

Principal's Newsletter July 2023



We are thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to each and every one of our young eagles on their outstanding performance in the IB MYP results. It brings us immense joy to witness their hard work, dedication, and determination paying off.

Our performers' excellent results are a testament to their exceptional abilities, unfaltering commitment, and relentless pursuit of knowledge. These results not only reflect their academic prowess but also highlight their resilience and ability to adapt to challenging circumstances.

This achievement goes beyond the confines of the classroom, showcasing the unique and diverse talents each of the students possesses.

Celebrate and cherish this moment, for it is undoubtedly a stepping stone toward a future filled with limitless prospects and successes. Indus International School Pune wishes all of you the very best in your future endeavors.

Principal's Welcome Address to Staff



We kickstarted the year with the Principal's Welcome Address to staff.

Stating Academic Rigour clearly as the school's focus, teachers were given direction and clarity on the year's objectives. The school aims "To create life entrepreneurs through holistic education and lifelong learning." The address highlighted the need for academic discipline and consequent rigour to become a way of life for our school. The Heads of School also inducted new teachers and conducted a brief refresher for existing staff, on the school's Vision and Mission, instilling pride in all the staff and a sense of belonging.

We truly believe in our motto 'In Omnia Paratus' so to assist teachers in adapting to the changing face of education, Mr. Divjot Singh from Edu Tech was invited to conduct a session on prompt engineering for AI tools. Teachers experimented with various prompts, refining their ability to generate the best possible responses. They also brainstormed various ways to incorporate AI, specifically ChatGPT, into their classrooms.

The following day, the teachers were treated to a wonderful time of sharing when the Vice Principal, Ms. Shefali Tewary took a session on EQ of an Educator. Teachers shared personal experiences of when and how their lives were shaped by the influence of a few people. Discussing the impact a teacher can have on the life of even a single student, the need for empathy and a humane approach when dealing with students was emphasized.

Ms. Priti Puri Agrawal led all teachers in a session on Becoming You Own S-Hero. Being a life coach and mindfulness trainer, she encouraged us to create clearly defined goals for ourselves and identify our core values so we could effectively work on self-improvement.

Ms. Dipti Divekar from Perceptions 360 returned to our school to lead teachers in a session on Lifestyle, Communication, and Disposition.

The Heads of School introduced teachers to the redefined role of a Teacher Advisor as per the guidelines decided upon centrally by the school. They must re-role themselves to teach the child and

not the subject alone. To this effect, teachers will help students set challenging goals and mentor them as they identify and pursue their Tikkun Olam. They will also role model the core values of the school and deep read with their mentees.

"Creating Leaders of Tomorrow"



Professional development is a strategy schools use to empower educators so that they continue to strengthen their practice throughout their professional careers.

The most effective professional development engages teams of teachers to focus on the needs of their students while making learning relevant, challenging, engaging, and significant.

When the time set aside for professional development is used well, the evidence of accomplishments is visible to all. We are sure that learning at IISP will be filled with new discoveries and explorations, now that our teachers are IB trained.

Primary Years Programme (PYP)

Professional Development

It is essential that to meet the demands of the 21st century, teachers consistently reskill themselves. With an aim to teach the head, heart, and mind of each child under our care and bring about holistic development in them, our teachers have spent the past few weeks in intense professional development workshops. These workshops provided our facilitators with an opportunity to focus on their goals for this academic year and engage in deep reading, team building, and effective collaboration.

With an emphasis on academic rigour, our team has devised ways to incorporate engaging and challenging tasks for our students through goal setting, design thinking, and experiential learning.

Our teachers also built on their program-specific knowledge through workshops on making learning more effective for which they shared their learning regarding evidencing and making learning visible in class. Teachers also shared their learning from the IB workshop on approaches to learning and how to build on them across grades. To ensure that all our learners have an engaging time at school and are constantly learning from the environment they're in, teachers in the PYP also conducted a session on the essentials of an IB classroom which highlighted the requirements for the same. To enhance the academic rigour in school and ensure our students are learning the right way, a session on concept-driven learners was organized by the team that attended the IB workshop on the same topic.

Curriculum Road Map Day PYP, MYP, DP, CP



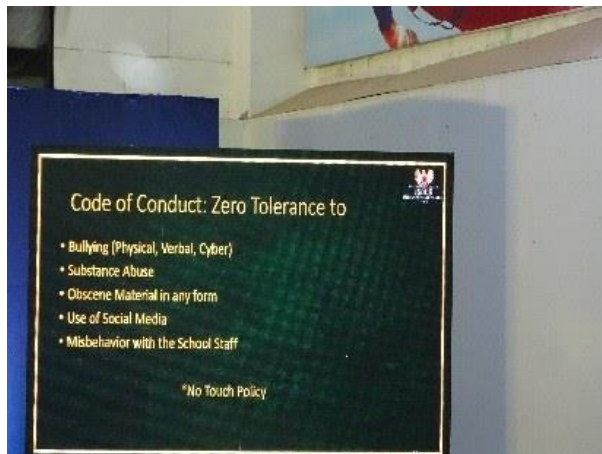
To familiarize the parents with the Indus philosophy and to provide an overview of the learning journey, the Curriculum Road Map Day was held in July.

It gave an opportunity to parents for interacting with their child's homeroom teachers and to get acquainted with the school routine, the essentials as well as the curricular needs of the program.

CRM Day











Young Achiever-"Ronith Lahoti MYP 5"



Ronith Lahoti, who recently gave his MYP 5 exams, has also achieved the next milestone in his musical passion - Drumming. He has passed with "Merit" the "Drums - Rock and Pop - Grade 2" exams graded by Trinity College London.

Ronith has been pursuing Drums for the last 3 years now. Last year he achieved his first milestone in Drumming by achieving the Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Rock and Pop with Merit from Trinity College London. Continuing the journey, he appeared for the Level 2 exams this year and passed the same with Merit. We are so proud of students like Ronith who continue to pursue their passions along with academics. We wish Ronith all the best to continue this musical passion.

"Passion Knows No Boundaries"





It's said that "Passion Knows No Boundaries". Our young equestrian Ronith Lahoti, has truly demonstrated that this statement is so true. Ronith is a passionate equestrian pursuing horse show jumping as a sport over the last 3 years. After winning medals in Junior National Equestrian Championship (JNEC) last year and bagging the Best Rider trophy in the Annual Equestrian Games earlier this year, Ronith has now made us proud by taking his winning stride internationally.

To hone his horse show jumping skills further, Ronith spent his summers training with the equestrians of Germany and the Netherlands for a month. During these trainings, he also participated in regional competitions to gain experience in international competitions. In the first of his international competitions in Brockhofe, Germany, Ronith placed himself in the top 10 riders securing 9th position astride his horse "Clearlight", competing with about 30 - 35 odd riders. With the hard work backing his passion over the next 2-3 weeks, Ronith won the "Gold Medal" at a competition held in Asten, Netherlands astride his horse "Porsche". There were about 30-35 riders competing in the category from countries like Netherlands, Belgium, and Germany. Ronith made us proud by placing Indian Flag on the top of the scoreboard, with his Gold Medal. His riding skills were much appreciated by his coach and other participants.



After making his mark in Horse Show Jumping events last year, with multiple wins in competitions in India and Abroad, Ronith Lahoti has now taken up strengthening his forte in Horse Dressage sport event. While Show Jumping is about riding a horse across the course jumping fences (obstacles) without drops and in minimum time, Dressage is the ultimate test in riding skills and horsemanship manoeuvring the Horse through a predefined course and riding pattern with technically accurate riding. Ronith has already tasted his initial success by winning a silver medal astride Horse Carla Levista

in the recently concluded Pre-Novice Dressage Test at the Embassy Premier League 2023 in Bangalore on 29th July; 2023 We wish Ronith to make his mark in Dressage too this year in competitions across the country and abroad.

Career Counselling and College Placement Department



Parent Orientations: MYP Year 4 & Year 5, DP 1 & DP2

The Career Counselling and College Placement department at Indus truly imbibes the values and attributes of the Indus Mission and Vision. Students are supported through a detailed, insightful, well-researched college search process. The program starts from MYP4 leading to a successful university journey. The program emphasizes finding the best-fit university which complements each student's academic achievements, talents and goals, ability to handle rigor, and contribution to the school and nearby community.

To orient the parent body on the functioning of the department, the Career Counselling Team arranged for detailed presentations for MYP Year 4 & Year 5, DP 1 & DP2 on 25th July and 31st July. Various important topics were covered during the presentations and the Roadmap to College was explained explicitly. The parents of DP2 students were provided with in-depth information as the students will soon be applying for Early Applications and Early Decisions.

The parent orientations for all grades were highly interactive and we look forward to meeting with students and families to plan the way forward.

Below are some of the important topics that were covered during the orientations:

What do Universities look for in College Applications

College Preparation and Action Plan

Scholarships

Importance of Transcripts, LORs and Essays

Application Timeline

Application Process for various countries

Standardized Tests

Profile Building

University Visits:

The College Counselling Team provides a variety of resources to match our students with the right colleges. We believe that students should be empowered to make the right choices when it comes to university selections. The team facilitates various group meetings, individual meetings, University Fairs, Lectures from University Professors, Career Talks, Alumni Talk, Classroom sessions, etc. to help students learn to make educated choices. Students meet over 150+ universities a year on average to understand their best-fit choice and further explore scholarship opportunities. Some of the upcoming top University visits in August 2023 are as follows:

11th August

British Council Fair

- 1 Birmingham City University
- 2 University of East London
- 3 King's College London
- 4 Northumbria University Newcastle
- 5 Newcastle University
- 6 City, University Of London
- 7 University of Nottingham
- 8 University of Hertfordshire
- 9 Leeds Beckett University
- 10 Leeds Arts University
- 11 University of Birmingham
- 12 Queen Mary University of London
- 13 Brunel University London
- 14 University of Portsmouth
- 15 University of York
- 16 University of Essex
- 17 University of East Anglia
- 18 Aston University
- 19 University of Surrey
- 20 Manchester Metropolitan University

- 21 Swansea University
- 22 University of Leeds
- 23 University of Westminster
- 24 University of South Wales
- 25 University of Chester

18th August

INDUS COLLEGE FAIR 80+ Universities across the globe

29th August

University of Southern California

30th August

US University Fair

1. University of San Francisco
2. Carnegie Mellon University
3. The New School, New York
4. Macalister College
5. Illinois Wesleyan University

31st August

Boston University

SAT / ACT Preparation

To support our learners, and secure the best possible standardized test scores, we have partnered with ReWiser. ReWiser is a high school support company that assists students worldwide achieve their true academic goals. They have helped around 4000+ students over the last 7 years to achieve their potential scores in exams like SAT and ACT. Their students are currently studying in all the top 20 universities across the globe.

ReWiser is conducting its first webinar for Grade 11 students and parents on

Saturday 5th August 2023 from 10.00 am – 11.00 am

Key Takeaways:

- 👉 Understand standardized tests like SAT, and ACT
- 👉 Importance of SAT/ACT for Grade 09 - 12 students
- 👉 Timeline of SAT/ACT with regard to application planning
- 👉 Countries that accept SAT/ACT
- 👉 ReWiser recommended timeline & pedagogy of preparation for respective tests.

Date: 05th August 2023

Time: 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM IST

FREE Registration Link:

<https://rewiser.in/information-session-on-sat-and-act-test/>

[Information Session on SAT & ACT Tests - ReWiser](#)

Information Session on SAT & ACT Tests Webinar Date : Saturday; 5th August 2023 Timing : 10:00 AM to 11:00 [...]

rewiser.in

Additional Benefits for Indus International School Students:

1. FREE full-length online SAT & ACT diagnostic test
2. FREE Personalised 1:1 consultation with our team to understand the diagnostic test report

Upcoming Events:

Rewiser Online Webinar on SAT/ACT (Registration required)- 5th August 2023

UCD - Computer Science Professor's Workshop-9th August 2023

SAT Registration Deadline for August Examination-11th August 2023

ACT Registration Deadline for September Examination-11th August 2023

Digital SAT Examination 26th August 2023

BOARDING

PYP KIDS HAVING FUN



PYP boarders get a head start in school preparing for the real world while knowing how to have fun in a responsible manner. The lessons learned early in life tend to be their foundation in adulthood. They develop life skills such as time management, being independent and most importantly socialize. By being exposed to different cultures and perspectives within the boarding community, PYP boarders also develop a strong sense of empathy and global awareness, making them well-rounded individuals.

NATURE STROLL



The boarders' walk in the beautiful rainy landscape of the school was a delightful and magical experience. The glistening raindrops on leaves and flowers created a serene atmosphere, refreshing their spirits. The soothing sound of rain falling and earthy aroma added to the enchanting ambiance. This shared moment in nature fostered a sense of unity and left them with fond memories to cherish. It was a truly special and rejuvenating time for all.

MOVIE NIGHT



Boarding students enjoyed and relaxed as they watched a movie together. Laughter and bonding over funny scenes was truly entertaining. Engaged in the suspenseful plot, they shared popcorn and snacks, fostering camaraderie. After the movie, they left with smiles and strengthened team spirit.

CHESS



In a thrilling chess competition organized in-house, boarders display their strategic prowess under the watchful eyes of the Vice Principal. The intense battles on the checkered field not only test their tactical acumen but also foster camaraderie and sportsmanship, creating a memorable experience for all participants.

MORNING WALK



Morning walks for boarders are highly beneficial in numerous ways. They invigorate the mind and body, setting a positive tone for the day ahead. The fresh air and exercise improve physical health, boost mood, and reduce stress. Additionally, the serene ambiance fosters social interaction, enhancing camaraderie among boarders, and fostering a sense of community and belonging.

SPORTS





Boarders at IISP make the most of the diverse athletic opportunities. Cricket enthusiasts relish strategic innings, while badminton fans engage in thrilling rallies. Basketball buffs showcase teamwork and dexterity on the court. From spirited matches to friendly rivalries, the boarders' passion for sports fosters camaraderie, skill development, and unforgettable memories.

ROOM SETTING



The boarders learned how to organize their room and make new friends. They were taught various techniques for decluttering and maximizing space, allowing them to create a comfortable and functional living environment. Additionally, through team-building activities and social events, they had the opportunity to connect with fellow boarders and form lasting friendships.

TASTY HEALTHY MEALS



The school plans a wide variety of dishes in their menu in order to provide delicious and nourishing food for the boarders, ensuring that their meals are balanced and provide the necessary nutrients for their growth and development. The menu includes a variety of fruits, vegetables, proteins, and whole grains to cater to different dietary needs and preferences.

POCSO Session for All staff- (Protection of children from sexual offenses)





The POCSO session was held By :

FOUNDATION FOR CHILD PROTECTION- MUSKAAN a Pune-based NGO, that has been working on the issue of Sexual Abuse of Children since the year 2000. The only initiative in Pune whose entire focus is on the critical issue of sexual abuse of children. They have a six-pronged approach involving prevention, counseling, and police and legal support.

Upcoming Events



- August 1st -School Reopens for all grades, DP2/CP2 ISL Batch 1- Arrival, DP2/CP2 ISL Batch 2- Departure
- August 5th-DP1/CP2 ISL Batch 2 arrival
- August 7th-PYP, MYP, DP& CP Meetings with Teacher Advisors (Week1) Friendship Feast
- August 10th -PYP Gender Sensitization – EYP - PYP 2
- August 11th -PYP Gender Sensitization – PYP 3 - 5 and British Council Fair
- August 14th - MYP 1-3 Independence Day Assembly, Coffee Morning MYP 5 & DP2/CP2; Workshop for Grade 12 Parents & Students (By Career Counselling Dept)
- August 15th -Independence Day Celebrations -working for PYP 3 to 5; Holiday for MYP/DP/CP
- August 16th - Reading (MYP 1) & Writing challenge MYP 2-4 / DP1/CP1
- August 17th -PYP ACER 1
- August 18th -PYP ACER 1 MYP & DP Indus College Fair 80+ Universities across the globe

- August 20th-MYP & DP ISSO proposed
- August 21st-Coffee Morning EYP & PYP 1 / DP1/CP1
- August 22nd-Coffee Morning PYP 2 & MYP 4 Anti-bullying & Discipline Week
- August 23rd-Coffee Morning PYP 3 & MYP 3 Anti-bullying & Discipline Week
- August 24th-Coffee Morning PYP 4 & MYP 2 Anti-bullying & Discipline Week
- August 25th-Coffee Morning PYP 5 & MYP 1 EYP Nuts & Bolts Day Anti-bullying & Discipline Week
- August 26th - Assessment Orientation (MYP Y1-4 & DP/CP new parents-online) SAT Examination
- August 28th-Book Tasting PYP 3 -5Art Competition MYP 1 to 5 ACER 1
- August 29th -Book Tasting EYP-PYP 2 MYP 1 to 5 ACER 1; University of Southern California
- August 30th-PYP, MYP, DP & CP Academic Sub Com meeting; MYP 1 to 5 ACER 1; US University Fair
- August 31st -PYP Mufti Day - Fly High day MYP 1 to 5 - ACER 1; Boston University

Thanks and warm Regards,

Mr. Sandeep Chhabra

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