

Saturday, 21st July 2018

Dear Sreenidhi Parents and Students:

I look forward to welcoming you on **Monday, 23rd July** for the start of the 2018-2019 academic year at Sreenidhi International School, with first class to begin **at 08:15 sharp**. As this will be a 'half-day', students will be **dismissed at 12:00** for pick-up or to catch busses home. Teachers will remain at school to ensure class lists and classrooms are set for Tuesday morning. As this will be a short day, the Timetable will be adjusted to allow teachers time to get to know students in their assigned classes, and to discuss Essential Agreements for learning, participation and behavioural expectations.

Arrival Procedures:

All EYP (aged 3 to 6) and PYP1 to PYP5 students should arrive between 08:00 and 08:15. Parents of EYP students, and those PYP students who are new to Sreenidhi this year, are invited to park across the road from the Administration Building and take their child directly to the classroom. Returning PYP students and all MYP-DP students are expected to be dropped off in the pull-through area or arrive on school buses. PYP teachers will take their students for breakfast in the Dininghall at 08:30.

MYP-DP students are expected to arrive in time to have breakfast between 07:45 to 08:10 each morning. Should a school bus arrive after 08:10, those students **only** will be issued an Admit Pass to have their breakfast in the Dininghall, which must then be submitted to the teacher in their first class upon arrival. Students arriving by private car after 08:10 will not be able to have breakfast and will need to report to the Administration Building for an **Admit Pass**. As **Attendance** will be taken by each MYP-DP subject teacher on ManageBac at the beginning of each class period this year, students who arrive late will be marked as **'Late'**, and those who miss class periods will be marked as **'Absent'**. If your child is going to miss school, please notify **Administration by 09:00**. Otherwise, you will receive an email at 09:30 to notify that your child is Absent from School.

Departure Procedures:

Students will be dismissed at 12:00 on Monday. Thereafter, they will be dismissed at **14:50 each day**. After-school activities will begin during the first week of August – both Sports ETZ and teacher-led Co-curricular Activities. A **Registration Form** will be emailed to all parents at end of the week to sign-up. Due to space constraints, registration is first-come, first-served. All ETZ and Co-curricular Activities will **end at 16:25 each day** to allow students time to board the 16:30 school busses home.

Uniform Requirements:

All PYP, MYP and DP students will be required to wear the official dress school uniform everyday. All students are required to change into the HOUSE uniform for PE classes. MYP students must shower after PE and change back into the official dress school uniform. Please ensure your MYP student packs a towel, soap and deodorant in their backpack on scheduled PE days.

Two extra school dress shirts have been ordered and will be supplied to students upon delivery. In the meantime, if needed, your child can wear a clean generic white dress shirt on Wednesdays if the two school shirts are being cleaned.

We expect Sreenidhi students to develop a clean, tidy and respectable dress appearance that will remain with them for life. Likewise, we expect students to always be properly attired for PE and Sports, and to develop habits of cleanliness after PE.

Attendance:

As Attendance will now be taken for each MYP-DP class and at the start of day for PYP classes, students will begin their first period at **08:15**. Please ensure that your child arrives to school on-time and properly dressed. Parents will be called to bring missing pieces of official school dress code or PE uniform if students arrive at school without these.

Open House – Saturday, 28th July 2018 – EYP and PYP Parents only

EYP (ages 3-6) and PYP parents are invited to attend our Open House on Saturday, 28th July, from 09:00 to 12:00. A program of speakers, presentations and classroom visits will be sent to parents later this week by the PYP classroom teachers.

DP parents will be invited to an Open House in August once all students have finalized changes for their course selections. We invite you to meet the teachers to learn their expectations for students to be successful in their IB Diploma studies.

MYP parents will be invited to an **Open House on Saturday, 25th August**, to meet the MYP teaching team and discuss the academic rigor and expansive project-based learning of the MYP this year at Sreenidhi. I hope you take the time to speak with your student about the direction of learning and their engagement in the **IB inter-disciplinary challenges**, which each grade will undertake. As we continue our search for a highly qualified, experienced MYP Coordinator, Ms Bindiya Jena has been named as the new MYP Assistant Coordinator and will support me as I take on the additional role of MYP Coordinator – a position I have held at numerous schools over the past 20 years.

Faculty Professional Development – Wednesday, 18th July to Friday, 20th July:

This past week, our new faculty members attended a two-day workshop on Monday and Tuesday to learn about Sreenidhi and how IB education is expected to be delivered. Teachers participated in multi-media learning tasks, think-tank, reflection and problem-solving to contribute their great ideas, learned thoughts, and prior knowledge of best IB practices.

On Wednesday, our full faculty convened for a three-day workshop to contribute to their professional development and expertise, and to learn and share the changes to teaching and learning that will be championed and valued at Sreenidhi this year. Beginning at 09:00 each morning until 16:00, this was an intense learning experience, which culminated in Sreenidhi's **Professional Learning Community** session, with teachers working in teams to find current research that applied to one of the 12 topics being studied, which related directly to the 'how' and 'why' of IB education. Each faculty team presented their findings and recommendations for classroom implementation to their colleagues. It was a busy - but fruitful - five days!

Admissions:

Our Admissions team have been busy with over **120 new** students beginning at Sreenidhi on Monday. We welcome our new families and students. I hope that you will become involved in school activities and attend each school event. A thank you to our Admissions, HR, IT and Operations teams for the enormous work they have done to prepare our school for re-opening.

Dean of Students:

I take this opportunity to introduce our new Dean of Students, Dr. Saraswathi, who has been teaching and an administrator at Sreenidhi for the past 7 years. Our Dean of Students will oversee, manage and track the holistic development of each of our students from enrolment through graduation, ensuring each student is valued as a unique learner on their own journey. Dr. Saraswathi will consult with parents when a student is identified as needing special consideration or support. She will also communicate with parents if teachers have any concerns about a student. Please welcome our new Dean of Students!

Wrap-up:

It's been a busy 12 days since I first arrived in Hyderabad the morning of 9th July. I have met with many parents but have not had time to meet with others. I apologize for the delay in scheduling meetings. I do hope to catch-up sometime next week. Please do stop and speak with me if you see me walking on campus. Should you have any concern, please direct these first to the specific Programme Coordinator, the Dean of Students or Administration. If appropriate, the matter will be referred to me for a meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming respective **Open Houses** for each programme.

Kind regards,

Ms Nancy