

Principal's Newsletter January 2023

PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP)



1 - Glimpse of Leadership Camp





The leadership day camps for PYP 1, 2 and 3 were exhilarating and adventurous! Students visited the Water's Edge Camp site in Kamshet. Several activities were organised for the learners to explore facets of leadership. Ziplining: to overcome one's fear and be resilient, rappelling to understand balance and test one's core strength. The learners had team-building games like pass the hula hoop, fire in the mountain, football, and others.

The camp helped learners reflect on their own core leadership strengths while they enjoyed each activity and spent quality time with their friends and teachers.

PYP 4 students went for an overnight camp to the same campsite and enjoyed all the adventure activities along with jungle cooking.



2 - PYP 100 Days Celebration

PYP students celebrated 100 days of school on 27th January. They were involved in various intra class activities to mark the significant day. The EYP grades were involved in a show and tell activity, while PYP 1 created creative images using the numerals 1,0,0. PYP 2 tried applying their mathematical skills to create various equations which end in the number 100, using their knowledge of basic operations. PYP 3 wrote 100-word stories on varied creative topics while PYP 4 compiled a list of 100 reasons regarding why they love IISP. PYP 5 created a word wall in their classes with a list of 100 new words that they have learnt this year.



3 - International Education Day - Assembly

PYP 4 students organised an assembly to commemorate the International Education Day. Students were informed about various statistics across the world regarding levels of education while also asking them to be reflective about the opportunities that they have got. Sharing and reflection over the videos shared also informed students about the initiatives that they can take to help spread the message and important role that education plays in the lie of children.

As a part of the Christmas celebration in December, the PYP organised a toy and books collection drive as a part of the 'Joy of Giving' week. After receiving a great response, sorting through the books and toys, this month our Innovation Council members visited the Angrewadi Zilla Parishad School to spend some time with the students and share with them the collections from the PYP. The council members also spent time with the students there and helped them read stories.



4 - Donation Drive - "Joy of Giving"

Experiential learning initiatives in the PYP



5 - Aware India program – An initiative with ResQ

Field Trips

As a part of the school's endeavour to provide students with opportunities for experiential learning, PYP 1 – Five students are undergoing a series of sessions with ResQ. AWARE INDIA is a program that is built on children's affinity for animals. The curriculum has 6 core modules and focuses on deepening their understanding of human-animal coexistence enabling them to grow up to be empowered, empathetic, and aware citizens of the future. All the PYP grades have finished their first session of the program and will continue the same till May 2023.





6 - PYP 1 field trip



7 - Prep 2 field trip

Prep 2 students are inquiring into “Communities help individuals meet their needs and wants.” They visited a local shopping mart to build on their understanding of the things sold in shops and identify them as needs and wants. The learners enjoyed identifying things that are wants and needs and purchased the same based on their requirements.

PYP 1 students are inquiring into ‘Homes reflect personal identity and local culture’. They are also finding more about different kinds of homes and the factors that influence people to inhabit a

particular place. They took a walk around Angrewadi to recognize the various kinds of houses and the materials used to make them. They were able to identify permanent and temporary structures and kinds of roofs too.

PYP 3 – To expand their understanding about the universe, PYP 3 learners visited the Science Park in Pimpri Chinchwad. Learners got an opportunity to watch an interesting show related to the evolution of the universe. They were introduced to various concepts like the Big Bang through documentaries and gathered more information about various planets.

MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (MYP)



8 - Shreya Patel (MYP 2) secured 5th place



9 - Vivan Jangle (MYP 1) secured 2nd place

Japaloupe Annual Equestrian Games 2023 was competitive, and our students Vivan Jangle (MYP 1) won 2 Silvers (2nd place) and stood in 4th place thrice in different events of the competition. Shreya Patel (MYP 2) won 5th place for Equestrian competition under the confined 3 category. The entire Indus Equestrian team did well, and we couldn't be prouder.



10 - Ronith Lahoti bags the “Best Rider” Trophy in “Junior Category (Under 18)”

We are happy to share a moment of pride for Indus International School Pune, as MYP 5 student Ronith Lahoti bags the “Best Rider” Trophy in “Junior Category (Under 18)” in the recently concluded Japaloupe Annual Equestrian Games 2023. He conquered this milestone by winning medals in 7 out of the 8 events in which he competed. Annual Equestrian Games 2023, hosted by Japaloupe Equestrian in Pune from 26th to 29th Jan. 2023, had about 120 riders from 10 teams participating across Maharashtra state. Junior Category (Under 18), in which Ronith competed, had about 30 riders. Ronith represented Indus Equestrian Centre and won 1 Gold, 3 Silver and 3 Bronze Medals in events of Show Jumping, Show Jumping Top Score, Show Jumping Challenge and Show Jumping Relay. He scored a total of 57 points to lead the category by a huge margin from the second best scorer at 31 points. With Ronith’s huge contribution Indus Equestrian Centre was amongst top 5 teams at the competition. We congratulate Ronith on this stupendous achievement and wish him all the success for many more to come.



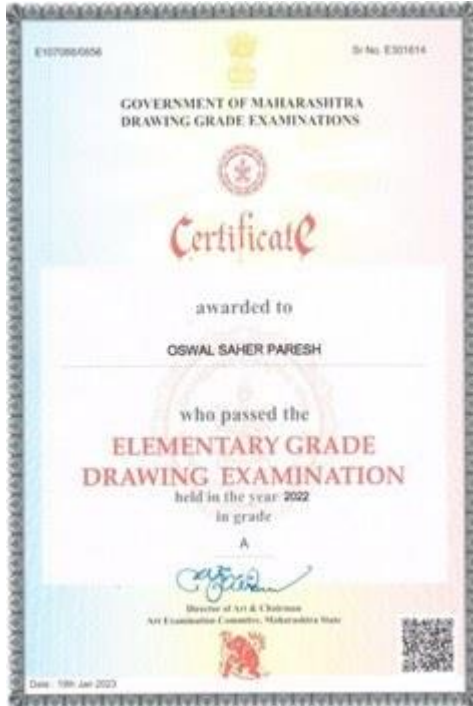
11 - Innovative Plastic Management



12 - *Certificate of essay scholarship*

Further, Ronith's essay, "The Sidam Touch of Plastic" was recognized as one of the highest caliber of entries by Immerse Education and awarded a partial scholarship of 30% to take part in the Chemistry programme in 2023. Ronith had participated in the 2023 Immerse Education Essay Competition in Chemistry discipline and highlighted the footprint of plastic packaging on the environment. Good work Ronith on exploring global academic competitions for proactive participation and also getting recognition from these institutions.

"Collaborate to Conserve", the journey of "Innovative Plastic Management" promoting "Environmental Sustainability", which started at Indus International School, Pune, on 7th Oct. 2022, achieved its first milestone on 20th Jan. 2023. In October 2022, in the presence of eminent guests including Indian Cricketer Mr. Kedar Jadhav, we all committed ourselves to collect domestic plastic waste and handover to Keshav Sita Foundation & Rudra Environmental Solutions for conversion to usable polyfuels. The commitment of Indus students led by perseverance of MYP 5 students Ronith Lahoti, Rajveer Jadhav and MYP Y3 student Aarsh Muttha helped us collect almost 23 Kg. of Plastic Waste in last 3 months and handover for processing on 20th Jan. 2023. Hercules house led the tally with maximum contribution to the collection. This milestone was the first successful baby step towards the life long journey of love for environment. Indus School is confident that the initiative is now staged to scale up exponentially in school and then across city, with continued commitment and support of all students and parents. Together we can transform this need of the hour revolution into a monumental successful model of sustainability.



13 - Drawing Examination -MYP 4 student Saher Oswal

We are proud to share another achievement from MYP 4 student Saher Oswal appeared for the Elementary Grade Drawing Examination in December & did exceedingly well by getting Grade A. We are super proud of her achievement.



14 - Siddhant won the National 2nd place in the Innoventure National Innovation Challenge

We are happy to share that, IISP won the award for the best enterprising school in India in the Innoventure National Innovation Challenge. We hope our IISP students continue to make us proud always.

MYP 4 student, Siddhant won the National 2nd place in the Innoventure National Innovation Challenge, through the 200 finalists from all over India on 29th Jan 2023. Also, Siddhant was selected for a Harvard leadership course for selected students across the globe. The selection included couple of screening levels based on essays and filtering interview criteria. He recently completed the course and has been offered extended mentorship going forward. The challenge taken up during the final conference solution presentation by him was around 'Leading change within teen mental health'. We congratulate Siddhant on his achievement.

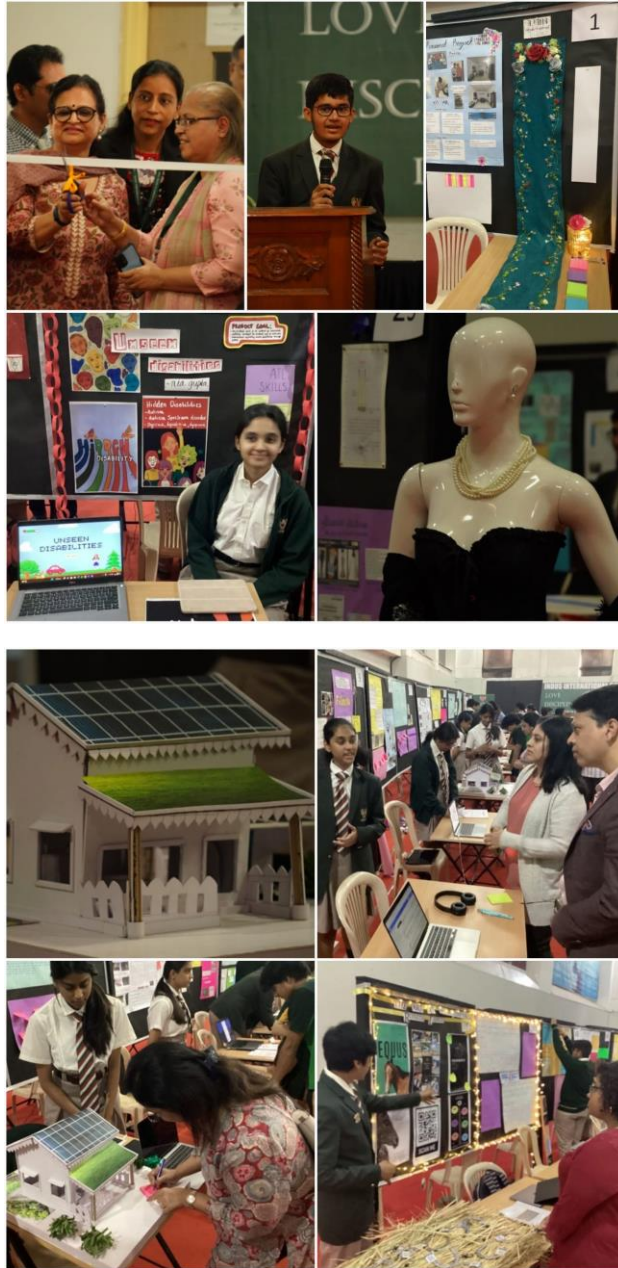


15 - IB MYP Personal Project Exhibition 2023

Students from MYP 5 presented their Personal Project Exhibition to the IISP community on 25th Jan.

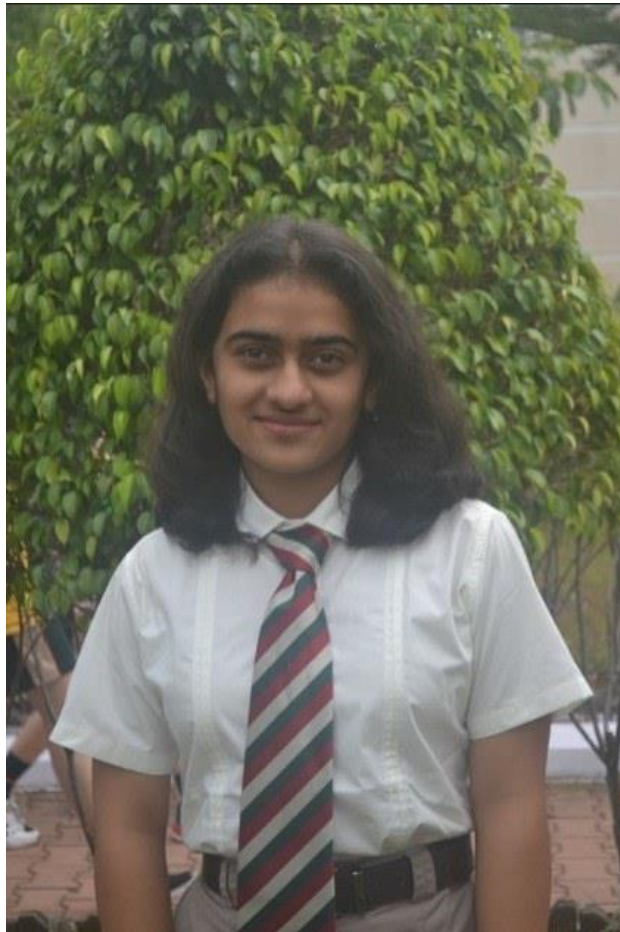
The Personal Project is the “culmination” project in the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP), with students choosing to follow an interest of their own, working through the process of creation, and then finishing with a final product. They have been working on this over the last 8 months (essentially in their

own time, and in addition to their regular classwork). The exhibition is an opportunity for the student to demonstrate new skills, creativity, and their communication skills in presenting the project to a wider audience. It's a display of their learning focused on the diverse topics chosen by them. That's the reason their Personal Project Exhibition is called- **MELANGE (Meaning an assortment, variety or mixture).**





DIPLOMA PROGRAMME(DP)



16 - Heartiest Congratulations to Ms. Jui Abhijit Keskar (DP1)



Jui Abhijit Keskar of Indus International School is the recipient of a **Grand Award** for her project in the category of **Biomedical Engineering** at the **Initiative for Research and Innovation in STEM(IRIS) National Fair 2023** held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi from January 20-22, 2023.

We are very pleased that as a result of winning this GrandAward, she has been chosen as a Finalist to participate in the **Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair, 2023** to beheld at Dallas, Texas, USA from May 13-19, 2023.



17 - Blood Donation Drive at IISP Friday, January 13,2023



As a part of community service, the school planned a blood donation drive for the entire Staff and for the parents in association with Sassoon Hospital. We received an overwhelming response from the administrative staff including the support staff. We are really grateful to the parents who could make it on time to donate blood!

Our DP1 students Anvesha Hatgaonkar, Tanisha Doifode and Samarth Vangala took up the work of talking to the parents and teachers about the importance of blood donation.



18 - DP1 boarders Jazz Narula, Sanaya and Ashika had set up a stall for sale of handmade earrings. Our Visual Arts students Anoushka and Malhar Bhandari set up a stall for sale of art pieces.



19 - Hercules CAS - Orphanage Visit Post



On January 22nd, as part of our initiative "Teach a Child," the DP1 Hercules students paid a visit to the Ghar - Sant Ishwar foundation. The 10 students had planned an art class for the orphanage kids that day and had been preparing it for a month. With the support of their peers and teachers from DP1, the Hercules team was also able to raise around 6561 rupees, 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.



20 - Coming back to school-Aaryan Kulkarni-Batch 2021

We were delighted to welcome our past student, Aaryan Kulkarni, Batch of 2021, who's now at Frankfurt-School of Finance and Management. He addressed the students of Grade XI giving them insights into the real-world challenges and motivating them to prepare accordingly.

He said, "Coming back to school as an alumni was filled with nostalgia, with me going down the memory lane. And being able to interact with DP students about designing their career was all the more interesting...the session was intended to motivate them to revisit their personal vision, focus and consistency given their last stride of the DP programme. Eagerly looking forward to many more sessions facilitating a stronger alumni connect!

CAREER PROGRAMME(CP)



21 - Student Reflection on the IBCP-Scholastic Internship Programme November 2022 to January 2023

We, the IBCP students successfully completed a 4 - week internship with Scholastic India. We were involved in the planning and execution of a Scholastic Book Fair and a Panel Discussion with Student Authors to encourage the habit of reading in our EYP, PYP and MYP students. The plan was to sell out most of the inventory while we make the kids play games and be engaged with the book fair.



The Scholastic Book Fair internship provided us with an invaluable learning experience. As interns, we had the opportunity to work alongside a team of dedicated professionals who were passionate about promoting a love of reading among children. Additionally, we had the opportunity to learn about the

business structure of the book fair from start to finish. This included everything from setting up the fair, to ordering and stocking the books, to handling financial transactions. It was an enlightening experience to witness the logistics and organization that went into the book fair and how it was executed as planned. It has helped us understand how a company works which is a part of our IBCP Course- Business Administration. We gained practical knowledge and found some ethical dilemmas to reflect on.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the internship was the opportunity to interact with the children who attended the book fair. Their enthusiasm and excitement for books was contagious and it was a pleasure to assist them in finding the books that they were interested in. We also had the opportunity to engage with them through various events and activities, such as the panel of authors and games. These events not only provided entertainment for the children but also helped to create a festive atmosphere.

It was a fulfilling experience to be a part of such a noble cause, and we are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Scholastic Book Fair team.



22 - Student reflection on the Panel of Student Authors

On the 18th of January 2023, we the CP-1 students, held a panel of authors for PYP Grade 4 and 5. We had 3 student authors from our school, Rayna Arora from Grade 12, who has been writing since she was 13 and has published 6 books and is about to publish her 7th book. Zaina Kudchiwala of Grade 11, who has published a book about her teenage years, and Shreya Gautam also of Grade 11 has written a book of poems. They held the attention every single child and created a curiosity amongst the audience about their journey to becoming an author.

All the children were very interactive and were asking various questions to the authors which they answered very well.

Every single child was inspired by our schools' authors and this book fair.

We, on behalf of the IBCP students, thank all our wonderful authors and Scholastic India for giving us this opportunity.

Kritin Agarwal and Ashwin Walankikar (IBCP 1)

CAREER GUIDANCE & PLACEMENTS DEPARTMENT



Offers Pouring In

Even as the application work is progressing, admission offers have been pouring in for the early applicants. Our students have received some fantastic offers from the following Universities in the US, UK, Canada and India – Parsons, MICA, King’s College London, University of Edinburgh, University of Manchester, University College Dublin, Wilfred Laurier, Huron University College, University of Arizona, Ohio University, UMass Amherst, FLAME University, Krea University, Bennett University and many more.

Majority of these students have gone ahead and applied to more aspirational colleges like UPenn, Stanford and LSE in the Regular Round with renewed confidence. We are confident that they will have enough reasons to celebrate in the coming months.



23 - Progress of Application Work

The rush of students has not reduced in the College Counselling Department as we are busy completing applications for the Regular Round in the US and submitting the final set of UCAS applications. Applications to Canada and India are also in full swing.



As a Department, we are always there to ensure that every student gets individualized attention and is guided in the best possible manner through their college application process. Right from exploring college options to reviewing their final applications and submitting their official documents, we are there to support and guide our students every step of the way.



24 - Journeying through the College Counselling maze with the pressure of the Board exams looming in the near future can be quite overwhelming not only for students but also for parents. The College Counselling Department organized a workshop for Grade 10 parents to establish a connect and explain how the Department, parent and student can work in sync to make this journey enjoyable and stress-free.



25 - Parents were engaged in an activity, where they were asked to select 1 of 2 options for 5 different situations that they closely identified with. They were taken through a presentation which explained how the College Counselling process works which culminated in a Question and Answer session. The workshop was presented in a hybrid model with parents attending in person as well as online. The Grade 10 students joined us for the workshop so all 3 stakeholders would be on the same page.



26 - APU Ritsumeikan - University Visit for Grade 11 Students

Ms. Ishana Malkani, India's Representative for Asia Pacific University Ritsumeikan from Japan visited our campus and shared her presentation with our Grade 11 students.

She spoke about the programs offered, the application and selection process and the generous scholarships that are awarded to deserving students.



27 - University of St. Thomas – University Visit for Grade 12 Students

Admission Officers from University of St. Thomas, Minnesota visited our campus and met with our Grade 12 students. They held a common session for the entire cohort, followed by individual guidance through the admission process for interested students.

Grade 12 students applying to Indian colleges should start preparing for their entrance exams. Also, students who wish to apply for Foundation Programs at International Universities should explore their options and begin the application process. Grade 11 students who have enrolled for the March SAT and Grades 9 and 10 students who have enrolled for the PSAT, should begin preparing for their exams. Students of Grades 9-11 who wish to apply for summer programs, should keep a close watch on the different University portals to know when the Summer Program Applications open. Students can also, look at possible internship opportunities that they can engage in during the summer break.

Important Dates:

1. Sai University Representative's visit - 1 Feb 2023
2. Tokyo International University Representative's visit - 10th Feb 2023
3. Letter of Recommendation Workshop for Teachers - 11th Feb 2023

SPORTS



28 - Senior School Sports day



The Senior School Sports Day was held on 27th January 2023. For the first time ever the event was celebrated in the evening under flood lights. Our young eagles have displayed their talents, tactics, fitness, adaptability, and sportsmanship for winning on the field.

OVERALL HOUSE POINT

2022-23

EVENT	ORION	PEGASUS	PHOENIX	HERCULES
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MARCHING	60	100	170	170
RACES	216	161	285	186
RELAY	44	30	44	31
TOTAL	320	291	499	387
FINAL RANK	3rd	4th	1st	2nd



29 - DSO Squash

DSO divisional Squash Competitions:

Our young eagles participated in **Pune district divisional Squash Competitions** in different age categories. Our students showed impressive performance with a celebration of skills, co-ordination, and teamwork. All the players have qualified for **Maharashtra state championship**.

Age group	Name	Position
Under 14 Girl's	Evana Gada	Winner
Under 17 Boys	Kiyaan Mathre	Winner
Under 14 Boys	Aaryan Sanghvi	Runner up

BOARDING



30 - Kite flying

On 14th January, our school had a kite flying event. Many people in India fly kites on this occasion. Each student took their individual kite and dashed towards the football field to fly them. It was an amazing moment, and each one of us had a wonderful time watching the kites of different shapes and sizes soaring through the sky.



31 - MALL OUTING



The boarders went to the various different malls for this event, which was a lot of fun. During this period the boarders enjoyed themselves to the upmost by shopping, watching movies, exploring and playing games. This took place on 23 January 2023.



32 - Republic day

The national flag was unruffled, and all students and faculty sang the national anthem. There was a tremendous sense of national solidarity and pride.



33 - Hillside trek



On the 29 January 2023 we held the trek around the school hills. Trekking is a great way of keeping fit and exercising. The students also got the chance of enjoying the fresh air and the beautiful sunrise happening right in front of their eyes as they were progressing up the hill.

A few children on the way also found some uncut crystals and quartz.



34 - Dodgeball

Dodgeball is a team sport in which two teams compete to hurl balls and hit opponents while avoiding getting hit themselves. Each team's goal is to eliminate all members of the opposing team by striking them with thrown balls, catching an opponent's thrown ball, or persuading an opponent to commit a violation, such as stepping outside the court. The two teams competed with each other for the victory, and Team 2 was victorious!



35 - Dog and the bone

Do you know the game dog and bone?

The player whose dog brings his bone quickest without being caught, wins. The PYP students had a lot of fun competing with each other.



36 - Celebrating Our Staff

"Indus International School Pune is delighted and proud to have Ms. Pratima Talekar - PYP teacher, Ms. Neha Goel- IT teacher, Mr. Swapnil Khandare - School Nurse as part of our team and we congratulate each one on completing 10 years of service at IISP."

ACHIEVEMENTS



Yohan Lee of PYP 4 and Nirvaan Gupta of PYP 5 participated in Open Indian International Taekwondo Championship 2023 held at the Talkatora Indoor Stadium in New Delhi on 4th and 5th of January 2023. Both Nirvaan and Yohan bagged 2 gold medals each in the sub-junior category for U-32kg competition.

Important Dates

9th to 11th February 2023 - The Pan India IB Heads Conference.

PYP

3rd February – Counsellor’s workshop

7th February – Sports Day

24th February – PYP Indus Day

28th February – Mufti Day

MYP

31st Jan - 4th Feb - ISL Camp

7th Feb to 10th Feb - MYP ACER- IBT Set 1 Grades 6-10

17th Feb - MYP International Random Act of Kindness

20th Feb - MYP International Mother Tongue Day

28th Feb - MYP Science Day

9th Mar to 15th Mar - MYP Grade 10 Mock Exam

DP

27th February onwards - DP2 Mock Examinations

Thanks and warm regards

Mr. Sandeep Chhabra

Principal

Indus International School Pune

principal@indusschoolpune.com

sandeep.chhabra@indusschoolpune.com

www.indusschoolpune.com