSE CAPTAIN: VED BATHINA

PHOENIX HOUSE CAPTAIN: NYSHA KHURANA

SPORTS CAPTAIN: RAKSHIT SINHA

DISCIPLINE CAPTAIN: ANISHA SULTHANA

The Investiture Ceremony will be held on the 12th of September. Details will be issued closer to the date.

We congratulate our students and wish them the very best in the time ahead. We know that with the support of the school community, family and friends, they will

blossom in their new roles and prepare for their life beyond the portals of Indus by learning to lead themselves and others.

4) Formation of the new PAC (Parents' Advisory Committee):

The Parent Advisory Committee is an important Committee that works with the School for the welfare and well-being of the student, aiding the School's overall progress. We believe that parents are important stakeholders and their contribution to the school's efforts make a vital difference to the child's academic progress, emotional growth and adjustment in the school.

We at Indus International School, Hyderabad, are grateful to the present members of the PAC for their time and assistance over the last year. The term of the PAC is for two years and those who have been a year with us have very kindly and willingly agreed to be on the Committee for the 2nd year as well.

Vacancies in the PAC:

We have the following vacancies in the PAC and we request parents of these classes to volunteer to be members. It is an important role and we promise to make worthwhile the effort you will put in.

We have vacancies for Representatives from Grade 1 to Grade 8 and Grade 10.

Once parents volunteer, the names of eligible / shortlisted candidates will be sent to the respective parents who will then vote for the Grade Representative of their choice.

Other Important Committees:

We also request **parents of all Grades** to volunteer to be members of other important Committees:

Sub-Committees for (i) Academics (ii) Food and Nutrition (iii) Whole Education and (iv) Transport

Details are given in the attached documents.

We look forward to receiving names of volunteers by Sunday the 11th of September the latest.

We once again assure all our parents of a very productive association with the school.

5) The new PYP Coordinator:

We bid farewell to Ms Sweta Jolly, our PYP Coordinator, at the end of the month. Ms Sweta's husband has been given a posting in the States and he and the family will perform have to leave in September. Ms Sweta was a teacher for four years before

being appointed the PYP Coordinator last year, wherein she did a wonderful job by not only learning fast but ensuring progress in standards across different aspects of the curriculum. Her diligence, proficiency in her work, and her loyalty to the Institution will be greatly missed. We wish her and her family the very best in this new phase of their lives. We are fortunate to have as her successor, Ms Raksha Lapashya. Ms Raksha, who describes herself as a lifelong learner and a passionate educator, has around 12 years of experience in the field of education in various capacities across different international curricula: CIE and IB PYP.

6) IISH's rise in the Education World rankings:

Indus Hyderabad has risen one notch in the latest Education World Rankings for the top IB Schools in India. We have gone from the 10th position to the 9th position. We take this as a validation of the serious efforts we have made to improve our systems and processes. We take this as a validation of the faith you reposed in us. We take this as a reminder to ourselves that great journeys begin with small steps.

We are grateful to the Vice-Principal, all the Coordinators, all teachers, Col Ganesh, Mr Sai Babu, Mr Jagan (the Catering Manager), Mr Raghuram (Head of Marketing and Admissions) and their different teams for all their work over the last year. Thank you to all parents and students for helping us improve. Nothing you do at Indus this year and in the ones to follow shall be in vain.

7) Secretary to the Principal

Ms Eva Sheela joins Indus as the Secretary to the Principal w.e.f. 6th September. Ms Sheela has a lot of experience in her field and will be valuable in making the Principal's office run smoothly and efficiently. The e-mail id remains unchanged: (secy.principal@indusschoolhyd.com).

8) Thoughts on Humility (and Usain Bolt)

When Jim Collins and a team of researchers studied eleven corporations that had moved from being good ones to great ones, they found that the CEOs were very driven people but they were also humble. Their employees used words like *shy, reserved, humble, self-effacing and gracious* to describe these leaders.

Humility does not mean we display a lack of confidence or that we think less of ourselves; it is that we think of ourselves less and think of others more. But humility is not a virtue that comes easily to us. We may wear it like a garment but, all too often, our pride, our vanity comes peeping through. Even the greatest are not above it; they must cultivate it consciously.

As a 12-year-old child, George Washington read a century-old Jesuit document, “The Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation.” The lessons he learned in humility from that book stayed with him always: “Strive not with your superior in argument, but always submit your judgment to others with modesty,” was the fortieth rule. “Play not the peacock,” began rule number fifty-four.

In 1783, on the conclusion of the American War of Independence, he voluntarily renounced his military commission and became just a citizen. Later, he would willingly consent to the simple title of “Mr President”.

Why do I talk about this rare and difficult virtue? Well, actually Usain Bolt made me think of it. The world was marvelling even before he had won the three golds this Olympics about his magnificent achievement, and rightly remained in awe of the man who was likely to do what had never been done before. But Bolt said he would be “immortal” if he won the triple.

“I’m the greatest,” he said. “I hope I’ve set the bar high enough that no one can do it again. I’ve proven to the world I’m the greatest. This is what I came here for. That’s what I’m doing. This is why I said this is my last Olympics — I can’t prove anything else. I am trying to be one of the greatest. Be among {Muhammad} Ali and Pelé. I hope to be in that bracket after these Games.” (I have compiled statements made at different times.)

Well, that took the sheen off the great athlete.

Lord Krishna counsels Arjuna : *You are only entitled to the action, not to its fruits. Do not let the fruits of action be your motive but do not attach yourself to inaction.*

In the Book of Chronicles in the Bible, we have the line: *For all things come from You, and of Your own have we given You.*

Both quotes guard us against overweening pride. We are given abilities, gifts, talents, resources to use to help ourselves and to help / inspire others. Success in doing so is its own reward.

Prahlad Kakkar tells of the time he had shot a Pepsi advertisement with Tendulkar hitting cricket balls with abandon using a fly swatter. When Tendulkar was shown the film, he rang up Kakkar and asked him to re-do the scene. On being pressed for a reason, Tendulkar said that the use of the fly swatter made him appear bigger than the game; that was something he was averse to as he always believed that the game was bigger than an individual.

No bird ever flew on one wing. Humble people – no matter how successful – will always remember Rule No. 54 quoted above: *Play not the peacock*. Success, while it might well be earned, is never the result of only the successful person’s work. At each turn in life, there

are people in the shadows who help us do what we do – and we should never forget those unsung angels. For his achievements, Washington never credited himself – always, others. When Tendulkar would score a century, he would look heavenward and raise his bat to the dressing room and the crowd. In his personal life, he was Tendulkar the person and not Tendulkar the cricketer.

Mohammed Ali, the great boxing legend, said of himself: *'It's hard to be humble, when you're as great as I am.'* I suppose Usain Bolt would say the same of himself (!)

I have nothing against these phenomenal athletes; I, too, belong to the legions of their fans and I suppose these statements are part of what goes into the making of the hype that makes celebrities. But our children are privileged ones and in their formative years as they prepare for the successful years that we are sure will follow, we would do well to remind them of Jim Collins' study, and the lives of people like Sachin Tendulkar and George Washington – for greatness and humility are not incompatible.

Before I end, I had promised that we would share our goals for the year. I am attaching a document sharing our goals in the different academic programmes and in Sports and Music. Next month we will share our goals in other areas.

Some of the events in September:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 8th September | Battle of bands |
| 12 th September | Investiture Ceremony |
| 14th September | Hindi Language day |
| 27th September | Movie making Competition |
| 30th September | Inter-House Soccer Competition for Boys, Inter-House Basketball for Girls |
| 16th September | Mid Term - I Examinations commence |

Warm wishes,

C P Joseph

PRINCIPAL