



## March 2026 Newsletter

### Highlights of the month:

- **PYP Innovation Day**
- **PYP Art Carnival**
- **Grade 12 Graduation Day**
- **Grade 12 High Tea**

Dear Parents,

As the golden warmth of March settles over our campus, there is a palpable shift in the air a unique blend of quiet introspection and vibrant anticipation that feels like a bridge between the steady rhythm of the academic year and the soaring spirit of new beginnings. Walking through the corridors, one can feel the weight of dedication and the quiet hum of focus as students reach deep into their reservoirs of resilience, yet woven through that intensity is a profound sense of celebration and the bittersweet beauty of seeing a journey reach its flowering. It is a season of transition where we witness the courage of self-discovery and the pride of watching our children navigate these moments, balancing the discipline of their goals with the joy of creative expression. March reminds us that true growth is not just about the milestones reached, but about the character forged in the journey, and we invite you to share in these reflections of perseverance, the spark of innovation, and the enduring strength of our school community.

## **Events:**

### **Grade 12 Graduation Day**

The 20th Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2026 was a poignant milestone, celebrating 124 unique stories of academic excellence and personal growth. A core highlight of the evening was the address by Deputy CEO Dr. Sarojini Rao, who shared two fundamental principles for navigating the future: the 80/20 Pareto Principle and the 20-Mile March. She urged graduates to avoid spreading themselves too thin and instead focus their energy on the 20% of efforts that yield the most significant impact. Complementing this, she emphasized that true success is not found in sporadic bursts of effort but in the "20-Mile March" the discipline of consistent, daily progress.

CEO General Ray further challenged the graduates and their parents to embrace five key ideas essential for thriving in an era of "orchestrating intelligence". He asserted that "average is no longer okay," noting that those who remain AI-illiterate risk falling behind as AI literacy becomes a new global lifeline. General Ray described a future where success is driven by the synergy of Human Intelligence, AI Companions, and Network Intelligence. He encouraged students to reinvent themselves at every inflection point to actively create their own futures, while reminding the assembly that, in a tech-driven world, "humanness" remains the ultimate premium. The ceremony concluded with a symbolic hat toss, marking the transition of these young adults from students to visionary leaders ready to ignite the world.

The ceremony reached a pinnacle with the presentation of the school's most prestigious honors, celebrating students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and academic brilliance. The Valedictorian titles were awarded to Kush Kundalia for Indus International School, Bangalore, and Neil Daga for 10X International, both of whom shared moving reflections on their transformative

journeys. The Eagle Award recipients were, Megh Vinayak Dasgupta and Avani Radheshyam, for their outstanding holistic contributions to the community. These awardees stand as true ambassadors of the Class of 2026, prepared to carry the torch of their youth into a world waiting to be explored.

As the evening's festivities drew to a close, the air was filled with a sense of triumph and transformation as the Class of 2026 stood poised on the threshold of their next great adventure. With the traditional tossing of their caps high into the air, our graduates celebrated not just the completion of their academic journey, but the beginning of their roles as visionary leaders ready to shape the future with purpose, courage, and hope.





### **PYP Innovation day**

On 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026, the Primary Years Programme (PYP) hosted its annual Innovation Day, showcasing a meaningful window into the Life Entrepreneurship (LE) journey of our young learners. Rooted in the Indus vision of nurturing self-awareness, creative and future-ready individuals, the showcase reflected how imagination, empathy, and collaboration are intentionally cultivated from the early years.

Across Grades 1 to 5, students presented curated experiences emerging from their Imagination Retreats and Design Thinking Process (DTP) journeys demonstrating not just what they created, but how they think, express, and engage with the world around them.

Students explored ‘My Khipu’, where they translated personal values into symbolic designs inspired by ancient systems, and A Festival “I Imagine” in India, where they

envisioned original celebrations rooted in joy and community. Their work in ‘The Never-Before-Seen Toy’ reflected originality and imaginative thinking, while ‘Creature Mutation Station’ highlighted collaboration as students built on and transformed each other’s ideas. Through ‘Alien Habitat Builder’, learners began to step into the perspective of others, designing environments based on different needs and contexts, thereby strengthening empathy.

As part of their evolving creative journey, students engaged in Design Sprint: Crazy 8’s, experiencing rapid ideation and translating ideas into early proof-of-concept solutions. In ‘All About Me Silhouette’, they explored identity through visual storytelling, while ‘Mission Safe Crossing’ brought a real-world lens to their work, encouraging students to understand user needs, think critically, and test ideas through simulation prototyping. In the week leading up to Innovation Day, on-the-spot engagements such as ‘Micro Story Sprint’, ‘The Constraint Lab’, ‘Future Headline’s’, ‘A Story in Just Six Words’, and ‘Pattern Breaker’ further strengthened students’ ability to think creatively within constraints, communicate ideas concisely, and challenge routine thinking. This progression from imagination to empathy to purposeful creation reflects the core of the LE curriculum.

The PYP Innovation Day was not just a display of student work, but a reflection of the Indus philosophy in action where imagination becomes the starting point for innovation, empathy shapes meaningful problem-solving, and collaboration deepens learning. Through the LE curriculum, students are not only learning to create, but also to observe, reflect, and create their ‘self’ with purpose, the mindset and capabilities needed to navigate an ever-evolving world.

The event was graced by our CEO General Ray, who provided constructive feedback on the displays showcased; he encouraged us to explore diverse ways to conduct Imagination Retreats and noted that current artifacts leaned more toward reflection

than pure imagination. He further suggested that 'Six-Word Stories' should encompass multiple perspectives and include a sense of the mystic, while emphasizing that students must deeply understand the meaning of school values and the nuanced difference between design and design thinking.



### **PYP Art Carnival**

The Cultural Block was transformed into a vibrant gallery for our recent Art Carnival, where students from Reception to Grade 5 showcased a stunning collection of paintings and mixed-media works. This showcase challenged our young artists to look inward and visually articulate their personal growth, shifting perspectives, and future aspirations.

The creativity on display was truly inspiring, as students moved beyond traditional portraiture to embrace innovative metaphors for change. Our CEO General Ray

provided feedback that, while skill development remains an essential foundation, our primary focus should be on encouraging student imagination and raw creativity. It was emphasized that learners should be given a free hand to draw whatever they feel, ensuring their innate creativity is not restricted by rigid lesson objectives. By experimenting with diverse textures and symbolic imagery, our artists didn't just display their technical skills; they shared their stories of resilience and transformation, proving that art remains one of our most powerful tools for uninhibited self-expression and renewal.



## **Graduation High Tea Highlights**

The afternoon of 25th March marked a celebratory milestone for the Graduating Batch of 2026, as our Deputy CEO, Dr. Rao, hosted a delightful High Tea in their honour. The event served as a warm transition for the students, bridging their cherished school years with the exciting horizons ahead. The air was filled with laughter and nostalgia during the cake-cutting ceremony, a centrepiece moment that symbolized the sweetness of their shared journey and the bright futures awaiting them.

The evening quickly shifted from formal to festive as the gardens buzzed with energy during a series of interactive games. In a wonderful display of the school's close-knit community, students and teachers competed side-by-side, trading their usual classroom roles for team-based fun and spirited play. Amidst the treats and games, Dr. Rao took a moment to address the cohort, offering her heartfelt blessings and best wishes. Her words of wisdom encouraged the graduates to carry forward the values of their alma mater as they step into the next chapter of their lives.



## **Achievement:**

### Harvard Crimson Global Essay Competition

We are incredibly proud to announce that Imaan Zara Khan's insightful essay has been selected as an Asia-Pacific Regional Winner and a Global Finalist in the prestigious Harvard Crimson Global Essay Competition. Standing out from thousands of submissions worldwide, Imaan has now been invited to participate in the exclusive Global Finals round.

## **PYP**

### Guest Session

Grade 3 students had the opportunity to participate in an engaging and highly informative guest speaker session with Ms Pratima Prakash, a cybersecurity consultant with over 16 years of experience in the field. The session was conducted as part of their Unit of Inquiry on How We Express Ourselves, with a focus on the responsible use of media.

Ms Pratima, whose work involves safeguarding computers, information, and online systems, shared valuable and practical insights on how to stay safe in the digital world. She guided students on identifying online risks such as scams, phishing attempts, and interactions with strangers, and emphasized the importance of being alert and making responsible choices while using digital media. Through interactive discussions and real-life examples, students learned to recognize unsafe situations, protect their personal information, and apply simple strategies such as "Stop, Think, and Ask" before acting online.



### **ISL Camp**

Grade 5 students participated in a two-day, two-night ISL Leadership Camp from 23rd to 25th March, filled with engaging and challenging activities designed to build essential leadership skills. Through experiences such as obstacle courses, team-building tasks, and reflection sessions, students developed qualities like collaboration, resilience, communication, and independence.

Beyond the activities, the camp provided students with an opportunity to step out of their comfort zones, bond with peers and teachers, and take responsibility for themselves. The experience was both enriching and memorable, leaving students with a renewed sense of confidence and a spark of leadership.



## **JMYP**

We started the month of March by conducting the second round of ACER tests for all students across grades 6, 7 and 8. Academic classes continued in full spring with enthusiasm. We conducted a circle time session for Grade 6 students focused on fostering respectful peer behaviour, where students engaged in meaningful discussions, role-play activities, and reflections on empathy, kindness, and effective communication. The session aimed to build a positive classroom environment by helping students understand the importance of mutual respect and inclusion. Additionally, counselling sessions were held for students in Grades 7 and 8, centred on cyber safety and “netiquette.” These sessions provided students with practical guidance on responsible online behaviour, digital footprints, privacy protection, and respectful communication in virtual spaces. Through interactive discussions and real-life scenarios, students developed greater awareness of safe and ethical internet use.

## **Life Entrepreneurship**

### Junior & Senior School: *Field Immersion & AI Literacy*

Over the past month, students across Grades 6 to 11 engaged in an integrated journey of AI literacy, self-awareness, and real-world field immersion as part of the Life Entrepreneurship (LE) curriculum.

The journey began with a focus on the concept of AI Literacy, which is built on three key pillars: AI as a Learning Companion, Ethics in AI, and AI for Self-Assessment. Through sessions such as *AI as a Learning Companion*, students explored how to think independently first and then collaborate with AI rather than directly depend on it recognising that AI is not to be used as a tool, while also developing ethical awareness, and strengthening their critical thinking. This was complemented by sensitisation sessions that helped students distinguish between observation and assumption and understand empathy as a behaviour reflected in how we engage with others.

Building on this foundation, students undertook field visits to locations with local phenomena within a 5 –10 km radius of the school, enabling authentic, contextual learning. Prior classroom sessions equipped them with the skills to observe meaningfully, ask respectful questions, and engage thoughtfully.

During the visits, students demonstrated strong empathy, navigating language barriers by taking on different roles within teams. As their confidence grew, so did their ability to initiate conversations and build rapport, leading to deeper, more authentic interactions.

Post-visit reflections focused on documentation and insight-building, guiding students to move beyond surface observations towards genuine understanding. This journey from self-awareness to real-world empathy forms a critical foundation for

their Design Thinking Process (DTP), as they begin to identify meaningful problem areas with greater depth and sensitivity.



## **Placements**

March has been a pivotal month for our students as they look toward their future academic journeys. The College Counseling team hosted two significant sessions designed to provide clarity, strategy, and global perspectives on the transition to higher education.

On March 5th, our Grade 11 students participated in a comprehensive session dedicated to the University Application Timeline. As these students enter the most critical phase of their high school careers, this workshop provided a strategic roadmap for the year ahead.

The session focused on deconstructing the complexities of global admissions, highlighting key deadlines for various regions, and identifying the essential milestones students must meet before senior year begins. By establishing a clear plan of action now, our Grade 11s are better equipped to manage their academic priorities alongside their upcoming applications with confidence and poise.

On March 13th, students from Grades 9 through 12 attended an exclusive online webinar featuring Dr. Ita Duron from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy &

Health Sciences (MCPHS).

Dr. Duron provided invaluable insights into the evolving landscape of healthcare education and the specialized pathways available at one of the world's premier health sciences institutions. The session went beyond standard admissions advice, offering students a deeper understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of modern medicine and the diverse career opportunities awaiting them in the global health sector. For our aspiring scientists and medical professionals, this was an inspiring look at how they can turn their passions into impactful careers.

The College Counseling team recently hosted an insightful online session with Ms. Mandeep Kaur, the founder of Tribes for Good, a leading social impact platform. This collaboration aims to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world humanitarian work, offering our students a structured pathway to become conscious global citizens.

### **SCAD Rising Star Program:**

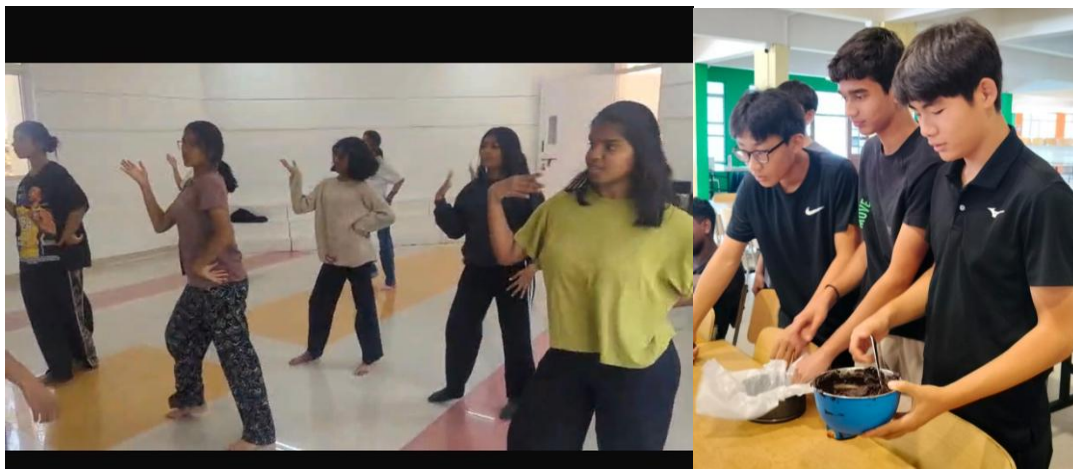
The Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) is globally renowned for its premier creative programs, and we are incredibly proud to announce the exceptional achievements of our Grade 11 students in this year's Rising Star Summer Program selection. Following a rigorous selection process, we are thrilled to congratulate Latika Bahirvani, Pia Sharma, and Rama Palshikar, who have been officially selected for the SCAD Rising Star Summer Program. In a truly remarkable feat, these students have also been awarded 100% scholarships for the program.

### **Boarding**

The month of March has been a vibrant and enriching time for our boarding community, marked by experiences that nurtured both personal growth and a strong

sense of togetherness. Students actively participated in the morning fitness program, building healthy routines that promote discipline, resilience, and overall well-being.

Weekends became even more engaging with the introduction of new activities such as Photography, Western Dance, and Cooking & Baking sessions. These provided students with creative outlets to explore new interests, develop skills, and express themselves in diverse ways.



A standout highlight of the month was our vibrant Holi celebration, which transformed the campus into a kaleidoscope of color, joy, and laughter. This festive occasion brought our entire school community together, allowing students and faculty to pause and connect through the spirited tradition of sharing *gulal*. The atmosphere was further enriched by authentic seasonal flavors, as everyone enjoyed the traditional sweetness of *gujiya* and chilled glasses of refreshing *lassi*. More than just a festival of colors, the event served as a beautiful cultural touchstone, fostering a sense of warmth, inclusivity, and shared heritage that resonated deeply across all grade levels.



For the students who remained on campus during the Ugadi break, the boarding community organized an enriching excursion to the scenic hills of Coorg. This trip transitioned the learners from the classroom to the "Scotland of India," where they explored lush coffee plantations and engaged with the region's unique geography and

heritage. It was an experience that balanced adventure with cultural discovery, providing a perfect backdrop for students to strengthen their bonds and build lasting memories outside of their usual academic routines. Ultimately, the success of this outing reflected the vibrant and inclusive spirit of our boarding program, ensuring that every student felt a deep sense of belonging and engagement even during the holiday period.



The boarding community's spirit of togetherness was further highlighted during a vibrant "Social Night," which began with an energized indoor gathering where students danced to a selection of peppy, high-energy tracks. The transition from the

lively indoor atmosphere to the serene school lawns for a dinner under the stars created a perfect balance for the evening. Following the dance, the students enjoyed a specially curated outdoor meal, providing a relaxed setting for meaningful conversations and laughter among friends. This shift from the rhythmic energy of the indoors to the calm, open-air dining experience strengthened the social fabric of the boarding family, making it a night of both high-spirited fun and heartfelt connection.



The Grade 12 boarders marked their final week before the study holidays with a memorable Game Night, turning the school lawn into a hub of high-energy celebration. The evening's highlight was a vibrant "Quirky Outfit" competition, where students showcased their creativity and humor through eclectic and unconventional costumes. Following a festive dinner, the lawn became a stage for a series of student-organized games that balanced friendly competition with plenty of laughter. This spirited gathering provided a much-needed emotional release and a chance for the graduating cohort to bond one last time before diving into their intensive exam

preparations, perfectly capturing the close-knit and supportive atmosphere of our boarding community.



## **Infirmiry updates**

On March 11th, 2026, the school hosted a vital First Aid and Emergency Response session to enhance the safety and preparedness of our campus community. We were honored to welcome Dr. Suhas, Head of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Sparsh Hospital, Sarjapura, who led these intensive training modules.

To ensure the most relevant and focused instruction, the day was divided into two specialized interactive sessions:

- Session One: Tailored for our sports faculty and house parents, focusing on athlete safety and residential care.
- Session Two: Dedicated to our transport team, including bus drivers and "bus ammas," to ensure student safety during transit.

The comprehensive curriculum covered critical life-saving techniques and protocols for a wide range of emergencies, including CPR, fracture management, falls, snake bites, seizures, choking, and nosebleeds. A key highlight was the hands-on practical training, where participants practiced CPR techniques under expert supervision to build real-world confidence. In recognition of their commitment to student welfare, all participants were issued certificates of completion, reinforcing our collective readiness to handle medical emergencies with professional precision.



To ensure the health and wellbeing of our dedicated support staff, a comprehensive medical camp was conducted on March 2nd, 2026, in association with Narayana Health and The Eye Foundation. This initiative provided bus drivers, school drivers, attendants, security personnel, and other support staff with essential health screenings, including general vitals assessments such as height, weight, and blood pressure monitoring. To provide a thorough evaluation, the camp also featured random blood sugar testing, eye examinations, bone density scans, ECGs, and professional cardiology consultations. Any staff members identified with abnormal findings were immediately referred to the hospital for further specialized evaluation, reinforcing our school's deep-rooted commitment to the long-term health of those who keep our community safe and functioning every day.



## **IICS**

### **SSLC Board Examinations Commence**



The SSLC Board Examinations commenced on 18th March 2026, marking a significant milestone for our students. This important phase reflects years of consistent effort, dedication, and academic preparation. Students began their examinations with focus and determination, demonstrating confidence in their

learning. The school ensured a supportive and well-organized environment to help students perform at their best.

### **MENSA Test for IICS students:**

The MENSA Test was administered to the students of IICS on 14th March 2026 to assess their intellectual abilities and identify exceptionally talented individuals. The test focused on evaluating students' IQ through questions that measured logical reasoning, analytical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

### **Second round of ADIRA Program:**



We are proud to share that Manya of Grade 9 has been selected for the second round of ADIRA, the Online Immersion Round, held on 17th March 2026. This achievement reflects her dedication, confidence, and strong skill set.

During the assessment, students were presented with a variety of challenges,

including logical reasoning, aptitude-based tasks, and real-life problem-solving scenarios. They worked collaboratively in teams, demonstrating essential skills such as critical thinking, communication, participation, and focus.

Warm regards,

Partho Banerjee and Lakshmi Chetan  
Indus International School, Bangalore

<b>Important Dates – April 2026</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April -6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Ambedkar Jayanti Holiday</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Grade 10 IDU Examination and Farewell</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>PYP (Grade 5) Exhibition</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Grade 11 TOK Exhibition</b>