



ISPS Weekly Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 23: Friday 6 March 2009

Vision:

ISPS will strive to be one of the premier international schools.

Mission:

ISPS will provide an outstanding educational programme for both international and resident families who want their children to pursue higher education.

From the Director

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to inform you that *ISPS has received our authorization for the IB Primary Years Programme* and is now an **IB World School**. Congratulations to our Elementary Staff, Ms Shahien (our PYP Coordinator), and Ms. Julien. This is a wonderful accomplishment that our entire school community should be proud of and celebrate!

A group of our high school students returned from Boston this week after taking part in the Model United Nations. The Model UN is an authentic simulation of the UN General Assembly and other multilateral bodies. Participation promotes student interest in international relations and related subjects, engages students in problem solving, and teaches aspects of conflict resolution, research skills, and communication skills. Students had a great time and were able to meet other students from around the world. A BIG thanks to Mr. Lentz for making this experience possible for our students

Our Caiman girls' soccer team and boys' basketball team left for the Dominican Republic on Wednesday to participate in the CAISSA tournament. I received a call from Mr. Ali on Thursday morning and everyone arrived safely and was ready to compete. Students and coaches have been working hard to prepare for the tournaments and it should be a great experience for our students. *Goooo Caimans!*

We held our annual Beach clean up last Sunday and it was great to see how hard the students worked to help prepare the beach for the leatherback turtles. Thanks to the family members and staff who turned up to help, too. A special thanks to Ms O'Donovan for organizing this event. It will be great for some of our students to visit the nesting site later this school year to see the result of their labor.

Come walk with us and support the Christ Child Convalescent Home and the Cyril Ross Nursery. Our annual **Walkathon** will take place tomorrow morning at 6:30 AM on the Queens' Park Savannah. The walkathon is one of our major community service events and we hope many of you will be able to participate. Let's give back to our host country.

The PTO Book Fair will be held next Friday, March 13th. Many of you have donated books and it should provide all members of your family an opportunity to purchase new reading material while helping raise funds to support the many activities of the PTO.

Parent Teacher conferences will be held on March 20th for parents of Middle School and High School students. Elementary school conferences will take place on March 26th.

Re-enrollment Forms for the 2009-10 school year are being sent home today. I ask that you please return the forms promptly as they greatly aid us in planning for the upcoming school year. Please contact our Admissions Department if you have any questions.

Have a good weekend. I hope to see many of you at the **Walkathon on Saturday**.

Dates for your Diary:

Mar 4-8	CAISSA Tournament
Mar 7	Walk A Thon
Mar 9	MS Q3 Progress Reports
Mar 10-13	8th Grade Outdoor Trip
Mar 13	PTO Used Book Sale
Mar 20	MS & HS Parent Conferences 12:15-3:30pm Early Dismissal @11:30 am MS & HS ONLY
Mar 26	ES student Led Conferences 12:00 - 3:15pm Early Dismissal @11am ES Student ONLY

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Bon voyage to the **Quilter family** who **will be relocating to another country.**

RE-ENROLLMENT NOTICE

Re-enrollment packages were sent home today with the youngest member of your family. If you didn't receive a package, please contact the Admissions office at either extension 408 or 410.

Celebrating 15 Years of Excellence

Website: <http://www.isps.edu.tt>

Annual ISPS Walk-A-Thon

The annual ISPS Walk-a-thon is on March 7th 2009. Proceeds from the event will assist organizations, such as the Christ Child Orphanage and Cyril Ross Nursery, to purchase needed supplies. We look forward to your participation in the event, and helping these organizations that work to improve the lives of children.

The walk-a-thon is an opportunity for the students of ISPS to show their school spirit and support through their participation. We are looking forward to an increase in the number of participants from last year and can accomplish this by working with all three schools and encouraging the students to come out to help others. The combined efforts of the Elementary, Middle and High Schools will help guarantee the success of the walk-a-thon.

Below are the guidelines for the walk-a-thon. Similar to last year, students will need to register before proceeding around the Queen's Park Savannah. Registration will begin at 6:15 AM, and the official start of the walk-a-thon will be at 6:30 AM. Students will be able to walk around the Savannah any number of times, but must start their last lap before 8:00 AM.

Light snacks and drinks will be provided on that day.

Walk-a-thon Guidelines

1. ISPS students must register and check-in at their respective School tables when they arrive at the Queen's Park Savannah opposite the BPTT building.
2. Parents are also asked to check-in at the Parent check-in table.
3. ISPS students will need to wear their PE/house shirts.
4. Registration and check-in opens at 6:15 AM and closes at 7:50 AM. ISPS is not responsible for students who have not registered/checked-in or start after 7:50 AM.
5. Students must check in at the Registration table after each lap around the Savannah to ensure that they are credited for each lap.
6. Students must start their last lap before 8:00 AM.
7. Students must check-out at their respective school tables when they have finished their laps to ensure that they are credited for their lap(s).
8. All pledge sheets should be returned to your child's homeroom/class teacher by March 6. Please DO NOT bring pledge sheets/money on the day of the walk-a-thon.
9. Monies are paid according to the amount of laps listed on the student's pledge sheet. E.g. if a sponsor pledges \$20 per lap and the student does 2 laps, the student collects \$40 from that sponsor.
10. Pledge sheets will not be returned to students once they have been submitted to the homeroom/class teacher.

ISPS is not responsible for students who continue to go around the Savannah after they have checked-out at their respective school table.

First Aid and Water will be available at the checkpoints located around the Savannah.

See you tomorrow at the Walk-a-thonBright & Early....6:15am

Athletics

Caiman Athletics: Our Girls Basketball team has won their two league games so far. They overcame Mucurapo and St. Martins Girls by large margins and look like the champs. They are focused on retaining their National Title.

The Boys Under 17s and Under 15s have so far gone unbeaten in the league. Last year the younger boys won the National title and so far have not been pushed by the other teams. Coaches Sprott and Lue Shue are very confident and are working hard to bring more glory to ISPS.

CAISSA Update: The ISPS Caimans left are off to do battle in the CAISSA Invitational Boys Basketball and Girls Soccer Tournament in the Dominican Republic. The host School (The Carol Morgan School) is hosting the tournament for the first time in almost three years. The favorites are ECA (Escuela Campo Elegre) and Coto Paxi, but our captains (Aimee Sabga and Kendra Katwaroo- Soccer and Dominique Lawrence and Mathew Temple- Basketball) feel that their teams can upset the rankings and win valuable points for the Caimans.

These are our youngest teams in the competition to date, they are a very skillful bunch. Our girls are one of the power houses in the tournament and we are expecting this young, eager and well trained team to challenge last year's champion, ECA, for the top spot. Our teams will be returning home on Monday March 9th. **GOOD LUCK CAIMANS!!!**

ISPS Hosts CAISSA in May : ISPS will be hosting season 3 of CAISSA from May 22nd to May 26th 2009. Girls Basketball and Boys Soccer will take the center stage as ISPS Caimans register two teams in each sport. The entire ISPS community can look forward to a very competitive tournament and a very festive atmosphere. Our girls were dethroned last year by Academia Cotopaxi at 3000m and our boys succumbed to the conditions to place third. Teams coming to Trinidad can look forward to a very hot tournament in the gym and on the playfield. All are invited to the games and to give our visitors a very warm welcome.

Model United Nations Student Report

This years Model UN group traveled to the exhilarating city of Boston to attend Boston University's yearly UN stimulation Conference. The students worked diligently along side students from around the world for all three days of the conference.

After the conference the students enjoyed a show and the various cultural and historical sites of Boston. Despite the cold weather and tough competition the trip was surely a success thanks to all the student's hard work and especially thanks to Mr. Lentz...aka Papa Duck.

Amanda Sabga



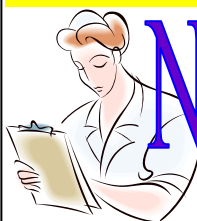
EMERGENCY PHONE TREE

Parents! Please be advised that the Emergency Phone Tree list has been updated and new lists will be distributed on Wednesday 11th March via e-mail and hardcopies to all Coordinators, Key 1 and Key 2 persons.

The test run of this new list will be done the following week on Wednesday 18th March.

Please look out for further updates.

Maria De Los Reyes



Nurse's Notes

Hello everyone,

Monday to Wednesday I was out of office on a training program. I would like to thank Mrs. Monono who volunteered in my absence.

As you are aware this is the time for colds and flu (post Carnival). Drink lots of fluids, you may use over the counter medication to minimize discomforts but they do not treat the infection.

Those who ordered the yellow fever shots please come in and pay for them. From Monday I will begin giving them. I will call you to arrange times.

Vanda Gomes R.N. R.M.

School Nurse



Date:
March 13, 2009

Second Hand Book Sale

Time:
7.30 am-3.30pm

Venue:
**The School Cafeteria at
the ISPS**

*The International School
of Port of Spain (ISPS)
is having a Second Hand
Book Sale sponsored by
the PTO.*

*Whatever your taste
there's a book for
everyone. All books
being sold are in
excellent condition.*

*So come on down to the
School and get a book for
yourself.*

- The Children's Corner
- Novels : Fiction and Non fiction
- Reference Books
- Spanish Books
- DVDs ,Tapes and Magazines

For further information or

**If you would like to
contribute towards this event
please call
Debra de Montrichard**

**Phone:1-868-788-8949 or
E-mail: ddem@usa.com**



Easy Print Page

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Mar 7	Walk A Thon
Mar 9	MS Q3 Progress Reports
Mar 10-13	8th Grade Outdoor Trip
Mar 13	PTO Used Book Sale
Mar 20	MS & HS Parent Conferences 12:15-3:30pm
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Cafeteria Menu: Mar 9th -13th

Everyday there will be a set menu at a fixed cost (Table 'd' hote) and some days may have an a la carte menu where items are priced individually (A la Carte)

- Mon 9th:** Meatballs in Tomato Sauce, Spaghetti, Green Salad & Fresh Fruit Juice
- Tue 10th:** Pork Chops in Apple Sauce, Grilled Fish, Savoury Rice, Tossed Salad & Fresh Fruit Juice
- Wed 11th:** Beef Lasagna, Vegetable Lasagna, Ratatouille, Garlic Bread, Caesar Salad & Fresh Fruit Juice
- Thu 12th:** Stewed Chicken, Stew Fish, Calaloo, Lentils, Carrot Dumplings, Rice, Coleslaw & Fresh Fruit Juice
- Fri 13th:** Massala Goat, Curried Chicken, Buss Up Shut, Roti, Pumpkin Choka, Curry Aloo and Channa, Curry Mango, Fresh Fruit Salad & Fresh Fruit Juice

Prices for Lunch: VAT INCLUSIVE (Table 'd' hote)- Fixed Menu

Small: \$20.70 **Large:** \$25.30

Note: Vegetarian meals are available upon request. Students & Staff who suffer from allergies or have dietary requirements, please let the café know in advance so that they can try to facilitate you.

Other Available Items: Sandwiches, Fresh Fruit Juices, Milk Drinks, Pre-packed Juices, Cut Fruits, Freshly Baked Pastries & Snack Items



*Freshly baked breads for
Parents & Staff will be on sale
in the Café every Friday
afternoon*

Elementary Notes



March 6, 2009

Volume 6, Issue 12

Dear Parents,

A week ago the Director General of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IB) gave us great news: We have been authorized to offer the Primary Years Programme (PYP). This is a significant milestone for our school, and we are honored to be part of the IB World Schools. I take this opportunity to thank all our Board members, especially Mr. Clifton Temple, Chairman of the Board, for supporting our Elementary Team and Administration. Furthermore, I thank all the teachers and auxiliary staff who contributed to the implementation of the PYP as well as students and parents who gave us positive feedback to reshape our units. It is indeed an accomplishment for ISPS, and we all played a major role in receiving the IB certification.

Our Carnival celebrations were very successful and we thank all of you for participating and assisting the classroom teachers in the many events held during that period.

We have completed the writing assessments for Grades 3-5 this week and have sent off the documents. We will inform you as soon as the results from the ERBs are received.

We have recently completed the Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) testing for Kindergarten and Grade One students. We will send home the results on March 9.

Ms. Theresa Koesterer will be available on March 11, at 7:30 a.m. to explain the test. Please bring your child's results to the meeting.

Walk-a-thon takes place on Saturday 7, starting at 6:30 a.m. Please make every effort to accompany your child to the event. Each student is asked to wear his/her house t-shirt. Thank you to the PTO for their continued support of providing us with water and fruit and thanks to Nestle for the juices.

Term Two ends on March 13, and reports are distributed on March 20. This year we are pleased to announce our first ever student-led conferences on March 26. All parents are asked to ensure that they mark their calendars so that they can plan ahead to attend. You will be able to sit with your child to learn about his/her progress during this reporting period. Classroom teachers will be sending home information for you to schedule an appointment. Students will be using their portfolios to tell you all about their core subjects as well as their specialist classes. Also, you will have the opportunity to visit your child's specialists' classrooms.

See you tomorrow at our annual Walk-a-thon!



Sincerely,
Suzette Julien

PYP Corner

We have been on pins and needles wondering when we would get word of our status for International Baccalaureate (IB) authorization. I am elated that we met all the requirements and that we are part of the IB World family. This means that we must continue to upkeep the standard that has been outlined in the IB programme. We have already started researching our next project which is the exhibition. This exhibition is a whole school project; and the fifth graders will drive the exhibition. We are all looking forward to that challenge.

All grades have met their targeted timeline for each unit, and we are now on our fourth unit. Classroom teachers have been sending home information on each unit. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about the current unit.

Our words for this month: **Empathy and Reflective**. Ask your child to explain what these words mean.

Angela Shahien, PYP Coordinator

ashahien@isps.edu.tt

Come Walk for Children....

We are looking forward to seeing all our families at the Walk-a-thon tomorrow. Over the last 11 years, we have always had an excellent turnout and last year we raised over \$40,000 from the event. All funds are donated to charitable organizations. We understand that the event is a bit early, at 6:30 a.m., but this is necessary since the temperature becomes unbearable to walk any later. We encourage you to bring the entire family and come walk with us. Guess what? We have doubles, fruit and drinks!

Date: March 7, 2009

Time : 6:30 a.m.

Place: Queen's Park Savannah



Second Hand Book Sale

PTO is hosting the Second Hand Book Sale on March 13th. There are books for everyone. Please send money with your child so that he/she can attend the sale.

Dates to Remember:

March 7: Walk-A-Thon

March 13 : Term Two ends and Second Hand Book Sale

March 20: Reports distributed

March 26: Student-led Conferences 12:00– 3:15 p.m.

Early dismissal @ 11:00 a.m.

