



July 2025 Newsletter

Highlights of the month:

- Sessions for Teacher Development
- Pre IB Sessions
- Welcome note by Dr. Sarojini Rao

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we delve into the new academic year, we can't help but feel a surge of excitement and hope for the adventures that await us. Every fresh start brings a treasure trove of possibilities, and this year is no different. Together, we find ourselves at the brink of an exhilarating chapter, ready to tackle the challenges and celebrate the victories that come our way.

The Way Ahead:

The 2025–26 academic year officially commenced for our faculty on July 15th, following a rejuvenating summer break. As part of the induction program for both new and returning teachers, our Deputy CEO, Dr. Sarojini Rao, delivered a compelling address that set the tone for the year ahead. She articulated a clear strategic direction, underscoring the importance of teaching for creativity and the transformative potential of *deliberate practice* in the classroom. This instructional approach is rooted in developing academic rigor while simultaneously equipping students with critical 21st-century skills such as innovation, adaptability, and problem-solving.

Dr. Rao emphasized that this year’s academic focus will be on achieving excellence through focused, data-informed practice. Teachers are encouraged to harness the power of analytics and reflection to drive continuous improvement and elevate student outcomes. A key pillar of this strategy is the implementation of the **Life Entrepreneurship Curriculum**, which builds entrepreneurial competencies and human values through the processes of **Design Thinking Pedagogy (DTP)** and **Tikkun Olam**, inspiring students to innovate with empathy and act with purpose for the greater good.

In her address, Dr. Rao also revisited the Indus Mission — a commitment to fostering **academic rigour, human values, and fearless innovation**. She provided clarity on how this vision will be brought to life through a dynamic ecosystem that includes personalized learning pathways, innovation labs, service learning, and purposeful digital integration.

The way forward was defined through collaborative dialogue, intentional goal-setting, and a unified commitment to reimagining education — not as a system of rote instruction, but as a transformative journey that empowers every learner to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.

A defining moment of the opening sessions was General Ray’s thought-provoking keynote address, *“In the Age of AI, Only the Human Teacher Will Survive.”* With powerful conviction, he emphasized that in an increasingly automated and digitized world, the irreplaceable value of educators lies not in content delivery, but in their ability to foster **social-emotional learning (SEL)**, cultivate **empathy**, and guide students through the discipline of **deep work**. He underscored that while AI can enhance efficiency and personalize instruction, it is the human teacher who nurtures trust, builds character, and inspires purpose — elements that no algorithm can replicate.

His keynote called upon educators to embrace the tools of the future while doubling down on what makes them essential: the ability to connect, empathize, and lead with heart and integrity in the classroom.

Professional development sessions continued with renewed energy and focus across both school sections, empowering faculty with robust training in key areas aligned with our academic vision. A major emphasis was placed on the **implementation of the CLM (Collaborative Learning Model)**, enabling teachers to design student-centered, inquiry-driven classrooms that foster active engagement and accountability.

Further sessions focused on **data analysis for instructional improvement**, equipping educators with tools and strategies to interpret student performance data effectively and use it to inform planning, differentiation, and timely intervention.

Extensive training was conducted for **Teacher Designers**, who will be leading the implementation of the **Life Entrepreneurship Curriculum** through the **Design Thinking Pedagogy (DTP)** framework. This training equipped them with the tools to facilitate innovative, student-driven learning experiences that foster creativity, empathy, and real-world problem-solving.



Workshops on POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment) and POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) were conducted to reinforce the importance of emotional well-being and to provide guidance on maintaining a safe and supportive environment for all

learners.

An address by Dr. Sarojini Rao for the students

The address began on an invigorating note on 30th July, as **Dr. Sarojini Rao** introduced students to the roadmap for the year ahead and rekindled the magic of what makes **Indus an outlier**—an institution uniquely positioned to make a meaningful difference in today’s volatile and uncertain world. Dr. Rao explained, the Indus Vision, emphasizing our commitment to *academic rigour, human values, and fearless innovation*. She also reinforced the importance of living by the school’s **core values**—*love, empathy, discipline, and respect*—not just as ideals, but as daily practices that shape character and guide purposeful action. Her address inspired students to lead with intention, learn with curiosity, and serve with compassion in the year ahead.

Medical Camp for Teachers

A medical camp was successfully organized on 23rd July for all teachers and staff at the Sports Complex, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The camp offered free consultations with specialists from Narayana Health, including a cardiologist, general physician, and gynecologist, along with ECG and bone density scans.

The Eye Foundation conducted complimentary eye check-ups, while Tenet Diagnostics provided blood sample collection at concessional rates.

A blood donation drive was also held, making the event a valuable health initiative for the school community.



Curriculum Road Map Day

A significant highlight of the month was our Curriculum Road Map Day, where we had the pleasure of welcoming parents into our learning spaces. The day served as a platform to demystify the PYP framework and highlight the central role of inquiry, transdisciplinary learning, and the IB learner profile in shaping our approach. Families interacted with homeroom and specialist teachers, gaining clarity on year-level goals, assessment strategies, and how they can meaningfully support their child's learning journey. The positive feedback and active participation reaffirmed the importance of our school-home partnership and its role in creating a supportive, holistic and nurturing environment for every child.

Life Entrepreneurship

At Indus, we are constantly evolving to ensure our students are not just prepared for exams, but for life. With this vision, we have enhanced the Innovation Curriculum into the Life Entrepreneurship (LE) Curriculum. This transformation reflects our deep commitment to preparing students design their future by nurturing creativity, building problem-solving abilities, and developing a strong sense of personal vision through Tikkun Olam.

Students will have 10% of their academic time engaged in LE learning such as Design Thinking Process (DTP), Imagination Retreats, Tikkun Olam, and the Knowledge Hub. Every class will be supported by two Teacher Designers to ensure meaningful, collaborative, and impactful learning experiences. This curriculum will be designed and led by School Designers and the StartupYou team, ensuring in developing a culture of creativity, innovation, leadership, and an entrepreneurial mindset.

What makes LE distinct is its real-world application. Students will be encouraged to pursue original ideas through DTP and when these ideas reach a viable stage, they will move into Pre-Incubation and Incubation Centers. These centers are designed to help students refine solutions with the support of expert mentors, prototyping infrastructure, and early-stage investors.

DP:

IBDP Results:

Congratulations to the **IBDP Class of 2024-25!** We're thrilled to announce that **over 30% of our students achieved scores of 37 and above.** This remarkable cohort has collectively earned an impressive **\$7.7 million in scholarships** and secured **over 285 university acceptances.** We couldn't be prouder of their outstanding accomplishments and bright futures! This really showcases their amazing talents and aspirations, setting the stage for a future full of promise. We could not be prouder of what they have achieved and are excited to see what they accomplish next!

Pre-IB Sessions

Our school successfully concluded a week-long series of Pre-IB classes across all major subjects, a proactive initiative designed to prepare our students for the rigors of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. This intensive program provided invaluable exposure to the IB's unique inquiry-based learning approach and deepened students' understanding of core concepts. Students really gained a lot from honing their critical thinking, research, and time management skills, which directly boosted their readiness for the challenging curriculum that lies ahead. The sessions also helped build their confidence and familiarity with IB expectations, making the transition into the full Diploma Program much smoother. In the end, these Pre-IB classes play a crucial role in

laying a solid academic foundation and guiding our students toward lasting success in the IB and beyond.

Placements:

Final transcripts for the Batch of 2025 were generated following the release of IB results. The College Counselling Department held an orientation session for newly enrolled DP Grade 11 students and their parents. This session offered a thorough overview of the college application process, covering profile development, essay writing workshops, standardized testing strategies, university visits, letter of recommendation guidance, and university shortlisting.

Indus International Community School (IICS):

Health and Wellness Initiatives: In July, IICS recently hosted several health and wellness initiatives for its students and staff. An **eye check-up camp** was conducted for all students by a team from "The Eye Foundation." Students requiring further investigation were referred to the foundation for additional care. In line with government policy, a **DPT vaccination camp** was also held for students in Grades 1, 5, and 10, administered by a team from the Primary Health Centre, Sarjapura.



Warm regards,

Partho Banerjee & Lakshmi Chetan
Indus International School, Bangalore

Dates for your diary – August 2025

Date	Event
15th August	INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
16th August	Assessment Orientation (By HOS) – Virtual [For Grade 6 Parent & New MYP Parents]
18th, 19th, 20th August	Senior School Sports Heats
22nd August	Senior School Sports Day
27th August	Ganesh Chaturthi (Holiday)