

# Principal's Newsletter December 2022

## PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP)



*1 - Star Gazing – PYP 3*



*2 - Star Gazing - PYP 4*

PYP 3 and PYP 4 had a star gazing evening and night this month at the school observatory. Students viewed the Moon along with planets like Jupiter and Saturn through the telescope. Mr. Rudresh Agarwal

guided the students through this experience while also sharing information about the universe with them. Using technology students were also able to spot various constellations and shared myths and facts about the same. PYP 3 students also attended a rocket making workshop which gave them enhanced information about the different parts of a rocket and the process followed for it to be launched into space.

This opportunity to learn more about the cosmos and the universe has given our students great exposure to Astro – science and the deliberation that it presents. Students enjoyed their stay post school hours with refreshing snacks and dinner as well.



PYP 2 students conducted an assembly on World Disability Day on 5th December. They shared stories on the theme of Inclusion and the various ways that it can be practiced in all spheres of our life. To spread awareness about the forms of disabilities and the efforts we can take to help, students from PYP 2 also danced to a song and sang a song to share their beliefs about the same. The internationally recognized day was marked through the assembly and a short reflection written by all students after the assembly.



### 3 - Christmas Celebration

Christmas is a season of happiness and spreading joy. PYP 3 learners conducted an assembly to celebrate and bring in the spirit of the season in the PYP. Grades 2 – 5 were a part of the celebration where various symbols of Christmas were discussed and their significance highlighted. As a run up to the celebration, the PYP organized a toy and books collection drive as a part of the ‘Joy of Giving’ week. All the donations received will be sorted through and shared with the Angrewadi School. Christmas carols sung by our students definitely added warmth and cheer to this season and filled our hearts with joy! On this note, the entire PYP also had a fun session in their classes where they were involved in various Christmas themed activities and a fun class party hour.



### 4 - EYP Showcase

EYP learners recreated the Spirit of Christmas through their play 'Santa's Setbacks' at the EYP Showcase conducted on 16th December. The learners set the stage with their magical and amazing performances which seemed natural to them as they took on various roles. The important learning shared through the play was that the magic of Christmas comes from having an appreciation for magical moments with family, and from taking the time to create those moments.

They brought in laughter and cheer through the play as they transported the audience into a magical land filled with music and a bit of drama; Selflessness and kindness; Spreading love and taking care of each other. They set the mood of Christmas for everyone in the right spirit. Congratulations to all our young learners!



*5 - Leadership camp – PYP 5*

PYP 5 students and teachers went for their first physical leadership camp post the pandemic from 7th – 9th December. Over the 3 days – 2 nights camp, students were engaged in a variety of physical activities and team building exercises. The camp was organized in Panchgani and students were able to do various adventure filled activities like caving, zip lining, Burma bridge crossing and trekking. The camp helped students get an insight into themselves as some of them tried these tasks for the first time. To give students a great experience, the organizer's ensured they had great food and also enjoyed bonfire dance and jungle cooking. Tired but filled with excitement, the PYP 5 returned on Day 3 to the school campus with a bagful of memories.



*6 - Field Trip – Pune Metro*

As a part of the school's endeavor to provide students with opportunities for experiential learning, PYP 1 – 5 students visited the Vanaz Metro station and got an opportunity to ride on the metro as well. Students were briefed about the working of the metro and the rules and process to be followed while ticketing. This experience also led students to engage in discussion about the importance of having metro services in the city and how it will help too.

## MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (MYP)



*7 - Rakshit Ranjan (MYP3)*

Rakshit Ranjan from MYP 3 was selected to perform at the grand finale of Spardha Idol - Pune, a musical competition organised by Spardha, a musical group. In the first round of over 1000 entries, 30 were selected to perform at the grand finale held on 11th December at Yashada Auditorium, Baner. The

winner of the grand finale will be declared in January based on internal judging and social media voting. We call on the Indus community to vote for him and support him by voting.

Between the 8th and 16th of December, MYP students took their Half Yearly assessments. They were focused and determined to do their best. It was the first time in the year that MYP 1-2 sat down for longer assessments, and they handled the whole process well. While MYP 1-4 wrote the assessments by hand, Year 5 took on-screen assessments as practice for their upcoming Assessments.

Students of MYP 1-3 ended the term with class Christmas parties and enjoyed quick celebrations to both bring in the festive season after assessments, as well as say goodbye to school friends and teachers for the calendar year 2022. The main door was decorated by the Art Department and students enjoyed their snacks along with some Christmas chocolates from Ms. Pallavi.



*8 - Christmas Classroom Door Decoration*



MYP 1-3 classes competed in a Christmas Classroom Door Decoration challenge. They were given over a week to decorate with materials they brought on their own. The only catch was that they were not given any specific time during the day for the activity. Classes banded together to work cooperatively on deciding what they wanted to do, bringing materials and even persuasively convincing teachers to give them a few minutes to decorate the doors. While it was mostly done in breaks, it was interesting to see strategies develop to “hide” ideas from other classes, while others put up decorations in instalments.

The doors were judged by teachers and the winners were declared on the last day of school by Ms. Pallavi who went in to deliver the prizes (tattoo stickers and glowsticks) to the winning classes. Here are the winners:

1st Place – 8B

2nd Place – 6C

3rd Place – 6D

Honorary mention – 7B



*9 - MYP 1-3 Art Exhibition*

The Visual Art teachers took great pride in exhibiting the Art submissions of students from MYP 1-3 in the MYP foyer. From stunning pieces of art on various objects of students' choice, to interesting caricatures with social messages. Students and teachers viewed the exhibit and left encouraging messages for our young artists. We couldn't be prouder!



10 - Ronith Lahoti, Young Equestrian from Pune, Wins Awards at JNEC



Ronith Lahoti, a young equestrian, made Pune proud by winning “Individual 4th Position” and “Team Bronze Medal” in “Junior Show Jumping” event in Junior National Equestrian Championship (JNEC). Ronith represented Modi Equestrian Academy, Meerut. He won the Individual award riding horse Cuebbo and the Team award riding horse Mufasa. He was felicitated by Minister of Sports and Youth Welfare for Madhya Pradesh, Mrs. Yashodhara Raje Scindia.

Junior National Equestrian Championship (JNEC) this year was hosted by Madhya Pradesh State Equestrian Academy (MPSEA) in Bhopal. JNEC is India's largest national equestrian competition, in which top riders fight with their best horses for top rankings. A rider must compete in two state-level championships and clear rounds with a specified score to qualify for the JNEC. Ronith qualified for JNEC



in September 2022 by clearing 2 rounds of “Junior Show Jumping” at Regional Equestrian League (REL) held at Modi Equestrian Academy, Meerut. At JNEC, he competed amongst top 65 riders across the country and gave 3 clear rounds out of 4 rounds – 2 rounds each on Cuebbo and Mufasa. It was an incredible achievement considering that this was his first time participating for both REL as well as JNEC. We’re proud of him and wish him the best!

## DIPLOMA PROGRAMME(DP)



11 - Visit to Jnana Prabodhini school, in Harali, Maharashtra





Five Indus students, Ahan Valsangkar, Mihir Raddi, Samyak Patil, Aadit and Arjun Ganesh, visited the Jnana Prabodhini school, in Harali Maharashtra, which is about 5 hours from Pune and it close to the Solapur town in Maharashtra. The school was started by Vasant Tamhankar popularly known as “Anna” after the 1993 Earthquake which devastated the village of Harali. Anna (Vasant Tamhankar) stepped in and helped the villagers rebuild their houses and give them a livelihood.

It is a school which is dedicated to providing education to kids from different social and cultural backgrounds. The school aims for both physical growth as well as mental growth. The students do a lot of manual labour, which is a part of the initiative to develop their physical skills. The school has partnered with the Maharashtra Mandal in Canada which helped secure the funding to build a college. The first thing they saw when they arrived was the different farms which are a part of the agricultural degree that the school offers. Our students were briefed about composting by a student who goes to the institute, and learned about the composting techniques, the different sources of the compost and how self-sufficient the school is in its produce.

A small Marathi documentary called “Aani gaav hasale” (Our Village smiles) was shown later.

They also talked with Hematai Honwad, a volunteer on the American Peace Corps who was also an English teacher who worked with the school, and learnt about her experiences working in the American peace corps. Last but not the least, our students visited Anand Shala, which is a community for underprivileged tribes set up by Jnana Prabodhini to expand their reach and provide basic education for miscellaneous tribes.

The two days’ time and effort our Indus students had put into this remarkable journey is beyond excellence. Their hard work and dedication is an inspiration to other students.



*12 - Visit to Aniket Sevabhavi Sanstha*

Phoenix House held a school-wide donation drive for clothes, books, and toys this month, receiving over a hundred donations from PYP, MYP, and DP. The donations were given to the Angrewadi School, a local village school, and to Aniket Sevabhavi Sanstha, a shelter for mentally challenged people. This project not only helped the needy sections of society but also contributed towards reducing the huge amount of textile and plastic waste that is generated every year. It was truly inspiring to see so many students contribute to make this drive a success!

## **CAREER GUIDANCE & PLACEMENTS DEPARTMENT**

We are delighted to announce that Indus International School Pune is officially a SAT Center, one of the largest Test centers in the region. The career and counselling team successfully conducted SAT on 3rd December 2022 for approximately 250 students from various schools. The test was conducted with the required safety protocols in a secure and comfortable environment.

The team is all set to welcome the Digital SAT that will be held in March 2023.



*13 - Counselor Support for Students and Families*

The career counselling team has maintained one-on-one support for the students of Grade 12 and their families with respect to University/College applications. The counselors and students are working closely to meet the respective deadlines for various countries.

The Counselors have also conducted sessions for Grades 9, 10 and 11 and shared vital information for building their profile.

Prof. Jeff Anderson, a Mathematics lecturer from the [Centre for Mathematics and Computing \(CEMC\)](#) at the University of Waterloo Canada conducted a Math workshop with our IBDP students. The objective of the workshop was to challenge students with some interesting Math problems and get them excited about the power of Mathematics and for further studies of the subject. Students enthusiastically attended the workshop.



University officials' visits to our campus have become more frequent and diverse. Students are getting opportunities to meet university officials from around the globe. This month has been mostly dedicated to European universities. Officials from the following reputed Universities across Europe have visited our campus -

Ø University of Galway - Ireland

Ø University of Limerick- Ireland

Ø Science Po University – France

Ø IESEG School of Management – France

Ø NABA Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti – Italy (Milano and Rome)

Ø GLION & Le Roches School of Hospitality -Switzerland

Ø Ecole Ducasse School of Culinary -France

## SPORTS



14 - Pune district Zila Parishad Competitions



This month our students had the opportunity to participate in the Pune district zila parishad Swimming and Athletics Competitions on the first week of December 2022. The students of IISP have performed well and earned medals in these competitions, due to their commitment, training, hard work, skills, and dedication. Great sportsmanship was displayed during these events.

We congratulate the winners and our coaching staff involved for their exemplary performances. We look forward to supporting their future sporting endeavours and encourage more students to take inspiration and participate in the various sporting competitions to be held in the future.

### Swimming

Name	Age group	Events	Medals
Yajas Gupta	Under 14	50mtr Freestyle	Gold
		50mtr Breaststroke	Silver
		100mtr Freestyle	Gold

Saanjhi Dubey	Under 14	50mtr Backstroke	Gold
		100mtr Freestyle	Silver
		100mtr Backstroke	Bronze
Ranveer Gulati	Under 17	400mtr Freestyle	Gold
		50mtr Butterfly	Silver
Samiya Gulati	Under 17	100mtr Butterfly	Gold
		50mtr Backstroke	Silver



*15 - Athletics*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age group</b>	<b>Events</b>	<b>Medals</b>
Divya Irani	Under 17 Girls	Shot put	Gold
Ashifa Karim	Under 14 Girls	4x100 m relay	Bronze
Alisha Kaushal			
Swaraa Upadhye			
Saee Kawane			
Romir Mukherjee	Under 17	100m	Gold
Rahul Gokhale	Under 17	400m	Bronze

		Long jump	Bronze
Arshan Marghani	Under 19	100m	Gold
Arnav Sapre	Under 19	100m	Bronze
		200m	Bronze
Udya Patil	Under 19	Long jump	Bronze
Ashifa Karim	Under 14 Girls	100m	4th
Swaraa Upadhye	Under 14 Girls	200m	4th

## BOARDING



16 - Chess Classes





Students of PYP1 and MYP1 & MYP3 enjoying chess while attempting to outsmart their opponents. They are engaged in learning how to use creative thinking and how to become better problem solvers

The Food Committee headed by Ali Popatia of Grade 12 has done a fantastic job by working closely with Sodexo, to ensure that the Boarding students' food issues and preferences are addressed effectively and promptly. The finale was the Christmas Dinner on 14th December which was a grand success.

The Events Committee headed by Jazz Narula of Grade 11, has filled this festive season with celebrations by organising the Christmas Party for the Boarders on 3rd December. Apart from this, the Events Committee has also organised several other events during weekends to make it fun and enjoyable for Boarding students.

We look forward to the continued contributions of the Food and Events Committees in the next term.



17 - Christmas Party





The PYP, MYP & DP Boarding students enjoyed playing games at the Christmas celebration planned by the Events Committee. Students danced and sang around a Christmas tree in the DP yard while listening to great music. PYP students, were engaged in fun games like hide-and-see and four corners. MYP students had fun playing the foot balloon game and musical partner game. DP students too enjoyed the Christmas party with music and dancing.



*18 - Christmas Dinner*



The Christmas Dinner was a formal event held on 14th December. Sodexo had transformed the ambience of the Dining Hall with their decorations and beautifully assembled food counters.

The dinner included a grand spread of veg and non veg starters, the main course and a variety of delectable sweets. Bowls of fruits and breads lined the tables, and the food was well presented. The food options delighted the kids, who lingered well past dinnertime having a rollicking good time celebrating Christmas!

## Celebrating Our Staff



“Indus International School Pune is delighted and proud to have Ms. Sandhya Kamble - Career Counselor as part of our team and we congratulate her on completing 10 years of service at IISP.”

## **Important Dates**

### **PYP**

**January 5th - School reopens**

**January 10th - Leadership camps – PYP 1 and 2**

**January 11th - PYP 3**

**January 12th - PYP 4 (overnight camp)**

**January 14th - Sankranti Holiday**

**January 24th - International education day**

**January 26th - Holiday on account of Republic Day**

**January 30th - February 2 - PYP 3 - 5 (ACER IBT Exam)**

### **MYP**

**January 5th - School reopens for all**

**January 8th to 12th - Grade 9 Batch 1 ISL Camp**

**January 11th - HYE Reports published**

**January 13th - PTM (Physical)**

**January 14th - Sankranti Holiday**

**January 12th to 16th - Grade 9 Batch 2 ISL Camp**

**January 26th - Republic Day**

### **DP**

**January 5th - All Students and Staff resume school**

**January 13th - PTM (Physical)**

**January 14th -Sankranti Holiday**

**January 26th - Republic Day**

Thanks, and warm regards

Mr. Sandeep Chhabra

Principal

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