



*FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK*  
**January 2019 Newsletter**

*“Continuous efforts, not strength or intelligence- is the key to unlocking your potential.” - Sir Winston Churchill*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The first month of the calendar year has kept our students and staff super busy across all Programmes and all spheres of school life. Students were actively engaged in their academic pursuit, whole education and leadership activities.

**Investiture Ceremony 2018-2019:** The highlight of the month was the investiture ceremony of the new student council members. The student council members for this academic session went through a rigorous process of selection which included teacher nominations, peer elections and atleast two rounds of interviews by a panel of teachers and members of the senior management team.

Each student council member will be given a set of tasks and the main school appointments will make a presentation (once finalised by the core team) to the whole school in March sharing their plan and timeline for completion. The chief guest for the day was the CEO and Managing Director of the Indus Trust, Lt. General (Retd.) Arjun Ray. He spoke about the importance for one to stay relevant in today's world, to adapt and learn-unlearn-relearn. He urged the new school appointments to leave an impact as student council members so that they look back at their tenure with pride.

## INVESTITURE CEREMONY 2018-2019



**The Primary Years Programme [Reception - Grade 5]:** The PYP celebrated **100 days of school** with a Special Assembly which saw a range of fun activities being organised.

Part of **play based learning** our students from Reception visited a **Hamley's store** in the city to experience a day filled with imagination, fun and games. Our Grade 3 students who are inquiring into how leaders influence us visited the **Aga Khan Palace** and returned with a better understanding of the Indian Freedom Movement and also studied about key leaders who influenced the Indian Independence Movement.

**The Middle Years Programme and IGCSE [Grades 6-10]:** The MYP team have gone the extra mile preparing for the **IBO Authorisation visit** which will see months of hard work and learning culminate. The IBO Authorisation team is scheduled to meet with students, teachers, staff and parents as well as conduct class observations and also review important documentation. We are very confident of our state of readiness and implementation and are certain that the visit will be a success and we will then become a full spectrum IB school.

Students of Grades 6-9 completed their **summative assessments** with the Mathematics examination scheduled on January 03<sup>rd</sup>. The reports were successfully published and thereafter, parents were invited to school on January 19<sup>th</sup> for a **PTM** to meet with teachers to discuss their child's performance and the plan moving forward to ensure continuous improvement.

Our Grade 10 students, having completed their portions, have begun **intensive revision** to ensure their exam readiness. Intensive revision included the provision of revision booklets with IGCSE past question papers, revision of high stake topics carefully identified by teachers as well as emphasis on how to answer questions as per the IGCSE requirements have been addressed.

We would like to thank **Dr Jyothi Rao**, a STEM CELL expert from Bangalore for coming in to meet with our Grade 9 and 10 students. The session was indeed a valuable one which took students through the various career opportunities available to them in this field.

We are happy to report that our students of Grades 6-9 submitted their **Vision Boards** as well as reading logs which were assigned as their winter holiday homework. The best Vision Boards have been selected for display at the Innovation Symposium which is scheduled in the month of April 2019.

Our students of **Grade 7 and 8** visited Indus School of Leadership for their **outbound leadership camp**. Situated in the very picturesque campsite at Kanakapura (outskirts of Bangalore, Karnataka) and took part in outbound learning, discovery course, trekking. Skills such as communication, collaboration, creativity were focussed upon and helped students connect with themselves and strengthen their bond with their peers. Students of both grades returned with wonderful memories from the camp.

**Student Achievements:** We would like to congratulate the following students on their achievements in different spheres of Whole Education;

- **Karan Patel**, a student of grade 9 won the runner's up trophy at the *Winter Pune Closed Squash Tournament*.
- **Shreya Gautam**, a student of Grade 7 won the second runner's up trophy at the *Innoventure Challenge*. It is indeed a matter of great pride that IISP was awarded the best enterprising school for 2018 at the competition. Please refer to Appendix B for the list of participants.
- It is a matter of great pride that **fifteen of our students** (Grades 6-9) cleared the regional round of the *World Scholar's Cup* at Global International School. Please find their names in Appendix A

On behalf of the students and staff, we congratulate all the students on this incredible achievement!

**The Diploma Programme [Grades 11 and 12]:** The Grade 12 students have begun the last leg of their IBDP journey with portions completed in all subjects and with intensive revision having begun. Further, students have also been busy with their **final EE, IA and ToK submissions** as well. The faculty will spend time reviewing and moderating these submissions and provide students with final feedback in the last few days of February and thereafter make submit these to the IBO in the first week of March. Grade 11 students completed their **half yearly examinations** and their parents were invited to meet with the teachers at the **PTM** scheduled on January 19<sup>th</sup>. The Grade 11 students, part of their **Leadership Curriculum**, completed their **Novella**- a short reflection on how deep reading has impacted their belief system and how they have been able to translate their learnings into action.

**Placements and Career Guidance Cell:** Our Grade 10 parents were invited to a **career counselling session** conducted by Ms Ann Wenger and Mr Sourabh Inamdar on January 12<sup>th</sup> 2019. Further, information regarding two summer programmes, **Projects Abroad and the Felstead School, Essex** were shared with students and parents of Grade 10. These offer students a platform to explore and further their learning at the end of this academic session. Also, Testrockers have begun their **SAT and PSAT training** for students who have signed up from Grades 9 and 10 as well.

Good news for our Grade 12 students who applied via the Early Application/Early Decision route with approximately **100 university acceptances and close to 1.3million US dollars in scholarships thus far**. We have now begun migration from Naviance to a new software programme, CIALFO which will come into effect for our current Grade 11 students. The

reason for this is that Naviance has stopped operations in India but has assured to provide support to the Indus team for a few more months thus allowing for a smooth transition to the new software. Further, **individual family conferences** have also begun this month for **Grade 11 students and their parents**.

**Boarding:** A fire drill was organised by the Director of Pastoral Care and Sports, Capt. Rajiv Bali. This orientation focussed on the emergency evacuation procedure students must adhere to if the need were to ever arise.

The boarders and campus staff celebrated **Indian Republic Day** on January 26<sup>th</sup>. This was organised by the newly appointed (boarding) student council members. Some of our students spoke of the significance of the day and its relevance in today's times. Further, some of the students also sang patriotic songs as part of the celebrations.

Weekends are filled with different activities for students. On January 13<sup>th</sup>, a yoga session was organised for all boarders. Most of them enjoyed it with some saying that they felt more energetic after the session despite it being scheduled on an early Sunday morning! The boarding team also celebrated **Lohri and Sankranti** on January 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> respectively. Boarders of Grades 8, 9 & 11 attended a **drama production on Julius Caesar** on January 15<sup>th</sup> 2019. Further, the boarders of PYP to Grade 11 visited **Lavasa** and spent a day here enjoying everything the place had on offer!

**Sports:** We would like to congratulate **Sharon Shaju**, a student of Grade 11, for her brilliant performance at "Khelo India 2018-2019". Sharon represented Maharashtra in swimming (Under 21 category) and secured **one gold and one silver medal**. *She defeated India's #1 swimmer in the 100mt breaststroke to win the Gold.* Congratulations Sharon, we are very proud of your commitment and achievement!

Our **Under 14 boys football team participated in the City Premier League** that was organised by City Sports Foundation, Pune on January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Our students gave their best and displayed remarkable potential on the field during all three matches and reached the semi-finals of the competition. Please refer to Appendix B for list of players.

**Inter-house football matches** have commenced in the primary and senior school. It was good to see strong house spirit on display.

In conclusion, it is quite evident that the students and staff have returned to school post the winter break refreshed and ready for the challenges and opportunities of the New Year.

If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Thanks and warm regards

Preeti G. Prabhu

Principal

Indus International School Pune

[principal@indusschoolpune.com](mailto:principal@indusschoolpune.com)

[preeti.prabhu@indusschoolpune.com](mailto:preeti.prabhu@indusschoolpune.com)

+91 8390905891

<i>Dates For Your Diary: FEBRUARY 2019</i>	
Date	Event
February 01 <sup>st</sup>	PYP Sports Day
February 02 <sup>nd</sup>	Grade 10 PTM
February 18 <sup>th</sup>	PYP Term 2 Reports Published
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	PYP Aquatic Meet
February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	PYP PTM

#### **APPENDIX A: Participants at the INNOVENTURE CHALLENGE 2018**

Sr. No.	Name	Grade
1	Krish Desai	9
2	Abhay Gupta	8
3	Anirudh Subramanian	8
4	Vidisha Rajput	9
5	Shreya Gautam	7
6	Aaryan Choudhary	7
7	Oshna Dhanorkar	8
8	Sanjana Oak	8
9	Samanyu Bhate	9
10	Joshua Achandy	9
11	Soham Trivedi	9
12	Adheesh Kale	9

**APPENDIX B: Participants at the CITY PREMIER LEAGUE**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Age group</b>
1	Lander Maes	9	Football	Under 14 Boys
2	Akshat Shingala	9	Football	Under 14 Boys
3	Yohann Sequeira	8	Football	Under 14 Boys
4	Tanay Patani	8	Football	Under 14 Boys
5	Samarth Domadia	8	Football	Under 14 Boys
6	Jaschin Pillai	7	Football	Under 14 Boys
7	Brasen Barneto	7	Football	Under 14 Boys
8	Jae Hye Han	6	Football	Under 14 Boys
9	Arshan Marghani	7	Football	Under 14 Boys