

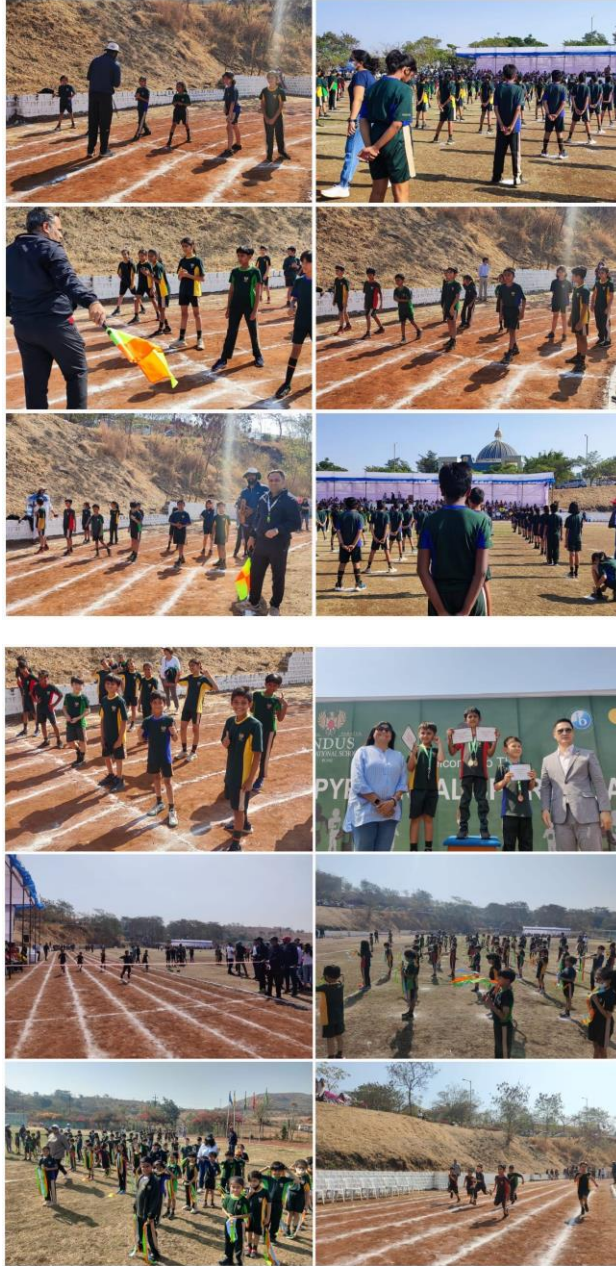
Principal's Newsletter February 2023

PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP)



Sports Day





After a hiatus of 2 years, the PYP Sports Day was held on 7th February on the school campus. Starting with the solemn marchpast accompanied by the Army band, students of PYP 3-5 took an oath to abide by true sportsmanship. Displaying an array of synchronized drills and athletic abilities for taekwondo and Tabata, the PYP students and parents filled the crisp morning with their excited cheering. Obstacle races for the EYP and 80 mtrs, 100 mtrs and 200 mtrs sprints for the PYP surely added nervous energies to the atmosphere as students gave it their best as they competed in the finals. Bagging the house trophy was Pegasus house who completely lived up to the motto of 'Leading by example'. We congratulate all the houses and individual championship holders for displaying exemplary athletic prowess.



IBT ACER Exam – PYP 3 - PYP 5

The IBT ACER exam for PYP 3 – PYP 5 was held over 4 days, this month. Students appeared for the online exam from school. ACER is an international benchmark test that assesses a student’s overall conceptual clarity and understanding. This year, the students appeared for the online exam in the presence of their homeroom teachers to ensure a principled approach towards the exam and clarity while attempting the same. The results for the same have been shared with parents to understand the overall performance of their child.



Counsellor’s workshop

The PYP counselling team conducted a session for parents along with Ms Priti Puri Agrawal, who is a mindfulness coach and trainer, a certified life coach, and an ex-IT professional. She is extremely passionate about spreading knowledge and awareness about the benefits of mindfulness in daily life and provides simple and effective tools, techniques, and practices on mindfulness. The session highlighted the importance of mindfulness in our lives and how we can practice mindfulness in this VUCA world. It was an interactive session and the parent community participated with a lot of enthusiasm. Additionally, the PYP counselors tuned in to the importance of emotions. Throughout the workshop, parents were engaged in various activities related to recognizing the thoughts, feelings, bodily sensations, emotions, and life experiences. These activities brought parents' attention to the fact that how being mindful and an emotionally balanced, empathetic, and resilient parent and child are capable of fully realizing their potential to the fullest.



International Mother Tongue Day

To celebrate the International Mother Tongue Day, the DP 1 students of Hercules house organized small engagements related to 11 different languages for the PYP students. Each classroom in the PYP was dedicated to a language based on the demographic of the PYP students. Students were involved in viewing of short presentations that focused on the origin of the culture from where the language belonged and highlighted certain vocabulary words that are commonly used in conversations. This celebration was heightened with the support of the parent community who organized treats for all students, specific to all the different areas where the languages are spoken. The PYP students enjoyed themselves getting to know more about languages and the culture that it belongs to.



PYP Indus Day



PYP learners had their first physical Indus Day on February 24, 2023. Students displayed an array of performances through the streams of music, dance, and drama by putting up the production 'Encanto'. This Indus day focused on building international mindedness along with learning life lessons in children by indulging in the familial story of Mirabel and her grandmother. The musical recital made our students shine bright as they presented live songs, dance, and drama. A total of 254 students were a part of the production and were able to showcase their talents. The night indeed was filled with magic with the active cheering from the audience and the amazing performances put up by students.



Experiential Learning in the PYP - Field Trips



Mufti Day



Game-a-thon

Field Trips

Marcus Garvey said, "A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."

Our PYP1 and PYP2 learners strengthened their roots by learning a little bit more about their local culture during their visit to the 'Gram Sanskruti Udyan Village Park'. Not only did the park provide a visual experience of cultural housing from the past and present but also enhanced our understanding of the essence of a rural marketplace. The learners were able to absorb the various services provided in the villages and the responsibility that every villager has. The learners were truly principled inquirers who asked questions and shared their views on how different it was to be exposed to village housing and life.

Mufti Day and Game-a-thon

Students celebrated Mufti Day and an indoor game-a-thon where they dressed for the theme 'Into the future'. Students were involved in playing friendly indoor games to keep up the spirit of sportsmanship. PYP 2 students and teachers organized the same as a part of their unit of inquiry focusing on the concept of 'goods and services'.

MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (MYP)



MYP 2 & MYP 3 ISL Camp

A mixed batch of MYP 2 and 3 students went for their ISL camp in Bangalore between 31st Jan and 4th Feb. It was a first time experience for most of them as they both stayed away from home and also engaged in the activities that makes ISL a memorable and joyous experience. They came back with a wide variety of stories and experiences, already looking forward to their trip next year.



Vihaan Mohan MYP 2 -Art Exhibition



Two artworks by Vihaan Mohan were in an art exhibition on the 5th of February at Pandit Bhimsen Joshi Kalamandir Pune. Vihaan has also managed to raise ₹9800 by selling his artworks and donated the entire proceeds to Sofosh orphanage. We are ever so proud of Vihaan!



Yajas Gupta MYP 3 - Cubing Competitions

Yajas Gupta has won a gold medal in Relay in the Republic Cube Open competition held on the 21st of January '23. Apart from this, he also participated in his first World Cubing (WCA) competition on Saturday, 25th February, held in Mumbai. Though, he did not win this, he did well and is working on improving his timings now.



National Science Day Celebration

On the 28th of Feb, students of MYP 1-4 celebrated National Science Day. Students participated wholeheartedly by bringing in models, creating charts, displaying experiments to simplify complex concepts in science. They created a word bridge or scientific terminology outside the MYP Block as well. Mr. Sandeep Chhabra and Dr. Namita Agrawal visited the celebration, interacting with students and encouraging scientific inquiry.



Daiwik Selvakumar - MYP 4

Starting the year with the passion of trek, MYP 4 student- Daiwik Selvakumar has completed the highest trek of Maharashtra- Kalsubai Trek in Jan 2023.

Definitely challenging climb, Kalsubai also known as the Everest of Maharashtra, its summit situated at an elevation of 1646 metres (5400 Feet) in the Sahyadri mountain ranges. It is named after one of the three sisters Kalsubai and the summit peak had a sacred temple of Kalsubai. Good work Daiwik on exploring your passion and for proactive participation.



Arun Sairam Iyer- MYP4

We are happy to share that, Arun Sairam Iyer- MYP 4 student, won 3rd position in 29th internal chess tournament held by Victorious Chess Academy on 12 February 2023. He has been awarded a medal and a certificate of merit for the same. We wish Arun congratulations on his achievement and wish him all the success for many more to come.



Ronith Lahoti -MYP4

MYP 4 student, Ronith Lahoti has continued his journey to enhance his excellence in German language after earning his German A1 Level proficiency in July 2022, He has now cleared the proficiency level A2 in February 2023, by securing Good Rating in the exams conducted by Goethe Institute. We wish him all the best in his pursuance of expertise in German language.



MYP 4 student, Devarsh Singh Samant participated in the inter-district cricket tournament held in Baramati and won the player of the tournament award. Their team secured the runner-up position. We wish Devarsh and his team congratulations on their achievement.

Similarly, in the Athletics Tournament organised by District Sports Office Pune on 6th December at the New English School, Ghotawade Mulshi, our MYP4 Student, Rahul Gokhale participated in the under 17 category and won a Bronze Medal in Long Jump event and a Bronze Medal in 400 mtrs.



We are proud to share another achievement by our MYP 4 Student Ranveer Gulati. He completed 5 kms in 59 The Sunrock Gateway of India- Sea swimming in 50 mins. He has also secured a Gold in 400 metre freestyle and silver in 50 metre butterfly in District level swimming competition 2022. We are proud of you Ranveer.

DIPLOMA PROGRAMME(DP)



Mount Kilimanjaro Expedition

Mount Kilimanjaro stands at 19,345 feet tall. It is the highest mountain in Africa and the only free-standing mountain on earth. It's also one of the Seven Summits, which made it a challenging and rewarding experience for Harshita and Samarth Vangala of Grade11 to climb it. Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro is indeed an impressive achievement as it requires a significant level of physical fitness but more importantly MENTAL PREPARATION.

One of the most remarkable things about climbing Mount Kilimanjaro is the stunning natural beauty that surrounds us on the way to the top. As we climb the mountain, we pass through several different ecological climate zones, each with its own unique flora and fauna. From Cultivation Zone, Forest Zone, Heather-Moorland Zone, Alpine Desert Zone and Arctic Summit climate zones, the landscape is diverse and breath-taking.

The guides always taught us that "TEAMWORK IS DREAMWORK", " SMILE AT THE MOUNTAIN AND THE MOUNTAIN WILL SMILE BACK AT YOU" and "ONE TEAM=ONE DREAM".

Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro was a very transformative experience. It exposed us to a different culture, environment, and way of life, which broadened our perspective and enhanced our empathy and understanding of others. It also challenges us to confront our fears, doubts, and limitations, which can help us grow as a person and develop new skills.

Finally, reaching the summit of Kilimanjaro is a truly awe-inspiring accomplishment that we will never forget. Standing at the top of the mountain, we were able to see for miles in every direction and bask in the sense of accomplishment that comes from conquering such a formidable peak.

Overall, the trip to Kilimanjaro was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that we will truly cherish for the rest of our life. All our friends who reached the summit or not, can take pride in the fact that they took on a significant physical and mental challenge and emerged stronger and more resilient as a result.

We hope to visit that place, meet all those wonderful people..... AGAIN!



Celebration of PYP Mother's Tongue Day

On the 20th of Feb, the Hercules DP1 team organized the PYP- Mother's tongue day event, in collaboration with the PYP Parents committee. The aim of the event was to celebrate the diversity of languages spoken by the students and their families in the school community. While the DP1 students oversaw the presentations and décor, the parent committee was gracious enough to coordinate and arrange the cuisine for each language. The kids were also able to participate in exciting interactive activities such as charades, quizzes, and dancing sessions. Due to the very fact that the DP1 students enjoyed the event equally as much as the younger kids did, the PYP- Mother's Tongue Day event ended as huge success on both accounts.



House wise initiatives for CAS





As part of an initiative "Teach a Child," the DP1 Hercules students paid a visit to the Ghar - Sant Ishwar foundation. With the support of their peers and teachers from DP1, the Hercules team was also able to raise around ₹6561, which was used to purchase art supplies. What was originally intended to be a one-day activity for the group is now being planned as a monthly visit to the orphanage solely because of how much the students enjoyed their prior visit. The students are aiming to organize more exciting and creative activities for the kids for their following visits and are eagerly looking forward to their next visit.

Pegasus house went to 'Sahjeevan' old age home as a part of "Old is gold" initiative. They believe that there are lots of benefits of **intergenerational relationship**. Knowledge and understanding of ethnic heritage, sharing of wisdom can help to reduce loneliness and depression in the elderly and an opportunity to learn new skills for both.



Fete-e-Fete on Sports Day

The students of Phoenix House organised an exciting fundraiser, the Fete-a-Fete, on the Senior Sports Day. The Fete featured a wide range of stalls with delectable food, exquisite jewellery, and fun-filled games hosted by student and teacher volunteers. The event, an original Phoenix initiative, was led by Saransh Agrawal, Ananya Sahay, and Ananya Ganesh, and supervised by Ms. Mohini Sharma.

With a massive turnout, the Fete was a huge success, raising over ₹65,000 for Phoenix's climate and community projects, such as an on-campus hydroponics garden and computer literacy programs. A huge thank you to everyone who attended the event and contributed to the fundraiser!



Social impact project by Aaryan Choudhary

Aaryan Choudhary and Mahir Gala of DP1 organised the fundraiser event for Mahatma Gandhi school, Yerwada, which was a huge success where they raised close to ₹3.5 lacs through the support of over 100+ donors for this school. The funds raised will be used to purchase new school benches. The new benches will provide a more comfortable learning environment for the students and help them to concentrate better on their studies.

Mr. Deepak Antani (the lead actor who played the role of Gandhi in Gandhi vs Godse- Ek Yudh) was the guest speaker at the event, and he spoke highly about Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, which was inspiring to all in attendance. His words reminded us of the importance of helping those less fortunate than ourselves and the value of education in empowering individuals and communities.

CAREER GUIDANCE & PLACEMENTS DEPARTMENT

OFFERS - CLASS OF 2023:

We are proud to share with you the university offers from around the world for our students. There are still many offers to come in, but these are the current offers as of February 2023.

Arizona State University	US
Arts University Bournemouth	UK
Atria University	INDIA
Bath Spa University	UK
Bennett University	INDIA
Durham University	UK
Flame University	INDIA
Fordham University	US
Heriot-Watt University	DUBAI
Huron University	CANADA
ISDI School of Design & Innovation	INDIA
Istituto Marangoni London	UK
Jindal Global Law School	INDIA
Kings College London	UK
Krea University	INDIA
Lancaster university	UK
Manchester Metropolitan University	UK
Middlesex University	UK
Murdoch University	AUSTRALIA
Norwich University of Arts	UK
Nottingham Trent University	UK
O P Jindal Global University	INDIA
Ohio University	US
Pratt Institute	US
Purdue University	US

Queen Mary University of London	UK
The New School	US
The University of Texas at Austin	US
Trent University	CANADA
Twente University	NETHERLANDS
University of Arizona	US
University of Cincinnati	US
University of Greenwich	UK
University of Illinois Chicago	US
University of Illinois Urbana Champaign	US
University of Manchester	US
University of Massachusetts Amherst	US
University of Nottingham	UK
University of Reading	UK
University of Toronto	CANADA
Vrije University, Amsterdam	NETHERLANDS
York University	CANADA



Workshop for Grades 8 and Grade 9 Students & Parents

It has rightly been said that the guidance of parents and career counselors, can perfectly support a child in the most crucial life-changing years of school. It is then imperative that these two pillars meet and understand what's best for their wards.

In pursuit of the same, a Career Counselling Workshop was organized for the students of Grades 8 and 9, students & parents to assist them to make the right and informed career choice and take steps in the right direction. The workshop was organized on a Saturday and in a hybrid model to benefit the maximum number of families.

The workshop was an interactive one and concluded with a question-and-answer session.



Workshop on Letters of Recommendation

What role do letters of recommendation play during the college admissions process?

Grades and test scores are important factors when evaluating college applications, but they don't tell the whole story. When admissions officers evaluate applicants, they review various factors and **Letters of recommendation** are particularly valuable to admissions officers because the experiences that high school counsellors and teachers describe can help them paint a better overall picture of who the student is and the impact, he/she will have on campus.

Hence the **Career Counselling and College Placements Team** conducted a **Workshop on Letters of Recommendation** for the entire teaching community at Indus International School Pune and guided them on how to draft impactful Letters of recommendation. The session was well-received by everyone and sharing of best practices was observed.





University Visits:

Students engaged in the informative sessions conducted by various University officials.

Queens University, Belfast, UK

Xavier University, USA

Torrens University, AUSTRALIA

Tokyo International University, JAPAN

Sai University, INDIA

UID, INDIA



The Principal along with members of the senior leadership team at Indus met the Asia Engagement Director at Tel Aviv University, Mr. Konstantin PLATONOV on Tuesday 28th Feb 2023. During this close interaction Mr. PLATONOV shared how international students at Tel Aviv University can build a strong academic foundation in the first year and specialize towards the end of the program in a tailor-made degree to suit their specific interests. Based on an interdisciplinary approach, students will learn from highly experienced professors and researchers across different faculties, and debate issues with many other talented students from all over the world.

Some of the promising programs at Tel Aviv University include.

- B.A Liberal Arts
- Dual Degree Liberal Arts Program- TAU & Columbia University
- International BA in Management and Liberal Arts and many more.

We also discussed the various prospects of a long-term institutional partnership. The Career Counselling department will share further updates as we progress. Till then students are encouraged to explore these programs and create strong option for their undergraduate studies.

Standardized Tests: (SAT and PSAT)

The SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test) is an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admissions decisions in India and Abroad. The SAT is a multiple-choice test created and administered by the College Board.

Indus International School Pune is an official SAT Test Center (Code: 63752). The first digital SAT is scheduled on 11th March 2023 and many of our students will be appearing for this important test.

We have also scheduled PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test) for students of Grades 8, 9 and 10 on 20th March 2023. PSAT is a slightly shorter version of SAT and taking a trial run with the PSAT is one way to get ready for the SAT.

SPORTS



PYP ANNUAL SPORTS DAY



The PYP Annual sports day held on 7th of February 2023. Our little young eagles have displayed their strength, tactics, fitness, adaptability and sportsmanship for winning on the field. The Pegasus house has lifted the overall Athletics championship trophy with total score of 497 and beaten Phoenix house by one point.

Overall House Points

ORION	PEGASUS	PHOENIX	HERCULES
267	497	496	419

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
27	28	1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
Inter House MYP - Football (8&9) DP - Basketball	Inter House MYP - Football (6&7) DP - Basketball PYP - Football(1,2)	Inter House MYP - Football (8&9) PYP - Football (3,4,5)	Inter House MYP - Football (6&7) PYP - Football (1,2)	
13	14	15	16	17
	Aquatic Meet - PYP		Aquatic Meet - MYP & DP	
20	21	22	23	24
Inter House MYP - Badminton, Basketball Squash & Tennis (8&9) DP - Badminton, Squash & Tennis PYP - Badminton, Tennis & Squash (3,4,5)	Inter House MYP - Badminton, Basketball, Squash & Tennis (6&7) DP - Badminton, Squash & Tennis PYP - Badminton, Tennis & Squash (1&2)	Inter House MYP - Badminton, Basketball, Tennis & Squash (8&9) PYP - Badminton, Tennis & Squash (3,4,5)	Inter House MYP - Badminton, Basketball, Tennis & squash (6&7) PYP - Badminton, Tennis & Squash (1,2)	
27	28	29	30	31
Inter House PYP - Football, Basketball (3,4,5)	Inter House PYP - Football, Basketball(1&2)	Inter House PYP - Football, Basketball(3,4,5)	Inter House PYP - Football, Basketball(1&2)	

PYP, MYP & DP Inter house events.

BOARDING



Campus Cleaning

Maintaining cleanliness is an essential part of living a healthy lifestyle. It educates our future leaders to make their environment better and creates a good example for all to follow.



Mall outing



For this event, the boarders went to various malls. The students are always excited on these visits and the boarders had a great time shopping, watching movies, exploring, eating and playing games.



Chess

Chess is a game that trains players to make quick decisions and deal with challenging situations. Students learn how to lose and triumph with dignity and respect. Chess teaches players to take risks and plan strategically, providing them with valuable tools for everyday life. The children enjoyed playing chess and flexing their grey cells.



Country Games



During the Country Games, the students participated in slow cycling, tug of war, relay races, and other activities that require both physical and mental fortitude. These country games necessitate a range of physical abilities, with some requiring greater strength or agility than others. The students had a great time and enjoyed participating in these games.



Math Quiz

Students were divided into groups for a Math quiz. The Math quiz helps students improve their mental abilities to answer difficult problems quickly. It also allows students to collaborate and share knowledge. It provides an environment of friendly competition, which helps motivate students and pushes them to work on difficult problems.



Tikona Fort Trek





An adventurous trek for students to learn about a historical location while also having fun trekking in the gorgeous countryside. The students had a fantastic and enjoyable time. Spending several hours on the trail, climbing around boulders, rock hopping, and ascending hills. This works your complete body, increasing strength, agility, and cardio fitness, all of which are benefits of trekking. Tikona means "triangular" in Marathi, Maharashtra's official language, and the name was chosen because the fort's hill is pyramidal in shape and includes numerous water tanks, temples, and caves.



Some of our DP1 and DP2 boarding students attended the Edu Youth meet organised by Art Of Living on 4 Feb 2023. Participating students took a pledge for a Drug Free India. They received advice and guidance from Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and his distinguished guest. Discussions were conducted on topics such as Stress-Free Exams, Entrepreneurship, Handling Relationship, Achieving Goals in Life, Having

Empathy for others, Benefits of Meditation, etc. We hope that with the right guidance and motivation our students can continue to develop and achieve their true potential.

Upcoming Events

PYP

- 3rd March – PYP Reports
- 6th March – Holi Assembly
- 7th March – Holi Holiday
- 10th March – PYP PTM (No school for EYP/PYP students)
- 14th March – PYP Aquatics Meet
- 17th March – Inter house GK Quiz
- 22nd March – Gudi Padwa Holiday
- 24th March – Counsellor’s workshop

MYP

- 3rd March - Indus Day
- 7th March - Holi Holiday
- 17th March - MYP Y1-4 RCC Reports
- 18th - 22nd March - Y1 ISL
- 9th – 16th March 2023: MYP Grade 10 Mock Exam
- 20th and 21st March 2023 -MYP Grade 10 Language Acquisition Orals
- 22nd March - Gudi Padwa Holiday
- 25th March 2023 - MYP Grade 10 Online PTM

DP

- 3rd March: Indus Day
- 7th March: Holi Holiday
- 17th March: RCC reports
- 22nd March: Gudi Padwa Holiday
- 29th -31st March: IB Continuum Evaluation Visit

SPORTS

PYP Aquatic meet 14th March 2023.

Senior school Aquatic meet 16th March 2023.

PYP, MYP & DP Inter house events.

Thanks and warm regards

Mr. Sandeep Chhabra

Principal

Indus International School Pune

principal@indusschoolpune.com

[**sandeep.chhabra@indusschoolpune.com**](mailto:sandeep.chhabra@indusschoolpune.com)

[**www.indusschoolpune.com**](http://www.indusschoolpune.com)