



January 2018

Message from the Principal's Desk:

"Technology will never replace great teachers, but technology in the hands of great teachers is transformational" ~ George Couros

Dear Parent,

Greetings! Wish you a very happy and a prosperous new year! I hope everyone had a wonderful time and enjoyed their winter break!



One of the most debated topics in schools nowadays is 'what role should technology play in education?' It seems to have become an intrinsic part of our lives, changing how we work and most importantly how we learn. Technology has certainly made its way into education.

Educational technology is "the study and ethical practice of facilitating learning and improving performance by creating, using, and managing appropriate technological processes and resources". It has the potential to change the process of education for both teachers and students.

Our CEO, General Arjun Ray lays great emphasis on the impact of technology on education. As facilitators of learning, teachers provide better student engagement and skills with technology as a part of their everyday teaching. Relevant and appropriate use of technology in education to develop knowledge and skills of the students is what matters the most.

The most important thing that teachers and schools can do is to use technology effectively to continue inspiring and engaging students. On this note, I would like to share with you that our teachers from PYP and MYP are currently being trained in computer programming to keep up with technological advancements in education. We have also identified 10% of our teachers who will be trained to become software experts.

Communication: Post my take over I have interacted with many parents on the phone, emails and some in person too. I appreciate the support I have received from the parent body and the feedback as that gives me clear direction on planning our way forward. I have spent the past two weeks working on systems and processes that need to be implemented in school to ensure all stake holders have clarity on the different aspects of the school. "Communication" with the school seems to have been a common problem which many of you have been facing. Hence, I have written out a Communication Policy and shared the same with you last week. I request you to please go through the policy so that the expectations are clear to all. Points of contact along with their details are mentioned in the policy for your reference.

Food: I have been getting mixed feedback on the food at school. Some really like it, some don't like it, and some are ok with it! 😊 I am sure you understand it is impossible to cater to individual needs however we have reworked on our menu to increase the variety of food. Moving forward you will receive the menu on the 1st of every month. Please feel free to send us your feedback as we would be only too happy to improvise on it. Ms Ranjeeta Sahoo (Grade 5 HRT) will coordinate this on the school's behalf. You can share your feedback with her on ranjeeta.sahoo@indusschoolhyd.com. We have also put up a suggestions box at the entrance of our dining hall for student's feedback.

Transport: We have reviewed our existing bus routes and will send you the updated list. We will also be sharing "Transport guidelines" we have put together which I request you to kindly go through.

After School Activities: Kindly note this will commence from Jan 8th, 2018 as mentioned earlier by Mr Rizwan.

Indus Day: We have had to change the date of Indus Day (Feb 9th) as our IB consultant is visiting our school to evaluate the implementation of the MYP at school. She will be here from Feb 6th- Feb 9th, 2018. We have identified a tentative date for Indus Day but are awaiting confirmation from our CEO.

Boarding: We have identified weekend activities for our boarders to use their time productively from Jan 4th onwards. Details of the same will be shared separately with the boarder's parents. In addition to this we have also organized daily subject reinforcement classes for the boarders in the evenings.

Infrastructural improvements:

a) Secondary Block

- i) The entire secondary block has been positioned with a network of CCTV cameras for continuous surveillance in an around the block, especially covering all the blind areas to enhance the safety and security of our students.
- ii) A new fire Alarm system has been installed in the block.
- iii) The classrooms have been given a fresh coat of paint where required, to give a welcome feel to the students post their winter break.
- iv) We have done the necessary repairs with respect to the drainage system and have been able to overcome this challenge.
- v) The culinary club room has been given a new floor, racks for storage of condiments and raw items besides a slab to flame up the recipes.

b) The Primary Block

- i) The Organic farm has flourished and is waiting to be further nurtured by our Primary students.
- ii) The STEAM lab had been provided with additional necessary items before we start the session in the New Year, and we anticipate that the freshly spruced up interiors would be a Wow factor besides being interactive.
- iii) Few MYP and PYP classrooms have been given a fresh coat of paint to improve the classroom environment.

c) Girls Hostel

- i) All rooms have been painted as per the likes of our inmates. All washrooms have been cleaned thoroughly including polish work on all faucets and repairs related to plumbing have been completed.

- ii) The reception area has been provided with a refurbished sofa set and floor carpet.
- iii) All floors have been provided with additional fire extinguishers and new fire alarms have been positioned in the hostel.

d) Boys Hostel

- i) The corridors and few rooms have been given a fresh coat of paint and 02 fire extinguishers have been provided on every floor.
- ii) We have a new fire alarm system fitted in the hostel for emergency purposes.

e) Miscellaneous

- i) A New Badminton court has been ordered to replace the existing old court.
- ii) The football field has been levelled and rolled along with the setting up of two new Cricket Pitches for practice sessions for our sports enthusiasts.
- iii) The school has been successful in getting a bore-well drilled on campus to avoid having days with shortage of water supply.
- iv) All outsourced staff have been given training on firefighting by a professional. The same is scheduled for the Staff and Students post winter break. It is important to know the SOPs and familiarize with the basic life-saving drills.
- v) We have a separate parking arrangement for our support staff using two wheelers away from the main gate.
- vi) An additional Entry gate is being under construction to make the arrival and dispersal a smooth process.
- vii) New SOPs are being brought into force with immediate effect to enhance the safety and security of children and Staff at Campus which includes Fire, Medical and Transport.

Community Service: As part of our mission to develop caring global citizens, we place a high value on community service. Service empowers our students as they connect with others, take action, enrich themselves and their communities.

i) Pegasus House Project:

A new project has been identified; a small scale unit, manufacturing Areca Leaf Plate will be set up on campus and identified women will be given hands on training.

Our CAS Coordinator will be visiting an NGO in Coimbatore which will help us in setting up the unit and training. Approximately Rs 50,000 has been raised for its successful implementation. The Unit will be operational by March 8th 2018 (International Women's Day).

ii) Phoenix House Project:

The Phoenix House is on track and closer to setting up a Library at the Kondakal School. We have raised Rs. 1, 70,000 towards the Project. The update of the progress is given below,

- a. The painting of the room is completed

- b. Linoleum flooring has been completed
- c. 7 new book shelves and Books worth Rs. 30,000 have been purchased. More books and other resources to be purchased in the month of January.
- d. A 43-inch Television has been set up
- e. Two round tables and a few chairs will be purchased in the month of January.
- f. The inauguration planned is in January 2018.

iii) Orion House Project:

The room identified for the Computer lab has been painted and six computers have been repaired for set up. Students have attached CPU's to other peripheral devices and it was a learning experience for them which they thoroughly enjoyed.

From January onwards, the students will work on the third teacher and by the end of January our Computer Lab at Kondakal Secondary School will be fully operational.

iv) Hercules House Project:

After a successful fund-raising campaign in the month of November, the members of the Hercules House are now focusing on the training the Kondakal primary students for Athletics and March past in January.

Christmas Celebrations: Christmas is a time to give and share. It is celebrated across nations as a joyous family affair, we recognize the importance of dedicating a day to celebrate this time. The children came dressed in Christmas colours for the celebrations. The common area was decorated with bright and colorful bells, stockings and stars. Not to forget our handmade Christmas tree assembled with silver foil cutouts, bells, stars, wreaths and tinsels. The cheerful smiles of students and teachers alike radiated positivity.



The celebration began with the significance of Christmas by Mr Samuel Joseph. Following this, the audience witnessed the students from MYP presenting Christmas songs followed by group of teachers singing carols. The students enjoyed every moment of the celebration.



The boarding students celebrated the joyous festival and the hostels were lit up with festive colors too.



Updates from the Placements Office:

i) **EA & ED Decisions: Few Top Universities Decisions are mentioned below:**

S.no	Student Name	University Offer received
1	Ria Thimmaiahgari	Case Western University (USA) - Received 25,000\$ scholarship
2	Subeen Park	Plymouth University International College, Hertfordshire International College, International College at Robert Gordon University & Birmingham City University for international students (UK)
3	Shagun Dhanania	University of Nottingham, Southampton University & St Andrews University (UK)
4	Rithvik Venkata Turaga	NC State University (USA)
5	Akshita Gadiparthi	Exeter University, University of Nottingham, University of Sheffield & The Manchester University (UK)
6	Vedha Bhandaru	New York University – Shanghai

ii) **University Visit:** We had a number of universities visit us and the information on the same has already been shared with you by Ms Deepti and Ms Javeria. Please feel free to reach out to them for any further queries.

iii) **Testing Exams Centre:** We conducted the Oxford Assessment Exam in school for Grade 12 student.

iv) **PSAT PSAT/NMSQT** score result is out:

Our Students who have scored more than 1000 are in Oct PSAT are:

1. Avinash Boddu- 1400/1520
2. Anika Gupta- 1320/1520
3. Saahil Bellani- 1120/1520
4. Abhinandan kausthub-1090/1520
5. Samhita Kalidindi- 1040/1520
6. Sourish Kalaga- 1040/1520
7. Preeti Belani- 1040/1520

Many Congratulation to you all!

Upcoming Events:

4th January	School reopens for Students and Teachers
7th January	Grade 6 & 7 students leave for the Leadership Camp.
13th - 15th January	Sankranti Holidays
16th January	Kite Festival
18th January	Half Yearly RC B Reports Publish
	PYP Leadership Camp Begins
26th January	Republic Day
29th & 30th January	PYP Network Athletics Competition

I end here wishing everyone a very happy and successful New Year. May all members of the

Indus community work together to override the challenges and bring in changes that we all wish to see.

Warm regards,

Nuwaira Pasha