Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to a new and invigorating academic year 2018-19!

The beginning of a new academic year is an appropriate time to revisit and reiterate the central vision and core values of the school, which is to create world citizens and leaders for tomorrow through whole education founded on the core values of love, empathy, respect and discipline. These core values must be imbedded in everything we do at Indus. They will serve as a beacon in times of confusion and uncertainty, providing focus, direction and purpose to our endeavours. It is vital that all stakeholders imbibe this vision and believe in it for it is only a common, shared vision that will take us to our goals. The Curriculum Roadmap Day (CRMD) was held on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd August 2018 to welcome the parents and students to the new academic session and to reiterate this central vision of the school. This also empowered the parents to get a glimpse into the respective curriculum and meet with the staff members. The parents got an opportunity to understand the essence of the program and the daily schedule of the students. The expectations and aspects of each programme were communicated to the parents and students.
Curriculum Roadmap Day
**Independence Day Celebrations:** We are pleased to share with you the celebration of 72nd Independence Day at Indus. The day started with the Indian and Korean flag hoisting followed by National Anthem of both the countries. Our Vice Principal gave a very motivating speech to the students and the staff. The day was full of enjoyable moments for the students. We had Inter-House Panel discussion moderated by Ms. Chitra Jeyakumar and the judges were Principal, Vice Principal, Heads of School DP and PYP. The topic for the discussion was “On the occasion of another Independence Day, India is a divided nation on the basis of caste, religion and wealth”. The participants were from grades 9 and 11 representing their houses.

**Pegasus:** Krish Anand (Grade 11)  
Aadit Karve (Grade 9)

**Orion:** Abha (Grade 11)  
Krish Desai (grade 9)

**Hercules:** Ananya Bhaskar (Grade 11)  
Karan Varghese (Grade 9)

**Phoenix:** Rida Khatri (Grade 11)  
Archin Bhakre (Grade 9)

After the Panel Discussion we had Inter-House folk dance competition. The four houses selected the four different folk-dance forms of India with participants from Grades 6-11. The Folk dance was judged by Ms. Shweta, Ms. Rachel and Ms. Jeshmi.

The Phoenix won both the Inter-House competitions and Archin Bhakre was the best speaker for the Panel Discussion. With the School Song we ended the celebration of the Independence Day.
Independence Day Celebrations
The Primary Years Programme (PYP):

- Welcome assembly: On August 6 2018, PYP students began their new academic session with a welcome assembly. Our Head of School led the assembly and reiterated the importance of the School’s core values of Love, Empathy, Discipline and Respect. The primary focus of the assembly was on relationship building, strengthening our friendships and creating memories through our team building and ice breaking engagements.

- Special Assembly –Eid: On 21 August, 2018, PYP celebrated Eid Al Adha with a special assembly that was put together by the students of Grade 5. This showcased the importance of universal brotherhood, love for one’s family and friends. The children also showcased their understanding of the concept of paying it forward, and how this festival encourages sharing and caring with everyone around us.

- PYP Art Challenge: The PYP Art Challenge was held on 24th August 2018. All our students from the early years to Grade 5 participated in this much awaited event. Our learners displayed immense enthusiasm, expression and creativity through their colourful art work.

- The PYP Mufti day: The first mufti day for this year will be held on Friday, August 31 2018. Students can come dressed in their favourite outfits. The theme for this month will be communicated by the PYP teachers. All contributions from students on mufti day will be sent to relief efforts in Kerala through the Goonj Drive.
The Middle Years and IGCSE Programme (MYP & IGCSE):

- MYP and IGCSE Orientation for new students were conducted in the first week of school. Release of Timetables and HW schedules for all students ensured all students were settled into the new school term.
- MYP Personal projects workshop-an orientation session was conducted for Grade 9 on the 8th of August. Unit introductions and first formative assessments for all grades have begun.
• Life skills classes began for grade 6 to help with adjusting to the MYP in the first week.
• Eid assembly on international mindedness for grades 6 on the 22nd of August
• Boston university visit on the 24th of August was arranged for grade 10 students
• Gender sensitization sessions were conducted for grades 8 and 9 on the 23rd of August as well as for grades 6 and 7 on the 24th of August.

The Diploma Programme:
• DP orientation and subject wise orientation for new students was conducted on the first two days of the school. Timetable, Uniform schedule, subject mapping documents were shared with all the students and teachers to ensure a smooth functioning of the programme.
• Interviews for the Denmark exchange programme were conducted on 23rd and 24th of August
• Grade 12 batch 1 and 2 went for the Leadership Camp. This time the students went to a new location Kanakpura.
• Reading classes have begun for Grade 11. The first set of resources were shared with the students. The students will be working on the Coursera module—Learning How to learn till 6th September
• Leadership Curriculum classes have started for Grades 11 and 12. Students are currently being trained on identifying their strengths and weaknesses and strategies to set a goal for themselves
• Gender sensitization sessions will be conducted for grades 11 and 12 on the 28th and 29th of August
• We had university visits for Grade 12 students from the following:
  13 Aug: UK University fair
  17 Aug: UBC Canada

Relief collection for Kerala has been initiated by the school. Student council and Grade 11 volunteers have taken the charge of the collection drive.
LEADERSHIP CAMP

UNIVERSITY FAIR (PLACEMENTS)
GENDER SENSITIZATION

BOARDING:
- In-house activities held on 9th August, 2018: In keeping with our commitment to keep our boarders happy and productive, a series of activities were planned and conducted on 09.08.2018. The activities included Drawing and Poster making competitions, staff versus student football and badminton matches and the most enjoyed activity of the day “Mystery Box - Cooking competition”. The students loved every bit of the action and their excitement and enthusiasm were palpable.
• Hiking trip for grade 11 & 12 students: One of the advantages which IISP has is being surrounded by a beautiful landscape with a pristine environment. It is an ideal place for walkers. Keeping this in mind, the first weekend activity of the year conducted on 11th August, 2018 for the students of grade 11 & 12 was to organize a hike of almost 7kms around the school. The objective was to sensitize them to nature as well as for them to also understand the importance of physical fitness. Walking in the light drizzle around the village of Angrewadi and along the banks of Manas lake, the students enjoyed every bit of this activity.

• Visit to Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park for students of grades below 10: Students up to grade 10 went to the Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park in Pune on 11th August, 2018. They saw a variety of wild life species which included mammals, reptiles and birds. Students saw the Asiatic Lion, Bengal tiger, Slot Bear as well as other mammals. In reptiles they saw the Indian rock python, cobra, snakes, vipers, Indian crocodiles and Indian star tortoise. The students fully enjoyed their visit and simultaneously also gained knowledge about the animal species. They also became aware of their responsibility to protect wild life and preserve the ecosystem on our planet.

• Ice Breaking Session for Boarders: On 15th of August the grade 12 boarding students organized an ice breaking session for the new entrants to Indus Family. The session was marked by games, songs, music and dance that lead to full of fun, frolic and joy. The new members of the Indus Family really felt welcome and the happiness was evident on their faces.

• Visit to Old age home: As part of their CAS activity the Students of grades XI & XII visited Sahajivan Old Age Home near Bhukum on Saturday (18.08.2018). The students interacted with the elderly people who shared their experiences. The students practiced the values of empathy and respect while interacting with the elderly people. The students also distributed blankets for the inmates to help them stay warm in this monsoon season. The experience was so impactful that some students actually requested to make the visit a regular activity.

• Visit to Aga Khan Palace: Students up to grade X went to the Aga Khan Palace in Pune on 18.08.2018. Apart from learning that the Palace was built by Imam Sultan Muhammad Shah Agakhan III in 1892, the students were also made aware of the historical fact that famous leaders who fought for the freedom of our nation, the likes of Mahatma Gandhi, Kasturba Gandhi, Shri Mahadeo Bhai
Desai, Dr. Sarojini Naidu were kept under house arrest in the same palace under the Quit India Movement. It was a Substantial Saturday for the students as they enhanced their knowledge and values through these trips.

**BOARDING ACTIVITIES**

**SPORTS:**

- The Zila Parishad Competition was hosted in our school, on the 18th and 19th of August for Under 14, Under 17, Under 19 boys and Under 19 girls respectively. Both the days were a celebration of speed, agility and team work as all the teams worked to put scored to the opponent’s goal. The students shows disciplined and immaculate performance as they worked as a team. Our Under 19 girls secured first position in Taluka level and qualified for district level. The Under 14, Under 17 and Under 19 boys showed their potential, true sportsmanship spirit and shared determination but unfortunately defeat came after tie-breaker and finished on semi-final.
• Whole education lessons, students were involved in strength and endurance training also trained on respective sports. The activity clubs were started great enthusiasm in an organize manner.

• In MYP PHE subject, grade 6-9 students started first unit with great enthusiasm through Self- defence, Mass drill and Aerobics dance.

• With full enthusiasm our PYP PE lessons were introduced. The grade 4 & 5 students were given an introduction with a Frisbee. The objective of the unit to understand the basics of throwing and catching. The grade 3 students were involved with Team building activities with Hula –hoops. The objective of the lesson to pass a hula hoop along a circle of people. The grade 1 & 2 students were involved with fitness activity to improve their aerobic endurance.

• Also, our little one’s Reception, Prep.1 and Prep 2 were explored themselves through adventure challenge activity.

• Trial sessions will be conducting for our school team selections over the next few weeks. The selection process will be based on a set of criteria which includes game sense, skill level and overall physical fitness.
**SPORTS**

**Professional Development:**

1. A workshop on “Finding your WHY” to help the teachers find the purpose of their lives was held on 24th July 2018. The teachers were taken through their peaks and valleys in their lives to find the overarching theme. The follow up sessions are planned to get them to draft their WHY statement.

2. A team building workshop was conducted on 25th July 2018 to promote bonding and a sense of belonging among the teachers. Interesting activities helped the teachers engage with each other in a fun way at the same time understanding the importance of team spirit to accomplish their tasks.

3. A workshop on “Credentialing for competency building” was conducted on 30th July 2018. This workshop was intended to motivate the teachers to take
up online courses for skill and competency development that will help them gain competitive edge in their career.

4. Indus aims to foster a culture of innovation that will promote exciting new ideas and their implementation. The workshop on “Cultivating a culture of Innovation at Indus” was held on 31st July 2018. The teachers were taken through the process that can promote the culture of innovation.

5. Creativity is at the heart of innovation. A workshop on “Creativity” was held on 18.08.2018 to help the teachers flex the creative muscles of their brain. The workshop included creative storytelling and an activity called “Idea Race” to get the creative juices flowing. The teachers realised the importance of lateral thinking to find solutions and promote innovation.

A series of workshops are planned for the month of September to further enhance the skills and competencies of our Teachers.
Thanks and warm regards

Preeti G. Prabhu
Principal
Indus International School Pune
principal@indusschoolpune.com
preeti.prabhu@indusschoolpune.com
+91 8390905891