



December 2025 Newsletter

Highlights of the month:

- **PYP Sports Day**
- **Central Leadership Retreat**
- **Half yearly exams from Grade 6 to 12**

“Excellence is not an act of chance, but a habit of learning, leadership, and purposeful action”

Dear Parents and Guardians,

December marked a purposeful and reflective close to Term 1. The month brought together focused academic effort, leadership-driven dialogue, sporting excellence, and moments of community celebration. As students across grades engaged in half-yearly examinations, they demonstrated discipline, resilience, and a strong sense of responsibility toward their learning. Alongside academics, school-wide events such as PYP Sports Day and the Central Leadership Retreat reinforced our commitment to holistic development balancing physical well-being, character, and future-ready thinking. From leadership conversations on wisdom and agency to student achievements in sports, innovation, and collaborative learning, December stood as a

testament to the collective growth of our learners and educators. We thank you for your continued trust and partnership as we conclude the term with clarity, confidence, and optimism for the journey ahead.

Events:

PYP Sports Day

Our PYP Sports Day was a vibrant and inspiring celebration of teamwork, perseverance, and school spirit. Students proudly showcased their strength, speed, and determination through a range of track and field events, while drill displays highlighted impressive coordination, focus, and collective effort.

The colourful walk-past reflected a strong sense of unity and pride across the grades, creating an atmosphere filled with excitement, encouragement, and positive energy. Adding a special dimension to the day, the equestrian events including show jumping that demonstrated balance, discipline, and confidence, captivating the entire learning community.

The highlight of the PYP Sports Day was the horse riders, who captivated the audience with their exceptional horse-riding skills. They performed a series of impressive jumps with remarkable ease, showcasing perfect coordination, control, and confidence. The seamless execution of each movement reflected not only the riders' expertise but also the strong bond between the riders and their horses, making the performance truly memorable.

Throughout the day, students supported one another, demonstrated resilience, and celebrated both effort and achievement.

Sports Day was a memorable experience that strengthened connections and reinforced

the values at the heart of the PYP.





38th Central Leadership Retreat

The 38th Central Leadership Retreat focused on "teaching the child, not the subject alone," marking a strategic shift from knowledge workers to wisdom workers. General Ray emphasised that as AI renders traditional knowledge mechanisms obsolete, we must pivot to "Wisdom" (the highest order of knowledge) to remain uniquely human. He defined the modern purpose of education as empowering students with agency, purpose, and innovation to design their own meaningful futures.

Key attention was given to the four foundations of wisdom: Humaneness, Spiritual Intelligence, Consciousness (introspection), and the Synthesising Mind. We explored the reimagined role of teachers as "Wisdom Designers" and "Life Entrepreneurs" who lead with empathy and humanness. The new teacher profile requires being collaborative, innovative, and "AI-minded" to give meaning to work while partnering with parents.

A major highlight was the integration of "Agentic AI," positioned as a "Co-founder" for students to help build personal startup portfolios. Presentations introduced curriculum elements, such as the "Wise Prototype of Self," which focuses on character building and ethical judgment alongside technology. For leaders, the retreat emphasised the importance of self-development and clarity of purpose to unlock the potential of both staff and students.

The agenda covered transforming standard Design Thinking into "Wise Design Thinking" to foster higher-order cognitive skills in a VUCA world.

Discussions highlighted "New Ways of Thinking" for the AI era, such as Dragonfly and Probabilistic Thinking, to enhance creative intelligence. It was argued that "Life

Entrepreneurship" holds greater relevance today than traditional Business Entrepreneurship.

We examined building a Wise School Ecosystem, anchored by the revised Collaborative Learning Model (CLM) and the evolved Life Entrepreneurship curriculum, which seamlessly integrates with agentic AI.

The event concluded with a strong call to action to adopt emotional and spiritual intelligence as the heart of this transformation. Ultimately, the CLR provided a comprehensive roadmap for evolving into "Wisdom Workers" who harmonise deep human values with the power of AI.

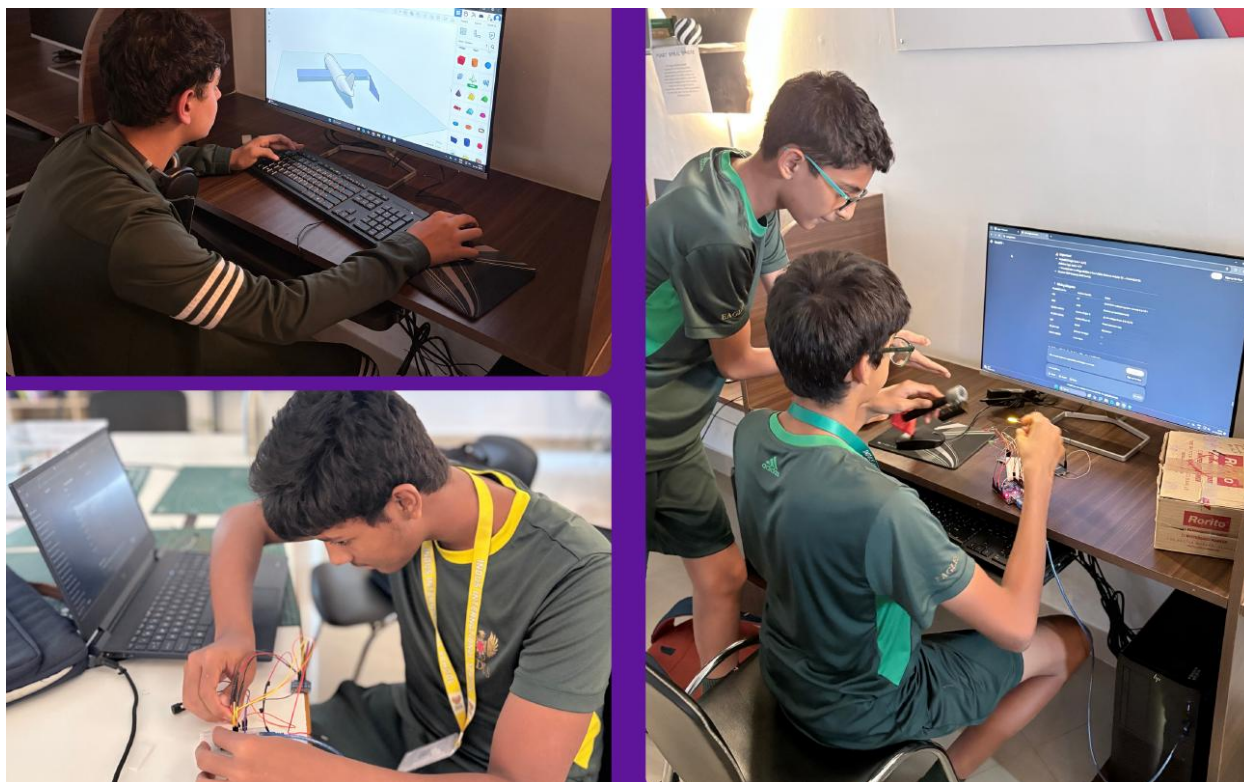
STEAM Updates:

The 12-week STEAM afterschool program, which concluded in early December, was a rigorous and rewarding journey into applied innovation for our students. Over the course of the program, learners designed and built purposeful projects such as a biomimicry-inspired spider crawler, a pet health monitoring device, an adaptive traffic signal system, and a concept for growing plants to support human survival during space exploration. These projects were not just models—they were problem-driven solutions that required students to think conceptually, connect ideas across disciplines, and apply scientific reasoning to real-world challenges. Students will continue working on these projects in the next term, adding refinements and finishing touches to further strengthen their designs.

The core focus of the program was to build strong foundations in 3D modelling, alongside hands-on experience with electronic components and Arduino, helping students understand how technology works from the inside out. Using these tools,

students combined science, coding, and engineering to turn ideas into working prototypes. The journey was not always smooth—and that was intentional. Students explored, experimented, faced setbacks, refined their thinking, and tried again. Their perseverance and enthusiasm stood out. Congratulations to all our young innovators for their commitment and effort; they are developing essential 21st-century skills in a supportive, future-ready learning environment. Please find below a few glimpses from the sessions.





PYP

Reception

Reception students enjoyed an exciting first field trip to Skadoosh, a vibrant indoor play space. They enthusiastically engaged with a variety of play-based centres, making meaningful connections between classroom learning and real-world experiences. The visit supported the development of social skills as students shared, took turns, and collaborated with their peers. The diverse play stations also enhanced gross and fine motor skills, encouraged communication through imaginative play, and fostered creativity and problem-solving in the makerspace area.



Grade 5

During the month, Grade 5 students strengthened their research and writing skills through the study of biographies, learning to gather information, organise ideas, and refine their drafts with greater clarity. They explored the properties and applications of three-dimensional shapes, developing a deeper understanding of how these forms exist and function in the world around them. Through their ongoing inquiry, learners also cultivated an entrepreneurial mindset by analysing real-life case studies and reflecting on how their own ideas could be transformed into potential business opportunities. In addition, students explored the wonders of nature by investigating how rocks are formed and the stories they reveal about Earth's history, further deepening their curiosity and understanding of the world.

MYP

The month of December marked the culmination of Term-1 for this academic year, with students and teachers diligently completing summative assessments and preparing for the Term-1 exams. The junior school commenced their exams on the 12th of December, setting the tone for a focused conclusion to the term.

On the last working day, teachers enjoyed a delightful Secret Santa celebration, bringing festive cheer to the campus. The month wrapped up on a productive and spirited note as the school prepared for the much-anticipated winter vacation.

DP

December was a month of academic rigor, leadership development, and festive celebrations. It began with focused revision sessions for Grade 11 Half-Yearly Exams and Grade 12 Interim Exams, ensuring students were well-prepared. The Grade 12 Interim Exams commenced on December 5, followed by Grade 11 Half-Yearly

Exams on December 8.

Adding a joyful touch to the season, teachers celebrated the festivities with a fun-filled Secret Santa exchange and a delightful potluck lunch, strengthening bonds and spreading holiday cheer.

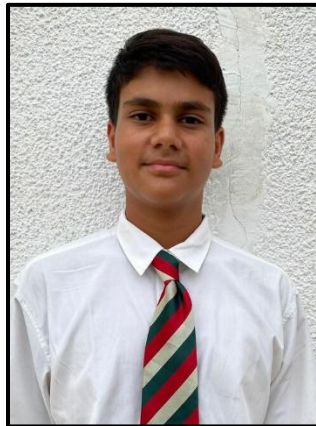
Sports

ATHLETICS

We are delighted to announce that three of our athletics students were selected to participate in the SGFI (School Games Federation of India) competitions, held from 13th to 17th December 2025 at Guru Govind Singh Sports College, Kursi Road, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. They proudly represented our school in the Under-17 category.



Sreehari Nandhan
Grade- 11



Pranay Singhal
Grade- 11



Pranav Srikar Suri
Grade- 9

KARATE

We are proud to announce that Karthika Palla of Class 6 was selected to represent our school at the 69th National School Games (SGFI) in the Under-14 Karate category. The championship was held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, from 15th to 19th December 2025, under the auspices of the School Games Federation of India (SGFI).



Karthika Palla
Grade- 6

BASKETBALL

We are proud to announce that Dhruv Gupta of Grade 8 was selected to represent the ISSO team in the 69th National School Games Basketball Under-14 Boys Championship 2025–26, held in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, from 23rd to 28th December 2025.



Dhruv Gupta
Grade- 8

BADMINTON

We are proud to announce that Vriddhi Agarwal of Grade 11 has been selected to represent our school in the 69th National School Games (SGFI) in the Badminton Girls U-19 category. The championship will be held at Delhi, Thyagraj Stadium from 2nd Jan to 7th Jan 2026, under the auspices of the School Games Federation of India (SGFI).



Vriddhi Agarwal
Grade 11

Placements

In the month of December, the College Counselling team hosted the following events/ sessions:

Country Exploration Session with Grade 9 was conducted on 4th December 2025

University visits to IISB:

S. No.	University	Date
1	North Dakota State University	1 st December 2025
2	University of Canberra	12 th December 2025
3	Ashoka University	12 th December 2025

Student Participation in External Competitions:

1. **Masters Union AI Hackathon-**Ayan Prakash, Dev Jain, Shiven Subramaniam of Grade 10 have reached the second round
2. Arthana Rajesh, Grade 9 is participating in the **Oxford Royal Essay Competition.**
3. Dev Jain, Grade10 has registered for the **Makerspace Summer Workshop at IIT Bombay.**
4. 19 students have registered for the Corporate Gurukul Programme at **National University of Singapore.**



IICS

Celebrating Young Minds: Science and Mathematics Olympiad Participation:

Students from Grades 5 to 10 participated in the Science and Mathematics Olympiad held on 10th and 11th December 2025. The examinations challenged students' conceptual understanding, logical reasoning, and problem-solving skills, encouraging critical thinking beyond the classroom. The experience proved enriching and motivating, fostering academic curiosity, confidence, and a spirit of healthy competition among the students.



Indus Leadership Camp: A Journey of Growth, Grit, and Team Spirit

The Grade 10 Indus Leadership Camp, held from 12th to 14th December 2025, was a dynamic three-day experience focused on building leadership, teamwork, and resilience.

Students actively participated in engaging activities such as portable adventure tasks, the leadership disposition course, wall climbing, and outbound learning (OBL), which encouraged problem-solving and collaboration.





An inspiring session by Ms. Rama on the Mount Everest summit highlighted perseverance and mental strength, while a leadership-themed movie further reinforced essential leadership values. Overall, the camp provided students with meaningful learning, adventure, and personal growth opportunities.



Warm regards,

Partho Banerjee & Lakshmi Chetan
Indus International School, Bangalore

Important Dates – January 2026

Date	Event
5th January	School Reopens after Winter Break for all Students [Reception to Grade12]
6th January	Reports Published [Grade 10]
12th January	Reports Published [Grades 9 &11]
14th January	Sankranti Holiday
16th January	Reports Published [Grades 6 to 8]
17th January	MYP-Y4 &Y5 Orientation for Grade 8 Parents IBDP Orientation for MYP – Y5 Parents
17th January	PTM for Grades 6 to12 [9 AM to 4 PM] Offline
23rd January	SENIOR SCHOOL INDUS DAY [Holiday for PYP Students]
26th January	Republic Day - Holiday
30th January	Personal Project Exhibition [MYP Year-5]