



## **August 2025 Newsletter**

### **Highlights of the month:**

- **Independence Day Celebration**
- **Inauguration of the Observatory**
- **Innovation Council Elections**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The first month of the academic year has been filled with excitement and promise, setting the tone for the journey ahead. With every fresh start comes new opportunities, and this year has already begun to unfold with energy, curiosity, and enthusiasm. As a community, we have stepped into this chapter with optimism, ready to embrace challenges, celebrate milestones, and make the most of the experiences that lie ahead.

### **Independence Day Celebration and Inauguration:**

On August 15th, 2025, Indus International School, Bangalore, celebrated Independence Day in a unique and heartfelt manner, honoring the freedom of both India and South Korea. The ceremony began with the solemn hoisting of the national flags of the two nations by our MD & CEO, Lt. Gen. Arjun Ray (Retd.), and



Mr. Kim, an esteemed parent from the school community, followed by a stirring rendition of the national anthems by the school choir, which filled the campus with pride and unity. In the spirit of service and community, the four houses—Orion, Pegasus, Phoenix, and Hercules—organized vibrant fundraising events, showcasing enthusiasm and creativity, and making the day both meaningful and memorable.

### **The Indus Observatory**



On 15th August, our school proudly inaugurated its very own Astronomical Observatory. This facility is designed to inspire curiosity and scientific thinking among students from Grade 3 to Grade 11.

The observatory is equipped with a Ritchey-Chrétien 14-inch telescope—a highly advanced instrument imported from Taiwan that provides exceptional clarity for observing planets, stars, nebulae, and distant galaxies. The telescope is supported by a precision mount imported from Germany, ensuring stability and accuracy in tracking celestial objects. Adding to its uniqueness, the observatory’s protective dome has been specially crafted in Nashik, India.

One of the most exciting features of the observatory is its automated tracking system. By simply entering the name of a stellar object into the computer, the telescope automatically aligns itself and points directly to the target in the night sky.

With this state-of-the-art setup, the observatory will serve as a hub of experiential learning, giving students the opportunity to:

- Explore the wonders of the universe hands-on.
- Connect classroom knowledge in science, physics, and mathematics to real-world astronomical observations.
- Develop essential skills in inquiry, research, and critical observation.
- Appreciate the beauty and vastness of the cosmos, deepening their understanding of our place in the universe.

The inauguration of the observatory marks a milestone in our school’s journey of scientific exploration, offering exciting opportunities for projects, night-sky observations, and interdisciplinary studies.

## **PYP**

As part of the transdisciplinary theme *Who We Are*, Grade 4 students welcomed Dr. Varsha Pant for an engaging session on microorganisms, where they learned about helpful microbes like Lactobacillus, Rhizobium, and yeast, as well as harmful ones such as influenza and Salmonella. Through interactive activities, they explored how microbes act as protectors or invaders, understood their role as nature's recyclers in the nutrient cycle, and discussed the importance of hygiene in staying safe from harmful organisms. Meanwhile, under the theme *Sharing the Planet*, Grade 3 students went on their first field trip of the year to Swami Nursery, where they observed a wide variety of plants—from aquatic and medicinal to climbers, creepers, shrubs, and trees—gaining a deeper understanding of their categories, growth needs, and the interdependence of living things. Both experiences enriched students' learning by connecting classroom discussions to real-world observations and highlighting the importance of coexistence and balance in nature.

## **MYP**

The academic year 2025–26 began with cheer and enthusiasm as returning and new students and teachers were warmly welcomed, including a music performance by the MDD team. Grade 6 began with circle time, while Grades 7 and 8 engaged in classroom setup, agreements, buddy, and locker assignments, before all students settled into their routines with music, dance, drama, second language, CLM, STEAM-H, and LE. Innovation curriculum was launched in the first week, alongside the smooth start of academic lessons, Life Entrepreneurship, K-Hub sessions, Tikkun Olam, extended hours, and stay-back sports. A key highlight of August was the IBEC accreditation team's visit, where teachers and students showcased outstanding work across departments such as house activities, STEAM Lab, K-Hub, and CLM. The school also celebrated improved MYP results, conducted Innovation Council elections with results announced in a whole-school assembly, and observed Mufti Day, during which students

contributed generously to the community kitchen initiative.

### **DP**

The Grade 12 mentoring program at Indus is designed with structured academic support, ensuring consistency and accountability. Regular mentoring classes with tests are conducted across subjects, with mentors tracking performance through organized folders of question papers and answer scripts. This is further strengthened by Grade 12 extended hours held every Monday and Wednesday from 2:35 pm to 4:15 pm, giving students dedicated time for focused learning, doubt clarification, and individual guidance. Together, these initiatives not only help identify strengths and gaps but also foster strong mentor–mentee connections, ensuring timely feedback and steady preparation for final examinations.

### **ISL Camp**

**Grade 12 students attended the ISL camp.** This experiential leadership camp focused on enhancing personal vision, teamwork, resilience, and communication skills. Through reflective tasks, outbound challenges, and group discussions. The camp served as a powerful reminder of leading self before leading others.







## **Student Council Elections**

The Student Council elections were conducted through an online voting process in which every student participated, ensuring a fair and transparent selection. Following the voting, the results were tallied, and shortlisted candidates underwent intensive interviews to assess their leadership potential, commitment, and vision. After rigorous rounds of thoughtful discussions, the final Student Council members were announced by our Deputy CEO Dr. Sarojini Rao. The newly elected leaders will be formally inducted during the Investiture Ceremony scheduled for 5th September, marking the beginning of their responsibilities as representatives of the student body.

Further details to be found in Appendix 1

## **Placements**



In the first month of new academic session, The College Counselling team has hosted the following events/ sessions:

August was an eventful month for university guidance and career counseling, beginning with an online alumni session on 2nd August by Kavya Singhal (Batch of 2024) titled College: Past the IB Trenches. On 6th August, Grade 12 students attended a masterclass by **Dr. Dishil Shrimankar** from The University of Manchester on When Politics Makes Criminals: Political Competition and Criminalization of Indian Politics. This was followed by group sessions on 14th August with Emerson College, Babson College, Bentley University, and Bryant University for Grades 11 and 12. On 18th August, The University of Edinburgh, The University of Warwick, and The University of Manchester jointly conducted a UCAS Personal Statement Workshop. Grade 11 students engaged in a session on 21st August focused on transition and goal setting, covering academic targets, profile building, and vision boards, while Grade 10 students participated in a workshop on time management, balancing academics with extracurricular activities, and preparing for external exams. In addition, students benefitted from 38 university information sessions and fairs held throughout the month.

Further details to be found in Appendix 2

### **Life Entrepreneurship**

August was a month of imagination, empathy, and design thinking across the school. In the PYP, young learners began with an Imagination Retreat, stepping into the role of Sherlock Holmes to hone observation and inquiry skills, connecting these to empathy through role-play and the ‘Day in a New Life’ activity, where they explored new perspectives as objects or animals. In the Junior School, students engaged in *The Curious Case of Me*, creating symbolic self-portraits to build self-awareness while being introduced to empathy, design thinking, and first principles thinking. The Senior School emphasized collaboration and problem-solving through mixed-grade Imagination Retreats, the Sherlock Sleuth Challenge, reflection exercises like Letters to My Future Self, and Zen Koan explorations to embrace ambiguity and multiple perspectives. Students also advanced in the design thinking process by practicing stakeholder



mapping, empathy research, and problem reframing. Meanwhile, three student teams in the pre-incubation program continued refining last year's prototypes with guidance from experts such as Mr. Shyam Prasad on prototyping and Prof. Harshit Gupta on testing methodologies, preparing them for the next stage of finance and business plan development for their MVPs.

### **Boarding**

At Indus, boarding life goes beyond academics to nurture character, independence, and teamwork. Our students have embraced new routines with energy, balancing academics and activities while building discipline and lasting memories. From Pre-IB students beginning their Diploma journey to the shared spirit during Independence Day, movie nights, cooking sessions, and weekend sports, the vibrancy of our boarding community shines through. Weekends are especially dynamic, with Chess, Athletics, and Karate sessions that sharpen skills, build consistency, and foster a strong sense of achievement, while every shared experience continues to equip our boarders with life skills that last a lifetime.





### **Community Kitchen**

The Community Kitchen at Indus is a flagship initiative driven by all Houses to promote service, collaboration, and social responsibility. Each month, students contribute towards the Kitchen through MUFTI Day collections. This collective effort reflects the spirit of giving and ensures that every contribution makes a meaningful difference.

For this month's MUFTI Day, the response was overwhelming. It was held on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2025. Together, we collected **299.3 kgs of rice, 125.5 kgs of dal, and 121.74 litres of oil**. These essential supplies will directly support the functioning of the Community Kitchen, helping provide nutritious meals to those in need.

The initiative continues to foster empathy, teamwork, and a strong sense of community among our students. It also reminds us that small, consistent contributions can create a large impact. We thank all Houses, students, and teachers for their wholehearted participation and look forward to sustaining this effort month after month.

Warm regards,

Partho Banerjee & Lakshmi Chetan

Indus International School, Bangalore

<b><i>Dates for your diary – September 2025</i></b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Investiture Ceremony and Teachers' Day Celebration</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Half Yearly Examination (Grade 12)</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Half Yearly Examination (Grade 10)</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Open Forum and PTM [Grades 6 to 9 and 11] [9 AM to 3 PM] Offline</b>



## Appendix 1: Innovation Council

Head Boy	Yuvraaj Agarwala
Head Girl	Neena Jane Mokkarala
Sports Captain Girl	Shruthi Swaminathan
Sports Captain Boy	Aarush Somani
Academic Captains	Sampann Kaushal
	Inaya Maryam Khan
	Soha Baig
Editorial Captains	Aarnav Agrawal
	Maha Ponnareddy
	Reeti Singh
Green Ambassadors	Sathvik Shastry
	Jediah Ritchie Mammen
	Aarush Patil
Sports Ambassadors	Siddhant Gopala Krishnan
	Hryday Chelwani
	Amarthya Sinha
International Captain Girl	Diya Anand
International Captain Boy	Woosung Weon
Orion Captain	Siyona Khurana
Orion Prefect	Manthan Manvar
Pegasus Captain	Mandavi Goyal
Pegasus Prefect	Japhet Christo Kingsley
Hercules Captain	Rddhi Kartik
Hercules Prefect	Nithya Kulshreshtha
Phoenix Captain	Megh Vinayak Dasgupta
Phoenix Prefect	Aryan Shrivastav
Boarding Captain Girl	Shivanshi Agrawal
Boarding Captain Boy	Kush Kundaliya

## MYP Innovation Council

Orion	Ishanvi Yejja
Pegasus	Rohan Ambavaram
Hercules	Darsh Agarwal
Phoenix	Deven Dudani

## PYP Innovation Council

Orion	Viaan Reddy
Pegasus	Gyaan Kaur Sanghera
Hercules	Reyaan Ram Ravipati
Phoenix	Ira Motiani

## Appendix 2:

The list of universities is mentioned below:

S. No.	University	Date
1	Trinity College Dublin	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
2	Ulster University	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
3	Business & Hotel Management School	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
4	Arcadia University	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
5	Woxsen University	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
6	College for Creative Studies	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
7	Ahmedabad University	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
8	Colorado State College	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
9	Indian School of Business & Finance	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
10	Kedge Business School	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
11	Ashoka University	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
12	Amity University	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
13	Huron at Western University	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
14	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
15	Newcastle University	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
16	Brighton University	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
17	Queen Mary University of London	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
18	Durham University	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
19	Cardiff University	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
20	Swansea University	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025

21	University of Surrey	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
22	Bristol University	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
23	Goldsmiths, University of London	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
24	UK India Business Council	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
25	University of Guelph	13 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
26	Northeastern University	13 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
27	Bryant University	14 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
28	Emerson College	14 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
29	Babson College	14 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
30	Bentley University	14 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
31	The University of Manchester	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
32	The University of Warwick	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
33	The University of Edinburgh	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
34	University of Calgary	19 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
35	University of Wisconsin-Madison	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2025
36	Iowa State University	26 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
37	Stevens Institute of Technology	26 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
38	University of Pittsburgh	26 <sup>th</sup> August 2025