



MYP MONTHLY

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2021

INTRODUCTION

A whole new year, a whole new look, and a whole new publication. With the dawn of 2021, Indus International School, Pune, presents to you, a wholly student-run MYP newsletter, with opinion pieces from the students, descriptions of student activities, and monthly updates. Based upon feedback received from our session in December, the administration and editorial teams decided to expand the newsletter venture to the entire MYP. Give or take a couple months, and here it is! A glimpse into our school's community and student life put together by the students. Enjoy!

This month at Indus:

January and February at Indus marked loads of milestones - the interclass competitions, the ACER IBT exams for MYP 1-3, the note-taking workshops, and virtual Indus Day, but most importantly, students from grades 9-12 returned to school from 1st February. Proper sanitation protocols were observed to give learners the best possible experience, while extensive systems were implemented in order to ensure that those who chose to learn from home were not left behind. Meanwhile, students in grades 6-8 joined school from 15th February.



KEY EVENTS

Note-Taking Workshops

Arun Iyer, MYP 2

In January, note-taking workshops were conducted for MYP learners, facilitated by Ms. Pallavi. The sessions were conducted grade-wise, and lasted for an hour, during which students covered various documented techniques of notetaking. During the workshop Ms. Pallavi emphasized the following points:

1. Jot down the main points
2. Clearly understand the covered concepts
3. Make study notes based on class notes
4. Use visual tools to mark the significant points in the notes
5. The key to excellence depends the students' attentiveness in class and quality of the notes taken by the students based on the lecture

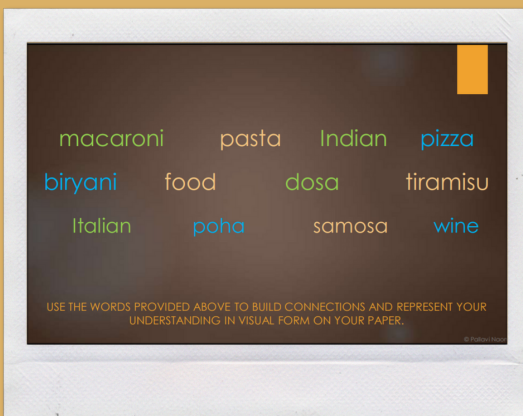


Image: A screenshot of Ms. Pallavi's slides

ACER IBT Exams

From February 2nd to 4th, the IBT ACER exams were held for MYP 1-3. In the ACER exams, students answered 3 multiple-choice papers – Science, Mathematics, and English.

Owing to the pandemic, this year's IBT (International Benchmark Tests) were held remotely at Indus. Teachers conducted remote invigilation through Microsoft Teams, ensuring that all students gave their exams in a fair manner. Students were each given a username and password, and had to log onto the official website, where only the selected test was active. Students were given one hour to complete the paper, and then submitted it on the website itself.

The IBTs are published by the Australian Council for Educational Research, and are a useful tool in tracking academic progress against that of students within the same school, country, and across the globe. The IBTs are administered across grades 3-8, and provide a benchmark, which students can use to improve their academic advancement.

KEY EVENTS

Face-to-Face School

Kaavya Ajoy, MYP 4

After almost a year of remote learning, physical school began again from 1st February. The first week, the students came to school using private transport after which the school provided buses. All students who came to school had to provide a negative CoVID test on their first day and, temperature checks were conducted in the mornings as students entered the block.

During the snack break, students were given time to use the washroom, and to eat snacks if they brought some. During the lunch break, from 1:15 to 1:40 pm, the school provided packed lunches, and all students were seated at a distance.



Image: Ms. Fizza Nambiar | Physical School

Face-to-Face School

Sarthak Sangare, MYP 3

At the start of the day, before students can even board their buses, the buses are sanitized, with procedures inspired and directed by Apollo Shine Foundation. When the student enters the campus, their temperature is checked twice, once at the gate, and once in the block, after which they are cleared to attend their classes.

During the school day, students follow a schedule different from that of an online student. This is where the teacher has to use two platforms simultaneously. Once school ends, day scholars are once again sent home, in a re-sanitized bus. Boarders, meanwhile, attend all their class in a separate block, ensuring that there is a separation of students. Armbands facilitate this separation.

Face-to-face school started in February, and was a great initiative. Now, at the end of February, rising cases threaten to shut it down. The school just has to wait and watch, as the situation presents itself.



KEY EVENTS

Virtual Indus Day

Abiya Syed, MYP 3

The Senior School Indus Day is an annual event which faculty, students and parents alike look forward to. Last year boasted a stuffed amphitheatre, a drama, climate monologues, several dances and musical performances, the choir, and chain stories. However, a similar experience could not be brought as social distancing protocols are paramount in our fight against COVID-19.

Enter the Virtual Indus Day. Scheduled for Saturday, 27th February 2021, the Virtual Indus Day is an amalgamation of all that is loved about Indus Day in digital form. All the events were recorded earlier in the month, and stitched together to make a cinematic experience for the audience. Proper CoVID-19 protocol was followed the entire time to ensure safety.

It is the hope of the students and staff that even in these troubling times, happiness and light can be found through the performing arts part of the Indus Day 2021.

Creative Writing Competition

Siddhant Pandit, MYP 2

Writing is painting our thoughts and creativity is intelligence having fun. The creative writing competition held at IISP recently, was a perfect example of just that.

The competition started with a prompt "Once upon a time..." gave learners the perfect foundation to create something original and yet pour their thoughts out on paper. Given the flexibility of the prompt, students were given the freedom to write short stories, essays, poems, or even create art, like comics. Students were given 45 minutes to complete their work, and then emailed it to the teacher. All the students submitted wonderful pieces, making the best of their opportunity to express themselves.

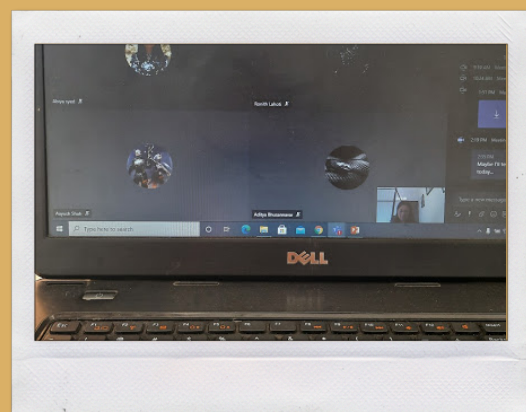


Image: Ms. Fizza Nambiar | Creative Writing

KEY EVENTS

Climate Action

Ved Sanyal, MYP 4

Over the past 2 months, IISP students across programs have created and developed a series of projects led by students across the school. First, the Zero Carbon Footprint project aims to make our campus carbon neutral. The vision is to use sustainable solutions, use data to measure the progress, and spread awareness.

The PYP have decided to beautify our highways and build biodiverse spots within the city. The MYP have taken up the initiative of reviving the Mula and Mutha river. These are both very prominent rivers of Pune. The MYP also aim to create community gardens, which will be maintained locally. The DP have taken up the initiative of revitalizing Bavdhan.

All of these projects will take place over a multi-year period starting from this year, and will play a large part in the school’s climate action policy, as well as individual student leadership.



Ramnadi River at Bavdhan
Image from: <https://www.flickrriver.com/photos/ravikaran/5100841888/>



Mula-Mutha River in Pune
Image from: <https://vajiramias.com/current-affairs/mula-mutha-river/5cfe13bd1d5def5ac9c985d3/>

KEY DATES : MARCH

1

MYP 5 final e-Portfolio submission

2

MYP 5 mock exams begin

15

MYP 1-4 MTT-2 begins

23

MTT-2 ends

27

Spring break begins

28

Holi

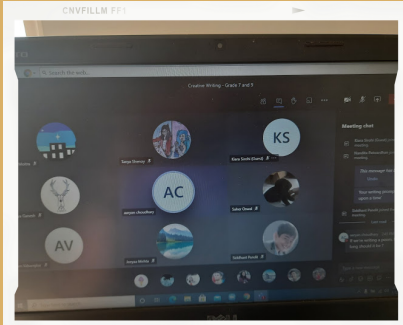


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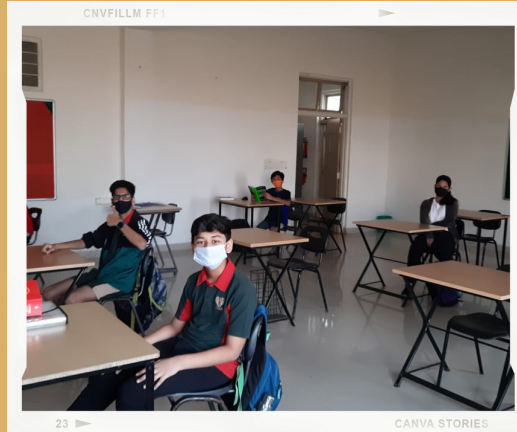


Image: Ms. Fizza Nambiar | Physical School



Image: Ms. Harsimran Kapany | Indus Day



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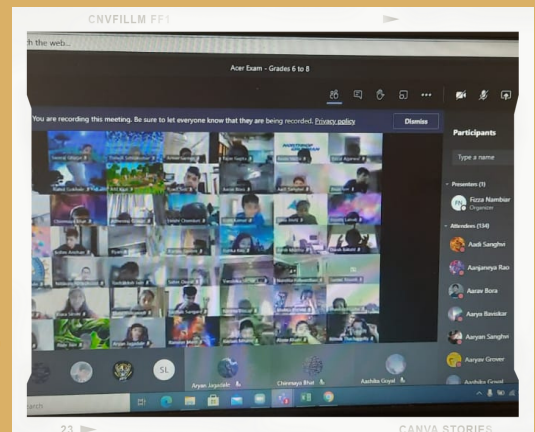


Image: Ms. Fizza Nambiar | ACER IBT Exams