



IN OMNIA PARATUS

INDUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
BANGALORE; INDIA

imPACt

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2024-2025



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From the Editor

A Celebration Of Purpose & Partnership



Ms. Deepa Premkumar

Communications Lead, PAC (2023-25)

It is a true privilege to be invited to write the editorial for this year's edition of imPACT. My heartfelt thanks to the entire PAC team and the school leadership for this opportunity.

Being part of the creation of this magazine has been more than a writing exercise—it has been a window into the vibrant partnership that pulses through the Indus community. As a parent and collaborator, I have been deeply moved by the energy, thoughtfulness, and shared commitment that parents and the school bring to the table. In every article, in every quote, in every initiative captured within these pages, one truth shines brightly: when educators and families work together with purpose, our children thrive.

This edition of imPACT is anchored in one powerful theme- ISB's journey of instilling purpose and bringing the future into the classrooms. Whether it's Lt. Gen. Arjun Ray reminding us that purpose is not a luxury but a necessity, or Dr. Rao's emphasis on equipping students to lead with both technological fluency and emotional depth, this magazine invites us to rethink education as a journey of meaning, not just academic milestones.

The content is as diverse as it is inspiring. You will read about innovative learning spaces like the K-Hub and STEAM-H Lab – not from the lens of the school or students, but from parents who experienced it! You'll see how AI is being used not as a shortcut but as a partner in cultivating critical thinking. You will explore why the OECD partnership is so beneficial for our children! I invite you to dive in and I invite you to explore.

As I hand over the editorial baton for next year, I want to thank each one of you for the warmth and partnership. One thing that has stood out for me these years at Indus, is that are lucky to have a nurturing community. One that helps every child thrive. As parents we strengthen this community by our involvement> Here is wishing that more and more of step up, even more.

Warm Regards

Deepa Premkumar

Communications Lead – Team PAC 2024-25



Saying Thank You



Ms. Varsha Bhandari

Outgoing Chair, PAC (2023-25)

Dear Parents,

As I wrap up my tenure as Chair of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) for the past two years, I want to take a moment to reflect on this incredible journey. It has been a privilege to serve in this role, and none of it would have been possible without the unwavering support of the school, our dedicated grade representatives, and, most importantly, you—our engaged parent community. Your constant feedback and involvement have played a crucial role in shaping our collective efforts.

One of the most rewarding aspects of this journey has been witnessing the school's responsiveness towards ideas and concerns raised by parents. We at PAC have been incredibly lucky to experience this partnership, where we can share with the school leadership candid views and see them received positively. The quick action has many a times quelled issues on the ground.

On the other hand, parents have responded enthusiastically to PAC initiatives. Be it the first ever – 'parents as students initiative' to experience K-Hub and STEAMH labs. Or to be the 'food tasters' at the school cafeteria. We even had many of them voluntarily ask us to contribute to this imPACt magazine. I cherish these memories and am sure such responses will give the PAC team the energy to continue their work in the years ahead.

A special thanks to Deepa, whose support in gathering and presenting parent feedback in a constructive manner has been invaluable. The school has remained proactive in listening to parents and working toward meaningful resolutions, fostering a strong partnership between families and educators.

As I step down, I strongly encourage more parents to get involved. Whether through PAC, volunteering, or simply staying engaged, your participation enriches the learning experience for our children. Every contribution—big or small—adds immense value to their journey. I also wish the incoming chair Ms Swagatika Panda, the very best and assure her of my support at all times.

Thank you once again for your trust and support. I look forward to seeing the PAC continue to grow and make a difference in the years ahead!

Varsha Bhandari
Outgoing Chair, PAC (2023-25)



Purpose. People. Possibility

Why Purpose Must Be the Guiding Light for Education in an AI-Driven Future

By Lt Gen Arjun Ray, PVSM, VSM (Retd.) CEO, Indus Trust

In an age where Artificial Intelligence is evolving faster than our ability to comprehend it, and where volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA) have become the defining characteristics of our times, there is one question that educators, parents, and leaders must ask with urgency and clarity:

What is the purpose of education today?

The purpose of education is to prepare a child for a future we do not know.



Lt Gen Arjun Ray

CEO, Indus Trust

This is no ordinary task. It is a call to redesign the very fabric of schooling—moving beyond rote learning, content-heavy syllabi, and exam-centric approaches, toward the cultivation of competencies that will define success in the future: resilience, adaptability, problem-solving, emotional intelligence, creative thinking, ethical decision-making, and lifelong learning.

A purpose-driven school aligns everything—curriculum, pedagogy, teacher training, and culture—with this larger mission. Such alignment not only inspires vision and innovation, but also creates readiness among students and teachers for an unknown, technology-saturated future.

The Personal Power of Purpose

Purpose is not just institutional—it is deeply personal. *I discovered mine during the most unexpected of circumstances—Operation Sadbhavna in Ladakh*, where I led peacebuilding efforts after years of unrest and violence. When we succeeded, I experienced a transformation. It became clear to me that life must have a higher purpose than medals, titles, and military ranks. I had seen the power of education to

rebuild lives—and I was moved.

In 2001, I took an unusual decision. I left the Indian Army two years before my retirement, not for comfort or acclaim, but to follow my purpose: to transform K-12 education in India. I founded Indus International School, with the belief that education must create leaders—not just scholars—prepared for uncertainty, driven by values, and capable of lifelong reinvention.

AI and the Rebirth of Humanity

Today, the world is increasingly shaped by Artificial Intelligence. In schools, workplaces, and homes, AI is becoming deeply embedded in how we live, learn, and lead. Many fear that AI will replace the human being. I do not share this fear.

In fact, I believe that AI presents an unprecedented opportunity—to reclaim our essential human traits.

AI is capable of handling repetitive, predictable, and administrative tasks more efficiently than any human. In education, this includes lesson planning, assessments, and content delivery. When we allow AI to take over these responsibilities, we free up time and space—for teachers to be mentors, for students to pursue creativity, and for both to develop human-centred leadership.

Leadership in the AI age will not be defined by data or machines—it will be defined by character: Compassion. Empathy. Respect. Love. Forgiveness. Purpose.

These are not soft skills. They are survival skills in a hyper-connected, emotionally fragmented, and rapidly changing world. Our challenge is not to compete with AI, but to transcend it—by focusing on what makes us irreplaceably human.

The Way Forward for Parents and Schools

As we stand on the brink of a new era, parents and schools must become co-creators of purpose-driven futures. Ask your children: What makes you come alive? What impact do you want to create? Help them explore—not just careers—but causes that resonate with their values.

At Indus, we have reimagined the role of education. We teach our students that they are CEOs of their own lives—responsible not just for academic excellence, but for making meaning and building a

better world. Our classrooms integrate AI with human mentorship, and our teachers are trained to nurture both the intellect and the soul.

In conclusion, purpose is no longer a luxury—it is a necessity. It gives our children the courage to face ambiguity, the clarity to make decisions, and the energy to dream big. Purpose transforms education from a transaction into a journey of becoming. And in that journey lies the promise of a better world.

Teachers Day



Teachers Day



Welcoming the new PAC Team



Ms. Swagatika Panda

(PAC Chair 2025-27)

It is a privilege to step into the role of PAC Chair this year, building on the incredible work and leadership of Ms. Varsha Bhandari. Having had the opportunity to serve alongside her as Co-Chair, I have witnessed first-hand the passion, commitment, and thoughtfulness she brought to the Parent Advisory Committee. I am grateful for her guidance and the strong foundation she leaves behind.

What continues to inspire me about Indus is its unwavering commitment to innovation and future-ready learning. The school's forward-thinking approach is evident in its Knowledge Hub and dynamic STEAM/STEM Lab, which are equipped with cutting-edge tools like 3D printers and interactive technologies. These spaces are not just about modern infrastructure—they represent Indus' dedication to nurturing curious, creative, and capable learners who are equipped to make sense of and impact the world around them.

As Chair, I am excited to deepen the partnership between parents and the school community. The PAC plays an important role in supporting students' academic, emotional, and social growth by creating an open channel for feedback, collaboration, and shared goals. I hope to continue fostering that connection, ensuring every parent feels heard and empowered to contribute. I, along with my Co-Chair Ms Deepa Premkumar, hope to continue fostering..

Having been involved with Indus for many years, I value the power of community and believe in the strength of collective effort. I warmly encourage all parents to engage with PAC initiatives, volunteer when possible, and be active participants in shaping a meaningful educational experience for our children.

While some of our in-person gatherings like coffee mornings have been less frequent, I'm optimistic that we'll see a revival of such moments this year and look forward to welcoming both new and returning volunteers into our vibrant PAC family.

Warm Regards

Swagatika Panda – Chair

Deepa Premkumar – Co-Chair



An interview with Dr Sarojini Rao

Dr Rao, is a visionary leader. One who seamlessly bridges the world of thought leadership and the realities of immaculate execution. It was indeed a privilege to receive Dr Rao's thoughts for the imPACT 2024-25.

Each of these are priceless nuggets. When Dr Rao nudges us to let our children solve problems and experience reality. Or when she opines on how to use AI for homework! We hope you find it as useful as we did as we delved into many future focussed topics with Dr Rao... Read on..



Dr. Sarojini Rao


Principal

Q. We are clearly living in and accelerating towards a world where technology is a key driver. How do you see this impacting the children of today? How is the school equipping them for this change?

Dr.Rao : The school fosters entrepreneurial thinking through its Innovation Curriculum, where students work on real-world problems and develop creative solutions. Additionally, the Knowledge Hub promotes deep reading and research-based learning, while the CLM model ensures collaboration with AI as a partner and data driven approach to academic progress. These initiatives, combined with a strong focus on interdisciplinary learning, prepare students to become adaptable leaders in an evolving global landscape.

Q. IISB combines a future focused approach to learning while emphasizing on the human centered core/purpose in the school. Could you please share how the school achieves this in your view and why it is important to do so?

Dr.Rao : At IISB, we believe that while technology continues to transform the way we learn, the human connection remains at the heart of education. With advancements in technology, the role of the teacher is evolving-from being a mere transmitter of content to becoming a facilitator of deeper learning and emotional well-being. To support this shift, we are conducting continuous professional development (PD) sessions aimed at re-rolling our teachers. A key focus of these sessions is integrating Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into every lesson. This ensures that while our students are future-ready in terms of skills and knowledge, they are also emotionally intelligent, empathetic, and resilient individuals.



Q. STEAM-H Manifesto is a unique approach to learning globally. We would love to hear your thoughts on the importance and uniqueness of this approach. And how it prepares students for future careers?

Dr.Rao : STEAM allows us to explain concepts across multiple disciplines, enabling students to see the interconnectedness of knowledge. This approach empowers students to move beyond rote learning to proof of concept-to test, reflect, and refine their ideas. It cultivates critical 21 st-century skills such as collaboration, innovation, empathy, and adaptability, which are essential for future careers that demand not just technical expertise but also human-centered problem solving.

Q. Finding our purpose or a cause we feel strongly about is an evolving journey. How would you suggest parents and teachers guide children through this journey of evolution?

Dr.Rao : One of the most impactful ways parents can support their children is by exposing them to real-life situations and scenarios- through community service, travel, problem-solving experiences, or even everyday challenges. These encounters help students connect with the world beyond the classroom and begin to understand what truly matters to them.

Q. You mentioned the book 'Anxious Generation' in one of our conversations. What perspectives would you share with parents of today, to manage this anxious generation? Especially on balancing technology usage with mental health.

Dr.Rao : The greatest gift parents can give their children is a clear vision – a vision of who they can become, what they can contribute, and how they can navigate life with purpose and resilience. This vision isn't built through lectures, but through modelling: showing children how to manage stress, how to set boundaries with devices, and how to value relationships over digital validation. This vision isn't built through lectures, but through modelling.

Q. On a lighter and yet serious note, GPT's help with homework in many cases. There is no escaping advancing technologies. Your thoughts on how children can use generative AI without losing their individuality and opportunity to build critical thinking skills.

*Dr.Rao : The goal is not to ban AI, but to build discernment: students should be encouraged to use AI as a springboard, not a shortcut. Students are thought to ask better questions, compare sources, evaluate and critic GPT answers and reflect on what they have learned. Our role as educators and parents is to ensure students don't lose themselves in the convenience of AI, but instead use it to discover more of who they are and what they can create. **Students should be encouraged to use AI as a springboard, not a shortcut.** As a closing note, I wish to thank every parent at Indus. All of these could not have been achieved without the belief and support of parents in our vision. Thank you once again for your trust and this opportunity.*



Innovation and Art Carnival





A Day In Our Children's Shoes

Parents Discover the Magic of STEAM-H Lab and K-Hub

When was the last time you connected deeply with your own thoughts... or built a prototype that brought scientific theories to life? At Indus International School, our students experience similar journeys through the innovative STEAM-H Lab and K-Hub initiatives.

But at PAC we wanted to experience these initiatives from the lens of the parents! The school was very welcoming of the idea.

The Experiment: Parents as Students



So recently, we conducted an educational experiment of our own: we invited parents to step into their children's shoes for a day of exploration and discovery. The results? Nothing short of transformative.

"I want to JOIN INDUS NOW!!!" enthusiastically declared one parent after experiencing these initiatives firsthand. Another lamented that we *"never learnt concepts this way!"*

Morning Session: The Journey Inward at K-Hub

Our day began at the K-Hub, where parents experienced what one described as *"know thyself"* – perhaps the most important learning of all.

In a world *"constantly feeding them with choices,"* the K-Hub provides students with a rare opportunity to pause and reflect.



The Knowledge Officers guided parents through deep reading exercises that transformed how they interact with information. As one parent noted: *"Deep self-reading would have made us learn more in-depth than our teacher reading from the textbook and us just listening!"*

Parents were particularly impressed by the atmosphere that encourages what one called *"intellectually stimulating discussions"* about ideas that matter, creating what another parent described as *"a fresh perspective into an original world away from academics as the only priority."*

Afternoon Adventure: STEAM-H Lab Where Theory Takes Flight

Parents then shifted to hands-on creation at the STEAM-H Lab, where textbook concepts leap off the page and into three dimensions.

"It's interesting to see the theory and theoretical concepts move to practical products & innovative ones at that," observed one parent as they engaged with the tools and methodologies their children experience regularly.

Remember those days when Math was Math, Science was Science, and never the twain shall meet?

At the STEAM-H Lab, those boundaries dissolve faster than a science experiment gone wonderfully right!

"The Steam lab helps kids learn how to interconnect & how everything is connected," shared one impressed parent. *"They can visualize the theory & actually build a prototype. It is refreshing!"*



What Made the Biggest Impression?

When asked what struck them most about their experience, parents highlighted several themes:

The Power of Self-Reflection

"Our children are headed in the right direction. The world will be a better place with K-Hub," stated one confident parent. Another appreciated how the initiatives teach students to *"reflect on things you do, rather than just participate passively."*

From Theory to Practice

"Great connect between bookish knowledge & practical application" was repeatedly mentioned as a strength. The STEAM-H Lab provides what one parent called *"very good infrastructure for DIY kind of projects. Very impressed!"*

Breaking Down Subject Silos

"Delving into the subject & focussing on the why and the inter-connectedness of the world" was a highlight for many parents who appreciated how our approach shows students those subjects *"do not work in silos."*

Skilled Guidance

Both the *"knowledgeable teachers"* and *"talented, passionate Knowledge Officers"* received specific praise for their ability to facilitate deeper learning.

"I Wish I Had This When I Was in School!"

This sentiment echoed throughout the parent feedback. When asked which parts of these initiatives they wished they had experienced in their school days, the most common response was simply: *"All of it."*

"The whole experience was amazing, relaxing, and extremely appreciative," summarized one parent. Another reflected: *"A lot different to what we learnt as kids. We lacked deeper understanding in a lot of topics."*

How Would Parents Describe These Initiatives?

We asked parents how they would describe the STEAM-H Lab and K-Hub to fellow parents.

Their responses were illuminating:

"An opportunity to re-learn to connect with ourselves."

"It's an initiative we need, but we don't know that we need it."

"This helps our children understand themselves better & put outside elements in perspective."

"A method to encourage kids to interact on intellectually stimulating discussion."

"It's an amazing concept and kids should indulge more in this."

"This initiative helps start conversations!"

The Complete Learning Journey

What makes these initiatives so powerful is how they complement each other. While the K-Hub nurtures internal awareness, critical thinking, and deep reading, the STEAM-H Lab channels that mindfulness into creative expression, application, and innovation. Together, they represent what modern education should be—a perfect balance of reflection and action, theory and practice, inner exploration and outer creation.

Experience It Yourself!

The most common advice from parents? "Please go visit K-Hub and the STEAM-H Lab."

Next time your child mentions their latest project or deep reading experience, ask them what they discovered about themselves and their world. Better yet, join us for our next Parent Experience Day—you might just discover the scientist, philosopher, or artist within yourself!

Both the STEAM-H Lab and K-Hub continue to evolve. Stay tuned.



Investiture



Data Analytics, OECD and Indus

– Mr. Partho Banerjee

One of the foundational blocks for Indus is its ability to tap into data to make decisions and reach out globally to partner, contribute and learn from the best. We have seen many large MNC's struggle to use data effectively and we thought parents at Indus would love to know these aspects.

We reached out to Mr Partho Banerjee – Vice Principal, Indus International school for his thoughts on these two key aspects. He did not disappoint us and shared a detailed view, that we are enclosing below



Mr Partho Banerjee
Vice Principal

Analytics at Indus

Indus International School Bangalore follows a robust and structured data policy aimed at driving continuous improvement in teaching, learning, and overall school performance. Am dividing it into three phases.

Data collection/Input

The school collects a wide range of data including demographic information, academic outcomes, and stakeholder perceptions. A major emphasis is placed on academic data, which serves as a cornerstone for instructional improvement and strategic planning. Academic data is gathered through a systematic and frequent process involving daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly assessments—ranging from End-of-Lesson (EOL) assessment and formative assessments to summative evaluations and standardized tests such as ACER.

Data Analysis / Processing

Once collected, this academic data is analysed both at the micro and macro levels.

- ▷ At the classroom level, it enables teachers to monitor student progress, personalize instruction, and set measurable learning goals.
- ▷ At the institutional level, the data supports longitudinal analysis of student performance using SPIN scores and predictive analysis to identify learning gaps, outcomes, and tailor support systems.

Leveraging data for decision making

The three broad areas of action based on data are:

- ▷ The school uses academic data insights to refine curricula, allocate resources strategically, and inform innovation in teaching methods.
- ▷ Data allows school leaders to identify professional development needs and enhance teacher performance (scores based on student achievement, classroom observation and reflective practices) through targeted training.
- ▷ Real-time data dashboard and visualizations help various stakeholders within the school to make informed decisions that align with the school's vision of academic excellence.

By integrating academic data into every layer of educational planning and delivery, Indus ensures a data-driven ecosystem that not only upholds rigorous academic standards but also adapts dynamically to student needs, thus fostering a culture of continuous growth and innovation.

Indus and OECD

A Global Collaboration for Future-Ready Learning

Indus International School Bangalore (IISB) has partnered with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to co-create global best practices in education. This collaboration is anchored in the OECD Learning Compass, promoting cross-cultural educational innovation.

Focus : Cognitive Engagement

IISB chose Cognitive Engagement as its core theme in its partnership with OECD, exploring how students can

- o Take *greater ownership* of their learning,
- o Use *metacognition and real-time feedback*, and
- o Tackle *interdisciplinary challenges*.

OECD has acknowledged IISB as a forerunner in its global initiative: Unlocking High Quality Teaching.

One of the many reasons for this acknowledgement by a global organisation such as OECD is the integration of AI-powered humanoids into the classroom. These humanoids deliver key subject content, facilitate discussions, and provide learning analytics, allowing both students and teachers to personalize and enhance the educational experience. Students are no longer passive recipients but active participants—engaging in real-world problem-solving, debating ethical issues, and working collaboratively across disciplines.

- ▷ This has led to a measurable improvement in academic scores, enhanced cognitive engagement, and the incubation of student-led entrepreneurial ventures.
- ▷ Teachers at IISB have transitioned into facilitators of learning and emotional growth, designing responsive curricula and engaging in continuous professional development.

The OECD collaboration enables IISB to participate in a global dialogue—sharing evidence-based practices, refining pedagogical strategies, and aligning their work with international research. This approach not only future-proofs education at Indus but also ensures that students are building the skills, mindsets, and adaptability required to thrive in a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) world.

PYP Indus Day



Senior School Indus Day



Blockchain – A Digital Portfolio for Life

Indus International School has recently introduced an innovative Blockchain platform that is transforming how high school students document their learning journeys. I've witnessed its impact firsthand through my daughter Diya.

The platform acts as a secure, lifelong digital portfolio—where students can store achievements, reflections, and project work. Unlike traditional school records that remain with the institution, this blockchain-based system belongs to the student. It's a permanent, student-owned repository they'll carry forward well beyond school.



Diya Anand (Grade 10)
& **Meena Anand** (mother)

Diya has embraced it wholeheartedly. She's uploaded certificates from her Bharathanatyam training, an internship appreciation letter from a tech startup, and credentials from an economics course in Delhi. But what stands out to me is how the platform goes beyond certificates.

She uses the journaling feature to regularly reflect on her thoughts and growth. These entries help build a rich timeline of her development—capturing both milestones and mindset shifts. It's this journaling that, I believe, truly deepens the platform's value.

She's also created project portfolios—like her website on child monitoring solutions from Grade 10—and documented participation in Harvard Model UN and community service. It offers a multidimensional view of her learning, far beyond grades or report cards.

"Everything is in one place now," Diya told me. "I don't have to worry about losing certificates or forgetting what I've done—it's all stored securely."

This solves a problem many students and parents face: scattered records across platforms and years. Now, it's centralized, authenticated, and completely student-controlled.

As Diya prepares for university applications, she'll be able to present a complete picture of her capabilities—projects, passions, reflections, and growth—all backed by blockchain security. She can choose what to share, and with whom.

From my perspective as a parent and educator, this is a game-changer. Indus isn't just preparing students for today's challenges—it's equipping them with a digital legacy they can build on for life.

Top Three moments in IBDP

We reached out to Mr Shailendra Kushwaha (Head of Senior School) and Ms. Shamshad (Program Co-ordinator Senior School) to pick their three pivotal moments in this academic year. Here is what they chose:

Indus International School Bangalore has consistently been at the forefront of innovation in education, creating transformative learning environments where students develop essential 21st-century skills and thrive in an ever-evolving world. Here are our top three moments from IBDP



**Ms. Shamshad
& Mr. Shailendra Kushwaha**

Top three moments

The STEAM-H Lab: Innovation Through Integration

The **STEAM-H Lab** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, and Humanity) serves as a dynamic space where diverse disciplines converge to nurture problem-solving, critical thinking, and innovation. Equipped with state-of-the-art tools, including robotics kits, 3D printers, coding platforms, and design software, the lab provides hands-on learning opportunities that prepare students for the challenges of a technology-driven world. Aligned with the school's emphasis on **international-mindedness**, the STEAM-H Lab encourages students to address global challenges through local solutions, fostering curiosity and inquiry while promoting meaningful learning experiences.

The Knowledge Hub: A Nexus for Collaborative Intelligence

What sets the Knowledge Hub apart is its emphasis on **Collaborative Intelligence**, which enables learners to work across disciplines, cultures, and perspectives to tackle pressing global challenges such as climate change, healthcare, and artificial intelligence. Through research, debates, and initiatives like the **Ethics Olympiad**, students gain the skills to innovate responsibly and empathetically.

Workshops, hackathons, and guest lectures by industry experts further enrich the hub, encouraging students to transform ideas into impactful projects. By integrating empathy and ethics into the learning process, the Knowledge Hub ensures that students approach innovation with a deep sense of purpose.

Successful Evaluation: A Milestone in Purposeful Education

Indus International School Bangalore is proud to announce the successful completion of its recent evaluation by the **IB team**, an achievement that underscores the school's unwavering commitment to excellence and purposeful education. This accomplishment reflects the collective efforts of students, teachers, parents, and the leadership team in fostering a culture of innovation, empathy, and holistic growth.

Evaluators praised the school's forward-thinking curriculum, which blends academic excellence with practical learning to connect studies with real-world challenges. They highlighted Indus' success in fostering **collaborative intelligence** and entrepreneurial thinking.



Top Three Moments in MYP

Building Future-Ready Learners

We reached out to Ms Neelu Saini (MYP HOS) and Ms Hema Thiagarajan (Senior MYP Co-ordinator) to pick their three pivotal moments in this academic year. Here is what they chose:

At Indus, we believe that the purpose of education is not just to prepare students for exams, but to empower them to lead with integrity, solve real-world problems, and adapt to whatever the future may bring. This year, three initiatives stood out in how they nurtured creative, critical, collaborative, and compassionate learners.



**Ms. Neelu Saini
& Ms. Hema Thiagarajan**

STEAM-H Lab

Innovation Through Integration

In a world where change is constant, the STEAM-H Lab—integrating Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, and Humanities—offers students an interdisciplinary, hands-on experience that nurtures inquiry, creativity, and real-world application. Rather than learning in silos, students hypothesize, experiment, and iterate through projects that simulate real-world problem-solving.

In Physics, students designed inclusive playgrounds, applying measurement skills and spatial reasoning with empathy and functionality. In Chemistry, they investigated the Phoenix Paradox as a metaphor for endothermic and exothermic reactions—blending science with art, literature, and symbolism. In Language and Literature, students explored Margaret Atwood’s *Immigrants* to examine themes of displacement and identity, using mathematical models to connect poetry with data, global migration, and socioeconomics.

The lab fosters essential 21st-century skills—communication, collaboration, adaptability, and resilience—while encouraging creative risk-taking where failure is seen as a stepping stone to growth.

AI as a Teaching Partner

Enhancing Engagement & Independent Thinking

With generative AI becoming a significant part of our lives, Indus views it not as a threat but a powerful teaching partner. This three-way partnership—between student, teacher, and AI—helps students receive instant feedback, refine thought processes, and explore diverse problem-solving approaches.

AI enables differentiated learning experiences tailored to each student’s needs, while teachers guide them to use it ethically and productively. Through this, students develop discernment, digital literacy, and a deeper sense of ownership in their learning journeys.

Wisdom Retreats

Building Morally Grounded Thinkers

Wisdom Retreats are structured reflection sessions held at the end of each unit. These sessions create space for students to examine the real-world implications of what they’ve learned, and reflect on ethical dimensions—such as AI, sustainability, and justice.

In a recent retreat, after studying AI, students grappled with questions like: What are the consequences of AI in decision-making? Who is responsible when AI errs? These discussions help students align academic understanding with values and global responsibility. These are examples demonstrating how Indus is shaping education that is holistic, future-ready, and deeply human.



A reflection Of Our Year In PYP

This is a joint article by *Ms. Dominica Ireland, (Head of Primary School) & Ms. Monica Khanna, (Primary Years Programme Coordinator)*. We requested them to get together and pick their three pivotal moments in this academic year. Here is what they chose

Together, as Head of School and Programme Coordinator, we are united by a shared belief: that learning should be both joyful and rigorous. That excellence is not a finish line, but a mindset. And that every child deserves the opportunity to grow into their potential-supported by a school culture that values academic strength and personal growth.

This year, three standout patterns-not just moments-have encapsulated the spirit of our school.



**Ms. Dominica Ireland
& Ms. Monica Khanna**

Empowering Student Agency

A Year of Inquiry and Collaboration

A defining highlight has been watching our students take meaningful ownership of their learning. They've asked bold questions, pursued thoughtful inquiries, reflected deeply, and collaborated with purpose. These were not isolated events but the result of an environment designed to nurture curiosity, critical thinking, and independence.

Our programme is intentionally structured to guide deep learning while making space for student voice, agency, and choice. We thank our students for their courage, curiosity, and commitment to growth. They remind us each day: learning is a journey, not a race.

The Spirit of Academic Rigour

Purposeful and Passionate Learning

Academic rigour, in our view, is not pressure or perfection—it is about purpose and possibility. It's in the student who revisits a draft to refine their ideas, or one who perseveres through a complex problem. It's in the commitment to not just knowing, but understanding—and to not just performing, but growing.

This balance is sustained by dedicated educators and an unwavering belief in every learner. Here, excellence is not a one-size-fits-all outcome but an individual pursuit, where each child is empowered to reach their version of success.

A Community Rooted in Connection and Growth

What touched us most was seeing our community embrace excellence not as perfection, but as progress. From students to teachers to parents, the strength of connection was palpable.

Our school pulses with energy—where every learner is seen, known, and challenged. This year, students demonstrated resilience by treating challenges as opportunities. Their willingness to support one another and seek guidance reflects the culture of growth we continue to nurture.

To our families: thank you for partnering with us. Let us continue to build a learning community where rigour meets joy, and where the heart of education lies in connection—between ideas, people, and who we are becoming.



PYP Exhibition



Top moments from the Performing Arts Department

We invited *Mr Ajey Preetham (Teacher of Drama)* and *Mr Sudeep (HOD-Cultural department)* to jointly pick their top three moments of this academic year.

Here is what they said:



**Mr. Ajey Preetham
& Mr. Sudeep Jayaprasad**

Understanding migration beyond the classroom

This year, our exploration of drama intertwined beautifully with the profound theme of "Migration," a Grade 5 unit that took on deeper meaning through performance. Students brought to life "Mukund and Riaz" by Nina Sabnani, a poignant non-fiction story that unveiled the emotional weight of migration. Through this immersive experience, they not only grasped the causes and consequences of displacement but also felt the grief, resilience, and need for human compassion in such moments of upheaval.

As I reflect, I see how drama transformed this lesson from mere knowledge into a heartfelt journey one that will resonate far beyond the classroom.

Student led – Self scripted play (at MYP Indus Day)

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Passionate educators

At the heart of our success is a passionate team of educators committed to nurturing artistic excellence and confidence in every learner. This has made possible a vibrant journey of artistic expression and growth for our Performing Arts Department. From high-energy musical productions to soul-stirring concerts, our students have continued to shine across the PYP, MYP, and DP continuum.

- ▷ One of the standout highlights was our PYP Indus Day, where students came together to perform adaptations of The Gruffalo, The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse, and The Lion King, showcasing exceptional talent, collaboration, and storytelling.
- ▷ Our Senior School Concert Band earned accolades for their dynamic medley, blending classical and cinematic scores, including Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, while our PYP Concert Band touched hearts with their rendition of Also Sprang Zarathustra and Funky Town.
- ▷ The department also witnessed powerful performances in Indian classical dance and vibrant showcases in Western dance styles.
- ▷ Our school choir, growing in strength and harmony, performed across multiple school events with poise and passion.
- ▷ We introduced genre-based investigations in MYP music, dance, and theatre, encouraging students to explore a range of genres with both creativity and critical thought.



PYP Sports Day



Senior school sports day



Top Moments of the Sports Department

We invited **Dr. Poovaiah and the team** to pick to jointly pick their top two moments of this academic year. It was tough, especially in year which has gone off very well for sports at Indus.

They consented and here are their top picks

Indus International School, Bangalore has always championed holistic education, and with its visionary "Sports for Life" initiative. This progressive approach positions sports not just as recreational or competitive outlets, but as powerful tools for building character, discipline, resilience, and lifelong wellness.



GROUP PHOTO OF THE ENTIRE SPORTS DEPARTMENT:

Second row from the left: Mr. Sachin Basrur, Mr. Ganesan T, Mr. Ranganagowda, Mr. Singha S M, Mr. Devu Prasad, Mr. Naveen Kumar, Mr. Ashutosh, Mr. Rohith N.

First row from the left: Ms. Shubha Rani, Ms. Rebecca G, Ms. Divya V, Dr. Poovaiah N K, Dr. Neha Kureel, Dr. Sarika Bramha Hazarika, Mr. Prathamesh Srikanth Murgod.

Revisiting the PYP curriculum

The PYP Sports curriculum has undergone significant enhancements to offer a more comprehensive and engaging sports experience.

- ▷ The number of Sports classes has increased, giving students greater opportunities to participate actively in a wide range of sports and discover their interests and strengths.
- ▷ Athletics has been made mandatory to build endurance, speed, and strength, while swimming is available year-round as an optional sport that promotes both fitness and life-saving skills.
- ▷ Students also receive foundational training in basketball, football, and badminton, helping them develop essential game skills and cultivate lasting interest.
- ▷ A key focus of the updated curriculum is motor skill development—crucial for improving coordination, balance, agility, and overall physical competence—laying the groundwork for healthy physical growth and long-term wellness.
- ▷ Complementing this, a comprehensive sports report card has been introduced too.
- ▷ The success of this approach has been possible thanks to the school's dedicated coaches, whose expertise, mentorship, and encouragement have been instrumental in guiding students and fostering a thriving sports culture.

Indus Athletes Shine on the Global Stage

The other highlight is the international achievements of its young athletes. Twelve students represented ISSO-India at the Under-15 ISF Gymnasiade 2025 in Zlatibor, Serbia, while nineteen competed in the Under-18 edition in Manama, Bahrain. Competing against elite global talent, they demonstrated outstanding skill, resilience, and sportsmanship.

The Gymnasiade, hosted by the International School Sport Federation (ISF)—recognized by the International Olympic Committee and global sport federations—is a premier global school sporting event. As a key event on the international calendar, it provides a rare platform for young athletes to compete at the highest level.

Through such international exposure and a structured sporting pathway, Indus empowers its students and coaches to pursue excellence. These achievements reflect the school's vision of nurturing world-ready individuals who are confident, disciplined, and prepared for success—both on and off the field.

Top 3 moments of Visual Arts Department

We invited *Ms. Ila Bharati, head of the visual arts department* and her team to pick the top three moments of the year. Here is what they chose

Visual Arts has emerged as a powerful medium for instilling purpose and preparing students for the future. Visual Arts provides students with a meaningful platform for self-expression, storytelling, and reflection. When students engage in creating art, they explore personal themes, societal issues, and global narratives. This process helps them connect deeply with their inner thoughts, values, identities and discover the purpose—not just in their art, but in how they see and impact the world around them.



Ms. Ila Bharati

Head of the visual arts department

After school arts class

This year we took the initiative to offer after-school classes for students who are passionate about the subject but lack the time and proper guidance to pursue their interests. More than 20 students, both boarders and day scholars, showed enthusiasm and actively participated in the sessions. It was truly inspiring to witness their sincerity, positive approach, and creative ideas. Some students demonstrated remarkable improvement in their work, while others explored art for the first time and performed exceptionally well. Seeing their growth and dedication was a truly rewarding experience.

Exposure to global art forms

We placed a strong emphasis this year on exploring art and culture from around the world, with the aim of broadening our students' understanding and appreciation of the subject. Through guided discussions, research, and hands-on projects inspired by global art forms, students developed a more thoughtful and intentional approach to their creative process. This not only enhanced their technical skills but also nurtured their confidence, self-expression, and critical thinking abilities.

Art Carnival 2025

We proudly celebrated the artistic journey of our young talents at Art Carnival 2025. Students from Grades 6 to 12 showcased a spectacular exhibition, highlighting their artistic expression, creativity, and passion.

The exhibition featured a diverse range of art mediums, including 2D, 3D, and digital art. Students experimented with techniques such as acrylic painting, watercolor, oil painting, clay sculpture, installation art, oil pastels, charcoal, ink & pen, and digital art. It was truly inspiring to witness their creativity, technical prowess, and artistic vision come to life in such a remarkable way.



Bidding Adieu



Sanjana Narang

Parent of Tashvi Narang grade 12

As we bid farewell to Indus International School, I do so with deep gratitude and pride. Our time here has been transformative—not just for my children, but for me as a parent.

Initially attracted by Indus's vision of holistic education and impressive campus, we discovered much more. The school consistently pioneered educational innovations – integrating leadership development, DTP, and innovation into core curriculum, and establishing ITARI, Start-Up school, and introducing robot teachers. Their strong emphasis on community service through IICS and various projects instilled genuine empathy in every student.

Indus created a space where curiosity flourished and learning extended far beyond classrooms. It shaped not just my daughter, who graduates as a confident, thoughtful individual, but also my elder son, an alumnus who left with the resilience and discipline to thrive.

To the parents who remain and those who are just joining: know that your involvement matters. Your voice matters. And most importantly, your partnership with the school makes a difference.

Thank you, Indus, for a journey filled with purpose and heart. You will always be a part of our story.

Thank You
Sanjana Narang, signing off
Parent of Tashvi Narang grade 12



Graduation Day



Grade 12 Graduation

Graduation Day



PAC Team Pic







Clemence
GRADE 2



Arathi Purohit
GRADE 2



Deepshikha Parmar
GRADE 2



Dhannya Sreekumar
GRADE 4



Divya
PREP 1



Harpreet Kaur
GRADE 1



Harshini
GRADE 8



Kriti Singh
GRADE 7



Leticia Maestri Dalla Nora
GRADE 3



Manasa
PREP 2



Meena Anand
PREP 2



Meghna Doshi
GRADE 7



Nitrya Singhal
BOARDING



Prakeerti
GRADE 10



Rashmee Mohanty
GRADE 5



Rock
GRADE 9



Sasmita
GRADE 12



Seema Nagamohan
GRADE 5



Shravanthi
RECEPTION



Roopashree gopalswamy
GRADE 11



Meenal
GRADE 6



Deblina
GRADE 8



Sreemoti
PYP CO-LEAD



Tripti
MYP CO-LEAD



Shilpashree
GRADE 9

PAC Team 2023-2025





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INDUS

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

BANGALORE, INDIA