



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2015

Dear Parents,

I know I have been silent for a while but it takes a while to get systems to work in the way we want them to. Six weeks since the school re-opened, and it has been busy, to say the least, but I am glad that to report that with the help and support of the Leadership team (the Vice-Principal and the Coordinators), the staff, and parents and students, we are getting there. Let me share with you some of the events on campus...

1) Academic Matters:

- a) The PYP had a workshop at the end of August on “Making the PYP Happen”. It was conducted by Ms Dona Nuevo-Icayan, who was brought in from the Phillipines just for this workshop. Teachers developed their personal knowledge and understanding of the essential elements of the programme, deepened their understanding of international mindedness and the learner profile, and develop skills to analyse and refine the School’s Programme of Inquiry.
- b) Teacher Walkthroughs have begun across school and information is being shared with teachers on how to improve classroom transaction.
- c) Students have finished their first Monthly Tests and their Mid-Term tests. Results will be shared with you soon.
- d) Data Analytics: The first of our Reports using Data Analytics will be out in October. Parents will get a report on not just Academic matters but also on Whole Education and other areas.
- e) Support Classes have begun for Classes 6 – 12.
- f) Teacher feedback to parents: All teachers have started sending short monthly feedback reports to parents on the progress of their wards. If you have not received them, do please contact the Section Coordinator who will arrange for the same.
- g) In connection with the Unit of Inquiry which dealt with Imagination and Creativity, Students of Class 5 went to the Salarjung Museum where they looked at many artistic models from history in different areas: Arms and Armour, Clothing , Script writing, different styles of paintings, carvings and sculptures, to name a few.
- h) PYP had their DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) week. A warm Thank you to all parents who assisted with this activity.

2) Whole education and other matters:

a) Achievements of our badminton players:

- i) Srishti Jupudi took part in the The Telangana State Championship held at Jagtial in August and won the following: Under-17 Girls Singles Runners Up, Under-17 Girls Doubles and stood third in the Under-19 Girls Singles.
- ii) Eshita Raju also took part in the above championship and was: Under-19 Girls Doubles Winner and stood third in the Under 17 Girls Doubles.
- iii) Ruhi Raju stood 1st in the Under-15 girls doubles in the recently concluded Telangana Sub-Junior Badminton Tournament held in Hyderabad and is now ranked State No. 1. in Under-15 girls doubles.
- iv) Vaishnavi Reddy has also done splendidly in her tournaments. Unfortunately, she is travelling at this time and we are not able to share details with you of her successes. I shall do so in my next letter.

Congratulations once again to our students for their wonderful achievements. They juggle academic work and hard practice remarkably.

b) The PYP finished their Cross-Country and the Inter-House Football competition. In football, Hercules stood 1st, with Orion and Phoenix in 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. In the MSP Inter-House football competition, Pegasus grabbed top honours with Orion and Hercules in 2nd and 3rd place, respectively.

c) In the Inter-school Bashiruddin Babukahan Memorial Football Tournament organised by Glendale Academy, our team was the Runners Up.

d) In a swimming competition organized by Oakridge International, 9 of the 11 students we sent won a podium place. Seven students won the gold medal in their event (3 were individual event winners, the others won their Relay event), one won a silver medal and two won the bronze in their respective events.

e) Expedition to Yunam Peak: 5 of our students (Nirmay Singhania, Arham Jain, Ramitha Pantangi Lasya, Lee Jechang and Nandita Srijaseetalam – all from Class 11 with the exception of Nirmay who is in Class 9) have gone for a conditioning camp which precedes their ascent to Yunam Peak which is over 18,000 feet in height. We pray that all of them may be successful and that each of them returns with very satisfying memories and having learnt life's lessons.

3) From the Careers and Placements Cell:

a) Over 100 University representatives from USA, Canada, Singapore and many parts of Europe visited our school to guide our senior students in making the right choice for higher studies and career in various fields from Business to Medicine to Engineering and niche area courses as well. We had, amongst others, Carnegie Mellon, John Hopkins,

UCLA, UCB, Rice University and many more prestigious universities from different parts of the world.

- b) In September, we have also had many prestigious Universities send their teams to IISH for career counselling and invitations to their Courses, which included University of British Columbia, Grinnell College, Colgate University, and the Indian School of Business and Finance.
- c) Students interested in the Hospitality, Tourism, and Hotel Management sectors received a presentation from The Swiss Education Group, a reputable Hospitality Education network.
- d) Earlier, representatives from the respective Universities of California, Arizona, Michigan, Iowa, Missouri, and Cincinnati (to name only a few) visited our school to make presentations on their University courses and guide students on the Application process, information on financial aid and scholarships, and Admission procedures.

e) PSAT/NMSQT & PSAT 8/9

We are conducting the PSAT/NMSQT next month in our school. 49 students from Grades 8- 11 are writing the PSAT this year. We have also sent the schedule to parents for the upcoming PSAT of Grades 8 and 9 to parents. Once we get the confirmation from parents, we will conduct the new PSAT for Grades 8 & 9.

f) Grade 12 Application Process:

We have finished the first round of discussion with the Grade 12 students in terms of their Higher studies and career planning. Now that students have finished their Mid-term examinations we will start the Application process to the Colleges and institutes of their choice.

4) Parents Advisory Committees and other Committees:

Parent Volunteers Needed!

We have almost finalised our PAC committee but we need parents to volunteer for the other Committees: Academic Committee, Whole Education Committee, Food and Nutrition Committee, and Fast Track & Pre-IB Committee. We need the assistance and cooperation of our parents and we would be very grateful for all assistance in these committees. The PAC should be finalised before the weekend and I shall inform you as soon as it is done.

5) Child Protection Committee:

The names of the members of the Child Protection Committee have already been circulated by the Vice-Principal.

The first meeting of the CPC was held on Monday the 21st of September. A roadmap was drawn up with clear guidelines for implementation of all norms laid down by the CPC. You

shall be duly informed of the progress in the next month's newsletter. However, we have already begun the Gender Sensitization programmes.

Break The Silence, a small group of volunteers who work towards Prevention of Child Sex Abuse conducted a session for PYP students on safety measures and how to protect themselves. Another session was conducted for the teachers and the parents to make them aware of various safety and precautionary measures to be taken to prevent our kids from any type of abuse and also to teach children to express themselves should anything untoward take place.

A separate session will be conducted shortly for students of Classes 6 – 12.

6) Pastoral matters:

- a) We have begun the installation of AC's in the Common rooms.
- b) Starting next month, we will begin Golf and Air-Rifle Shooting classes (off-campus) for our boarders. Details will be sent out very soon to the parents by the Head of Boarding.
- c) During the long weekend for *Ganesh Chaturthi*, our students went to Keesara Camp Site that had plenty of games and adventure activities for them.

7) IISH Alumni Organization

We have sent out the first email for the first Alumni Meet to be held in June next year and approximately 30 students have responded. Should you know any alumni yourselves, please do spread the word so that we may establish contact and have an active and vibrant organization.

Meanwhile, should there be anything that concerns you about our school (any aspect: academic / co-curricular / discipline / transport / food, etc. please do not hesitate to be in touch with any of the school Leadership team. You may even e-mail me directly or seek an appointment with me by getting in touch with my Secretary at secy.principal@indusschoolhyd.com.

Warm wishes,

C P Joseph

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