

## INDUS SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP

# FRESH TRAILS & FIERCE MINDS

JUNE 2025

### Dear Leaders,

The academic year at Indus School of Leadership commenced with vibrant energy as we welcomed the first cohort of student leaders from Indus Altum International School, Belgaum.

Students from Grades 7, 8 and 9 embarked on their leadership journey through immersive, outdoor-based programs designed to spark self-discovery, build resilience and foster collaboration.

As trailblazers of the year, these young leaders embraced every challenge with courage and curiosity—setting the tone for a year of growth, initiative and purposeful action.



THIS EDITION CAPTURES THEIR STORIES, REFLECTIONS AND THE POWERFUL MOMENTS THAT SHAPED THEIR LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE.

### Grade 8 | LAUNCHING THE YEAR WITH PURPOSE

The first Leadership Development Program of the academic year commenced with the spirited students of Grade 8 from IAIS , Belgaum, setting the tone for 2025.

Designed to spark open mindedness, initiative and collaborative thinking, the experience took students through a series of immersive challenges.

From navigating high stakes scenarios in the Leadership Reaction Course that demanded sharp critical thinking, to slowing down and tuning into one another during the Leadership Disposition Course, students explored what it means to lead with both agility and responsibility.





One of the most impactful moments unfolded during a community visit to Arikere village, where students took part in a hands on plastic waste collection drive. This act of emotional awareness and environmental accountability was further validated when the local panchayat stepped in to responsibly recycle the collected waste.

The experience gave leadership a real world anchor and reminded students that it is not just about giving direction. It is about awareness, intention and creating space for impact that extends beyond oneself.

## GRADE 7 | BUILDING COLLABORATION, ONE STEP AT A TIME

Leadership for the Grade 7 cohort of IAIS , Belgaum unfolded as a quiet discovery, less about taking charge and more about learning how to be present within a team. As they moved through moments of uncertainty and unfamiliar situations, students tapped into the foundations of leadership.

The ability to communicate clearly, collaborate without ego and think critically when answers were not obvious.



These were not grand gestures but small decisions. Asking for support, listening without interrupting, stepping aside so someone else could step in—that slowly shaped their understanding of what it means to lead with intention.

Across the two days, students became more aware of their own emotional responses and the energy of those around them. They noticed how attitude and atmosphere influence group dynamics and how empathy strengthens connection. What they gained was more than a set of leadership skills. They left with a lasting awareness that leadership begins in stillness, grows through awareness and takes shape through everyday choices grounded in trust and quiet courage.



## GRADE 9 | STRATEGIC THINKING MEETS REAL-TIME LEADERSHIP

The Grade 9 students of IAIS , Belgaum stepped into a leadership experience that challenged not only their abilities, but their mindset. Over two days, they were immersed in dynamic situations that called for sharp critical thinking, steady communication and the courage to respond without hesitation.

Each moment asked them to take initiative, trust their instincts and think beyond themselves. Through problem solving under pressure and navigating unfamiliar terrain, they began to stretch the limits of how they lead.



With a growing sense of responsibility, the students explored what it means to lead with creativity and adapt in real time.

As teams evolved, so did their understanding of collaboration—not just as working together, but as building trust through consistency and intention. Space was also made for personal reflection, offering insight into how emotional awareness shapes the way leaders connect with their environment.



By the end, leadership had become less of a concept and more of a presence—visible in their choices, their words and the calm with which they moved forward.



## Student Voice

Leadership comes alive when students begin to see themselves differently.

Here's a reflection from one of our Grade 8 participants, capturing their personal insight and experience during the program.

**Our Amazing 5-Day Trip to ISL**  
**By Apoorva Anil Desai, Grade 8**  
**Indus Altum International School, Belagavi**

Our 5-day trip to ISL was one of the best learning experiences I have ever had! At first, I was a bit nervous about staying away from home for so long, but as soon as we reached, I felt excited and ready for the adventure.

Throughout the trip, we took part in many fun and challenging activities. One of my favourite activities was the Leadership Reaction Course (LRC). It really helped me understand the importance of quick thinking and teamwork. In this activity, we had to solve different tasks using limited resources and it taught me that sometimes we have to trust our team and think calmly under pressure.

We also did Obstacle Courses, which pushed me to come out of my comfort zone and keep going even when I felt tired. These activities taught me that real leaders never give up and always encourage others to keep trying. Another activity I really enjoyed was Team Problem-Solving Tasks (Blind Fold activity), where we had to complete challenges together and support each other. I learnt that winning is not the most important thing; what really matters is how we work as a team and how we listen to each other.

Apart from the activities, I also loved spending time with my friends in the dormitories, sharing stories, laughing and building new friendships. Every evening we had reflection time, which helped me think about what I learnt and how I can become a better person and a better leader. This trip made me feel more confident, more independent and taught me life skills I will always remember. I am so thankful for this opportunity and I really hope we can go on more trips like this in the future!

As these young leaders return to their classrooms and communities, they carry more than just memories of adventure. They return with clarity, courage and a deeper understanding of themselves and one another. Each experience—from moments of challenge to quiet reflection—has planted the seeds of leadership that will continue to grow in the months ahead. At the Indus School of Leadership, we believe that leadership is not built in a day, but revealed over time, through every small act of awareness, responsibility and intention.

This is only the beginning...

