



## From the Principal's Desk

January 2017

*Expand your island of knowledge through curiosity and your mind will continue to grow as you journey through life.*

Dear Parents,

Wish you all a happy new year ahead. The main focus in the month of January was on the Half Yearly Examination for most of the senior school. Having completed this, we will start our preparation for the Indus Day in February.

**PYP:** The highlight in the PYP was **the Sports Day** on 20<sup>th</sup> January. The Walk Past marked the commencement and was led proudly by the students of the Indus Riding club. Excitement followed as students put in their athletic best in a variety of 100m and 50m Sprint and Relays. Their perseverance was evident as they showcased their sportsman spirit. The results are attached in Appendix 1.

The Yoga Display demonstrated and depicted the learning through the year as our students showcased on the eight strands of Yoga they had learnt. This was followed by a popular exercise form, the Zumba with its combination of dance and aerobic movements performed to energetic music which is taken from dance styles like salsa, cha cha cha, hip-hop, tango etc.

All our PYP Students were part of the team events such as the Farmer's Race, Obstacle Race, Balloon bursting, pipeline race and a race that used hula hoops. Watching our young equestrians in total control, as they engaged in trotting, cantering and galloping proudly on their favourite horses resulted in an applause that befitted their effort. Undoubtedly it was a result of their concentrated practice.

The month was marked with exciting field trips for the PYP. On 13<sup>th</sup> January our young Prep 2 learners visited Snow City. This was to make meaningful the transdisciplinary Theme, “How the World Works”. Apart from experiencing the freezing temperatures, creating their own snow angels and snow balls, it reinforced their understanding of the Central Idea – how our routines are connected to the Earth’s natural cycles.

As a part of their ongoing unit of inquiry on Culture, Diversity and Ethnicity, the students of Grade 2 had an opportunity to connect with Grade 3 students from Agha Khan Academy in Mombasa, Kenya, through a Skype session. During this session the students shared aspects of their culture and got an insight into the Kenyan culture.

The Ethnic Day celebrated by the ITARI students was not only a showcase of diversity, but also served as a wonderful opportunity for Grade 2 to further enhance their ongoing unit of inquiry. The Cultural Show was a kaleidoscope of dances, music and information on various states of India.

Students of Grade 2 participated in the Leadership Camp on January 13<sup>th</sup>. As the name suggests, the aim of the Leadership Camp is to stir the flames of leadership that is latent in each and every child. The camp afforded an opportunity to build team work in team games such as Sneak attack, Hula Hoop passing, I know my neighbour, Red Light-Green light, to name a few. The Discovery Course or rope course was inarguably most popular. It is important to note how each child discovers his or her mental and bodily strength as he or she bravely moves across challenging paths. The day concluded on a high note with the second graders reliving their accomplishments through their reflections.

Capt. Mohit Tomar, from the Indus School of Leadership (ISL) shared his expertise on mountaineering with the students of Grade 3. This was in connection with our unit of inquiry ‘Where we are in place and time’. His presentation included detail on how one can prepare oneself for an exploration, the different tools required, and the challenges one may encounter. He also shared his insights based on some of his mountaineering experiences. Rahul Rai and Manav Chordia, two of our Grade 9 students also spoke to the students about their experiences of scaling Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa. They shared with the students their key takeaways and what it truly meant to have a growth mindset.

This month, the guest speakers for Grade 5 helped our students gain diverse perspectives on the concept of migration. Mr. Aman Chawla, who has worked with

immigration at Heathrow airport uncovered the harsh realities of illegal immigrants. This experience assisted our students in building on their existing knowledge and understanding of migration and the plight of immigrants. It provided a legal and political point of view as well as a deep humanitarian aspect to a topic, which is both controversial and most often misunderstood. Ms. Arati Rao, a well-known wildlife photographer, highlighted the beauty and profound impact of migration through both, the animal and human migration journey. Her brilliant photography skills as well as her comprehensive understanding and extensive knowledge on the subject of migration, helped our students make connections to what was discussed in class. Both the speakers provided diverse perspectives and answered questions which supported our students in making real life connections.

With a mix of excitement and anxiety the students of Grade 5 boarded the buses to Yelagiri for the Leadership Camp. The activities gave them a chance to display their strengths and work on their challenges. They loved the traditionally popular activities like Firecracker, Nitro swing, Cargo net and trekking. Students also worked in groups to tackle and solve problems during various activities. They cheered for their friends who wanted to give up midway and complimented the ones who made it successfully. The camp also gave them a chance to display attitudes of independence, co-operation and self-management skills.

**Senior School:** As the second half of the year has begun, we have stepped up the academic rigour for Grades 10 and 12 with intensive revision and practice tests. The mentor-mentee program continued with the Grade 12 students. The mentors took stock of the progress made by their mentees in the Extended Essays and Internal Assessments. Intensive Revision started from the 16<sup>th</sup> of January. Intensive Revision Plans have been designed by all the departments keeping in mind the different levels of support that is required by the students. Practice tests are being conducted to ensure that students are prepared to handle IB Questions and they understand the marking scheme. This time is crucial for our students as they approached their IB submissions deadlines.

The students in the Senior School have benefited immensely from the after school support classes. This will continue and we would like to see more day scholars attending these classes. The support classes are designed to revisit and reinforce topics of concern and we urge the students to make full use of this support.

The Indus International Community School celebrated their Sports Day on 27<sup>th</sup> January and our students of Grades 8, 9 and 11 applauded them during the event.

An IBDP orientation programme was conducted on 28<sup>th</sup> January by the IBDP Coordinator and the Director Placements. They explained and clarified what we at Indus do to ensure that we continue to get results in each subject that are distinctly above the IB world average, which has led to excellent college placements and scholarships.

We also thank the parents of our Grade 8 students who attended the IGCSE orientation conducted by the Head of Middle School, on the 25<sup>th</sup> January. With the 2nd term of Grade 8 seeing the Head start IGCSE programme commencing, this session threw light on the salient features of the IGCSE programme like the syllabus requirements, subject choices and assessment criteria.

**Martyrs' Day** was observed on January 30<sup>th</sup>, which marks the anniversary of assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. In a spirit of reverence to the brave men who sacrificed their lives defending the sovereignty of our nation, the whole school observed two minutes silence on this day.

**Placements:** The Placement Cell is busy as responses are flowing in with offers of admission to excellent and good universities. They are also meeting parents and students of Grade 11. An Open Day session was conducted on January 19<sup>th</sup> where the Director- Placements and the IBDP Coordinator gave a detailed presentation of the Diploma Programme that we offer, to the new parents.

**Trips:** Indus affords thrilling outdoor adventure activities through the course of the year. Up ahead in March is the Ganga White Water Rafting Expedition which is open to students from Grades 8, 9 and 11. The ISL organized a presentation on this by Col Malhotra who spearheads this activity. We are glad that students signed up soon after the presentation on 25<sup>th</sup> January.

**CAS:** The students and the teachers are moving full steam ahead with their CAS projects as they prepare for the Leadership evening scheduled in March. The Leadership evening will be an event where all the houses will be showcasing their journey so far in the various projects that they have undertaken as part of CAS.

The students of **Pegasus** House are continuing to work with the Ammas in their tailoring programme. At the moment they are focusing on scarves and napkins to start with. They also have planned to make tote bags, table runners and place mats. The students will continue with their production of natural products and a small group of Ammas and Community School children will learn the basic skills of making beauty products from natural sources.

The students of the **Phoenix** House are working with the students of IICS as they prepare for the Leadership Summit. The Journals have been collected so that they can be reviewed and amended. Jayashree Industries visited our school for the maintenance of the Sanitary Napkin machine. More Ammas have been trained to make the sanitary napkins and production is in progress.

**Hercules** House is continuing with the production of paper pulp using the Recycling machine. Their plan is to make bags and cards to start with. The Ammas are also being trained in this.

**Orion** has completed the final collation of the IICS magazine. The printing is now underway. One group of students worked with batch one bus wardens on revisiting all the four modules on 'Womens Empowerment' covered with them so far. The next batch is scheduled to begin in the first week of February.

**Boarding:** Weekends continue to be well spent in the Boarding. On Saturday 7th January, some exciting moments were witnessed during the cricket match for girls and football matches for boys.

On 13th January, our boarders celebrated Lohri behind the Sports Complex. It was an enjoyable evening as the boarders brought in the festivity of Lohri commencing with a prayer which was followed by a bonfire and music that added a lot of cheer to the evening's proceedings. A very lively atmosphere was created with the dancing, merry making and food.

Sankranti on the 14<sup>th</sup> was a morning full of fun and excitement as they enjoyed flying kites in their groups. This was followed by Kabadi. This relaxing morning was with spiced Sugar Cane, Roasted Corn and Orange Juice.

On 15th January all our Punjabi students visited the Gurudwara. The time spent saw the students return with an air of gratitude.

On 26<sup>th</sup> January, the boarders watched the Republic Day parade on TV as India celebrated her 68<sup>th</sup> Republic Day. This was followed by a visit to Play Arena where they had an enjoyable day out. Memorable moments will continue as we plan to make the weekend activities enjoyable as always.

**Sports:** The New Year in the area of sports started with excitement as Jai Ashiya of Grade 8 has been selected for the Under 14 Karnataka State Football Team. He was part of the Karnataka State team in the Sub Junior South Zone Nationals held at Neyveli, Tamil Nadu. The report is attached in Appendix 2.

We congratulate Kiran Antose of Grade 8 who has won a silver and a bronze medal in the Junior National Equestrian Championship in Delhi which was held from 27<sup>th</sup> December to 4<sup>th</sup> January.

As mentioned in my email to all parents, there are two corrections in the December newsletter regarding the results of the Senior School Sports Day conducted on December 9<sup>th</sup> 2016. Please find attached the amended results in Appendix 3:

**Principals' Conference:** A Principals Conference was conducted on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January to bring in clarity on the MYP assessment and reporting. Decisions were taken regarding developing a comprehensive handbook which provides guidance about the assessment criteria in MYP. Strategies to improve the method of feedback were structured during the conference, which includes developing a 'Growth Mindset' among the students and teachers. A workshop on Deep Reading was conducted by me as the Principal. My workshop served as an initiation to the workshop by Gen Ray on Deep Reading which emphasized the need to read, to reflect and to connect that to real life. Reading at Indus will be made more meaningful through the strategies planned. The workshop was aimed to enhance the teachers' understanding of their role as educators of the next generation. Deep reading and deep thinking are precursors to becoming a Smart Creative, which is a need in this time and age.

As we move on, we urge you to read on so that our students are drawn to read on.

Regards,

Sarojini Rao

Principal

Indus international School, Bangalore

**Appendix 1:** Results of PYP Sports Day conducted on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017:

**INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS & HOUSE POINTS**

GRADE	NAME	HOUSE	POINTS
1 BOYS	Armaan Sandeep	Hercules	40
	Abhinav Kalagara	Orion	40
1 GIRLS	Anita Needham Cook	Hercules	50
2 BOYS	Matei Alecsandru Olaru	Hercules	35
2 GIRLS	Tia Padival	Phoenix	70
3 BOYS	Grant Lindstrom	Pegasus	45
3 GIRLS	Manavi Varma	Pegasus	70
4 BOYS	Desh Kartik Dasgupta	Orion	80
4 GIRLS	Aishani Arul	Orion	60
5 BOYS	Mohammed Saif	Pegasus	55
5 GIRLS	Nayana Niranjn	Pegasus	40

**OVERALL HOUSE POINTS**

POSITION	HOUSE	POINTS
I	Pegasus	550
II	Orion	480
III	Phoenix	265
IV	Hercules	245

**Appendix 2:** The report that was published in the Times of India newspaper about the selection of Grade 8 student, **Jai Ashiya** for the **Under 14 Karnataka State Football Team**:



## SNAP SHOTS

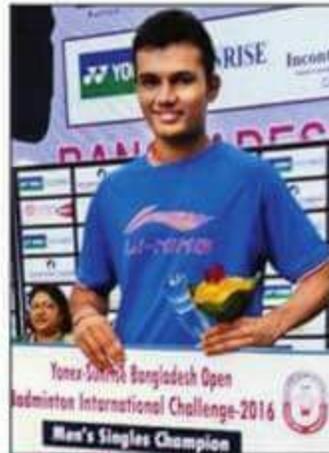
### Shuttler Yeligar bags twin titles

Karnataka shuttler Abhishek Yeligar captured twin titles recently, emerging victorious in the Bangladesh Open International Challenge and the Nepal International Series. Sixth seed Yeligar defeated fourth-seeded compatriot Shreyansh Jaiswal 21-17, 21-17 in the final at the Shahid Tajuddin Ahmed Indoor Stadium in Dhaka on December 10. The unseeded 22-year-old then stunned fifth seed Siddharth Thakur 21-16, 21-14 to take home the top prize at the Dasharath National Stadium in Kathmandu a week later.

**Srirampuram in quarters:** A brace from Praveen and goals from Monsh and Mohan helped Srirampuram make the quarters of the KSFA U-16 inter-area football tournament.

**Results:** Srirampuram 4 (Praveen 8, 40, Monsh 13, Mohan 26) bt Pillanna Garden 0; Vasanthnagar 2 (Aryan 3L, 46-pen) bt HBR Layout 1 (Allan 7).

**Suman to lead state U-14 footballers:** Greenwood High's Suman S Dev will lead a 22-member Karnataka football



**TRIUMPHANT:** Abhishek Yeligar

squad that will compete in the South Zone qualifying round for the U-14 National Championship at Neyveli, Tamil Nadu, from December 28 to January 2. Karnataka open their campaign against Andhra Pradesh on Thursday, followed by their final Group B tie against Kerala on January 2.

**Squad:** Suman S Dev (captain), Anshith P (vice-captain), Shankar Ganesh, Harshith Gowda, Sidduarth Rajesh, Alan Richard Tavares, Harsha Hari Venkatnaryan, Rithish R, Ashish BM, Suneet Inder Singh Bedi, Taran Noah Williams, Shreyas Ketkar, Shaanak Manoj Nerurkar, Jai Ashiya, Heman V, Aaron Joshua, Macarton Louis Nickson, Adithya Mohan, Godwin Johnson, Vijay S, Arnav Pratary Rakkhit, Pranav Prasad.

**Coach:** SS Shahi. **Assistant coach:** Jenny Frede. **Manager:** Kumar M.



**Appendix 3:** Senior School Sports Day results that was conducted on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016:

**INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP AWARD**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>HOUSE</b>
BOYS U-12	Dev Veer Singh	Hercules
GIRLS U-12	Maya De Laet	Phoenix
BOYS U-14	Gibran C	Pegasus
GIRLS U-14	Navya Dinesh Budapanahalli	Phoenix
BOYS U-16	Ghalib Al Halim	Phoenix
GIRLS U-16	Ines Maria Huret	Phoenix
SENIOR BOYS	Roshan Neel Anand	Orion
SENIOR GIRLS	Drisya Antose	Phoenix

**MARCH PAST RESULT**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>HOUSE</b>
I	Pegasus
II	Hercules
III	Phoenix
IV	Orion

**TOTAL HOUSE POINTS (OVERALL TROPHY)**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>HOUSE</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
I	Phoenix	960
II	Pegasus	615
III	Orion	545
IV	Hercules	500