



ISPS Weekly Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 3: Friday 9th September, 2011

Mission

ISPS develops independent learners who strive for academic excellence, pursue their unique potential and meet challenges with confidence and integrity as they prepare for global citizenship.

Vision

A collaborative community creating a vibrant environment that enriches character, while inspiring a passion for learning and personal excellence.

From the Director

Dear Parents and Students,

The PTO grade level coffee meetings are off to a great start. I encourage you to check the schedule later in this newsletter to see when the other meetings take place. This is a good way to learn more about the PTO, meet parents of children in the same grade level as your children, and become involved at ISPS. A BIG THANKS to the PTO and parents who have opened their homes to host a meeting.

The PTO officers are also busy organizing events for our school community. **The Welcome Barbeque will take place on Saturday, September 17th from 11:00-1:00.** There will be hot dogs and hamburgers (as well as a vegetarian option), a bouncy castle and games. I encourage all families to come out for this fun event, see friends from last year and meet new people at ISPS. The event is cosponsored by the PTO and there is no charge.

The elementary and high school sections of the school will hold their ***Curriculum Nights*** next week. These meetings provide you with information about school programs and the expectations we have for your children. The elementary school Curriculum Night is on Wednesday, September 14th from 4:30-6:30

PM and the high school event is on Thursday, September 15th from 6:00-8:00 PM. (The middle school Curriculum Night will be held on September 20th). Please be sure to attend so you receive this valuable information.

Thanks to those parents who attended the meeting with Dr. Jahr of Search Associates this morning to learn more about the selection process for the new ISPS Director for 2012-13. The Board of Directors will now advertise the position and begin to review applications. Later, the Board will invite the best candidates to interview at the school. Parents will have an opportunity to participate in the interview process and provide their impressions of the candidates in order to assist the Board in their hiring decision.

I will be out of the country next week on personal business. John Horsfall, our high school principal, will act in my place during my absence.

Have a good weekend.

Eric Larson

Dates for your Diary:

September

- 14 ES Curriculum Night: 4:30-6:30pm
- 15 HS Curriculum Night 6-8pm
- 17 PTO Welcome BBQ: 11am-1pm
- 20 MS Curriculum Night: 5:00-7:15pm
- 24 Republic Day (National Holiday)

October

- 17-21 International Week

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Congratulations

To the Bhagwansingh Family, (Brandon & Daniella) and the Sabga Family (Christie and Elizabeth) on their grandparents being awarded the The Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the highest award by the government of Trinidad and Tobago, for their service to the country.

Also to Alexi Costa, placing third overall in her class in the Great Race (boat race), and to her Dad, Guy Costa, who was the driver of the winning boat, Fire One. Another Costa, Kent Costa, parent of Emma and Grace, placed 4th overall in Gulf Dragon.



Coffee Morning Dates



PTO Welcome Coffee Mornings

These are hosted in parents' homes and are arranged by grade level. We encourage you to take this opportunity to learn more about the PTO and to meet parents of students in your child's grade.

- **GRADE 1**
Tuesday, September 13 at 9:00 a.m.
Rene Hosman
780-6315
- **GRADE 3**
Wednesday, September 14 at 9:00 a.m.
Janna Brzezinski
772-9516
- **GRADE 4**
Monday, September 12 at 9:00 a.m.
Rachel Mears
316-5610
- **GRADE 5**
Friday, September 16 at 9:30 a.m.
Allyson Schutz
633-3571
- **GRADE 7**
Thursday, September 15 at 9:00 a.m.
Mariel Velarde
637-8188
- **GRADE 9**
Tuesday, September 20 at 9:00 a.m.
Debra deMontrichard
788-8949
- **GRADE 10 and 11**
Monday, September 19 at 9:00 a.m.
Julia Nagy
701-4880
- **GRADE 12**
Wednesday, September 21 at 9:00 a.m.
Gaye Pickering
708-7673



Second-hand uniforms

On sale on the **first Friday of every month**

Time: 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Place: Laundry Room

Questions? Call Rachel Mears at 316-5610

Global Issues Network ...works for a better world

A new club at ISPS, Global Issues Network came together in the second semester last year to create local solutions for global problems. Teams of students discussed today's pressing issues and designed projects to make Trinidad a better place. In tackling the issue of education, ISPS students implemented an after-school tutoring program at La Puerta primary school in Diego Martin. They also organized a day of team-building games for the entire school, which numbers over 200 students. It was a challenging but extremely rewarding project!

Christopher Panna

 Our annual International Food Festival will take place on Saturday October 22nd 2011 at the ISPS gym.

The day promises to be an enriching experience for all our ISPS families as we come together to celebrate the many nationalities and cultures represented at our school.

Tickets will soon go on sale at the school. Please call or email the following persons for more information:

Maria Bisnath: 681-1375, msbisnath@yahoo.com
Mollie Peacock, 795-6361, jennykelly@comcast.net

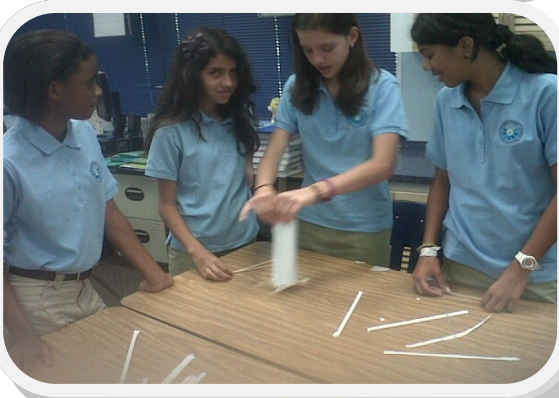
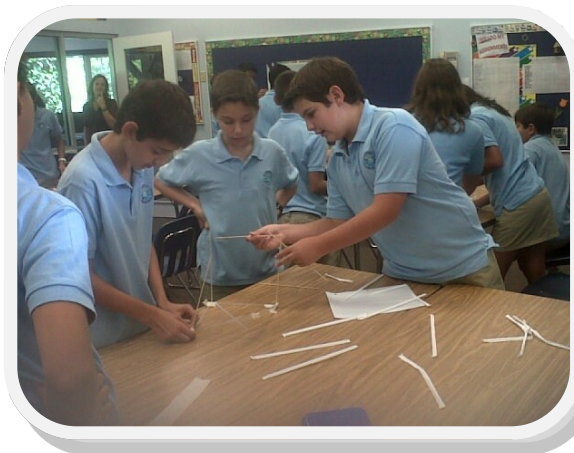
Update from Watershed

We, the Watershedders have started off the year with a **BANG**... working together from day one, to solve problems as a team; we prepare ourselves for facing the environment and larger global issues.



The 7th graders worked well together on their 1st group building activity, where they overcame their differences of opinions and conflicting ideas to construct a sturdy tower made of meager materials.

We look forward to updating you more in the future as we explore the Watershed we live in!



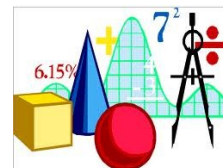
CONGRATULATIONS

Shara Morris one of the prizewinners in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Communications Art Competition "Bridging Borders Through Art"

Math Olympiad

On Friday morning the following high school students sat the first round examination for the Mathematics Olympiad.

- ◆ Prasanna Ramakrishnan
- ◆ Kevin Achim
- ◆ Francis Hadeed
- ◆ Ruth Hernandez
- ◆ Stephanie Laquis
- ◆ Sime Maharaj
- ◆ Benjamin Mitchell
- ◆ Vinaya Ravshankar
- ◆ Lauren Scott
- ◆ Ha Hyeun You
- ◆ Robert Boocock
- ◆ Alexandra Bovell
- ◆ Raquel Briceno
- ◆ Samantha Juman
- ◆ Benjamin Laquis
- ◆ James Mitchell
- ◆ Maia Morgan
- ◆ Ana Nagy
- ◆ Chelsea Thomas
- ◆ Geong You
- ◆ Victoria Hrebicek
- ◆ David Pickering
- ◆ Selise Singh



Elementary Notes



September 9, 2011

Volume 9 Issue

Dear Parents,

Thank you for attending the Coffee Mornings this week and there will be several others held next week. It is an opportunity to meet parents that are in your child's class, discuss the general activities that occur throughout the year as well as find out ways that you can be part of the community. For example, volunteering to be a classroom representative. So hope to see you there next week.

Curriculum Night is Wednesday 14th at 4:30 p.m. to 6:30p.m. Please make every effort to attend. You will receive information about your child's programme. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to ask questions. As a reminder, the classroom teacher will not be able to have any one-on-one discussion about your child. You can schedule a meeting with your child's teacher should you have any concerns about your child's progress etc.

Home Work Pod (Rm.111) is held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2:15 p.m. – 3 p.m. If your child does not have an afterschool activity or attending homework pod, then he/she must be collected at 2:15 p.m.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing will be held from September 19th to 23rd. We assess students in grades Kindergarten through grade five and the results allow us to identify the level of a student's academic abilities and target concepts in mathematics, language usage and reading for future growth. In addition, the MAP scores are compared to those of students worldwide and provides parents with information about how their child's progress compares with international norms. Once we have analysed the MAP scores, we will be sending a report of individual student results to you.

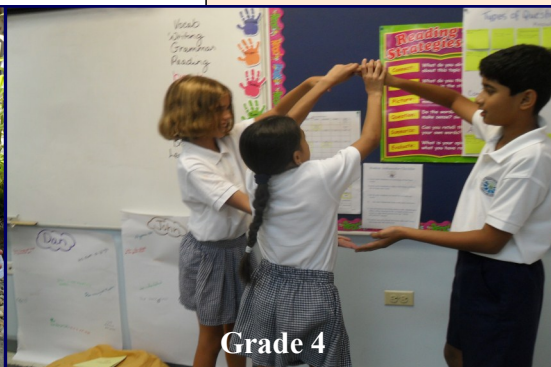
We look forward to seeing you at Curriculum Night next week.

Regards,
Suzette Julien
Elementary Principal

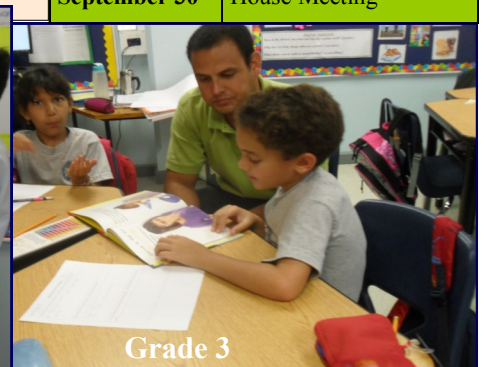
STUDENTS AT WORK!



Grade 3



Grade 4



Grade 3

Primary Years Programme (PYP)...

We are into our third year of authorization with International Baccalaureate (IB) PYP and are currently preparing for our first program evaluation with IB organization to maintain our authorization. This involves completing a self-evaluation study that includes all stakeholders. The expected visit will take place sometime between January and June 2012. However, all documentation for the evaluation must be submitted by November 2011. The purpose of this visit is to ensure that we are fulfilling the standards and practices set out by IB. The teachers have been engaged in completing the various sections of the self-study. Your cooperation is required in completing any surveys etc. to assess our performance in the implementation

of the Primary Years Programme. I will keep you updated on the process as we go along.

The aim of the IB programme is to develop internationally minded people and at the heart of the programme are attitudes and the learner profile. There are 12 suggested attitudes and 10 learner profiles that we focus on throughout the year. This month we will focus on **caring** and **knowledgeable** (profiles) and **enthusiasm** (attitude). All teachers plan lessons around the profiles and attitudes.

By now you would have received your child's PYP unit of study, and at our Curriculum Night you will receive more information on the PYP.

Angela Shahien (PYP Coordinator)

Spanish Club: There will be a Spanish Club for all students in grades 2-5 on Mondays from 2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. There will be several activities held throughout the year. Please sign-up with Ms. Neva, Rm. 235.

We would like to start other cultural clubs, but we need parent volunteers. If you are interested in starting a club, please contact Ms. Julien at 632-4591 ext. 123 These clubs can help encourage students to maintain their mother tongue.

Curriculum Night Supervision

Please note that we can accommodate 15 students during Curriculum Night. This supervision is for families who are unable to find *babysitters* for their child. Please contact Mrs. Julien at 632-4591 ext.123 or sjulien@isps.edu.tt

CALENDAR

September 5	After School Activities begin
September 14	Curriculum Night @ 4:30pm—6:30pm
September 14-15	Vision Screening at School
September 19—23	Measurement for Academic Progress (MAP Testing K-5)
September 30	House Meeting



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



PTO WELCOME BBQ



Saturday, September 17, 2011

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Join us for a couple of hours of Fun

ADMISSION IS FREE!

PLEASE PRINT

Family Name: _____

Child's name: _____ Grade: _____

Elementary School
Curriculum Night

Wednesday September 14
4:30-6:30pm

High School
Curriculum Night

Thursday September 15
6:00-8:00pm

Middle School Curriculum Night

Tuesday September 20
5:00-7:15pm

Meet your child's teachers and find out more about your child's academic programme for this year. A detailed schedule will be sent home with your child next week.



Nurse's Notes...

Hello Everyone,

This is a reminder to complete and return the vision screening form for your child/children this will take place at the school on 14th and 15th September 2011.

I would like to start giving the flu shots from the 19th September 2011. All families who would like to get them the cost is \$60.00 per person. I will order for those who pay by Friday 16th September 2011.

This week some students have been complaining of sore throat and cough. We will continue to let them wash their hands often and cough or sneeze into their sleeves instead of into hands. I would like to encourage you to give them the flu shots to help in reducing the incidence of flu in school.

The IT teacher has noticed that some students even with glasses appear to have trouble seeing the computer screen. The distance is neither near nor far which may not have been checked when they were assessed.

Have a great weekend.

Vanda Gomes, R.N., R.M.

Dates for your Diary:	17 PTO Welcome BBQ: 11am-1pm	22 International Food Festival
	20 MS Curriculum Night: 5:00-7:15pm	26 Divali (Nat'l Holiday: To be confirmed)
	24 Republic Day (National Holiday)	27-28 School Break
September		
14 ES Curriculum Night: 4:30-6:30pm	October	November
15 HS Curriculum Night: 6-8pm	17-21 International Week	9-13 CAISSA Volleyball

Cafeteria Menu: September 12 - 16, 2011

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

MONDAY 12 TH	PASTA ALFREDO, BAKED BEANS, CHEESE BREAD, GARDEN FRESH SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE
TUESDAY 13 TH	IRISH BEEF STEW, OVEN ROSTED CHICKEN, GLAZED VEGETABLES, POTATO AU GRATIN , TOSSED SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE
WEDNESDAY 14 TH	CHICKEN PELAU, BEEF PELAU, COCONUT DUMPLINGS WITH STEW SALFISH, COLE SLAW, FRESH FRUIT JUICE
THURSDAY 15 TH	CREOLE FISH, STEWED CHICKEN, STEWED PORK, OCHRO RICE, COO COO, CALALOO, LENTILS, FRESH SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE
FRIDAY 16 TH	BEEF LASAGNE, VEGETABLE LASAGNA, KIDNEY BEANS, GARLIC BREAD, CAESAR SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE

DAILY A LA CARTE MENU

TUNA SANDWICH	\$13.80
CHEESE SANDWICH	\$10.35
CHICKEN SANDWICH	\$13.80
BLT	\$16.10
TURKEY SANDWICH	\$18.40
HAM	\$12.65
HAM & CHEESE	\$13.00
CHEF SALAD	\$28.30
CHICKEN SALAD	\$28.30
TUNA SALAD	\$26.00

Cafeteria Updates

- ◆ We will no longer be serving peanut butter sandwiches since we have so many kids with peanut allergies and their safety is very important to us
- ◆ FREE cooking classes to parents and staff:

Learn to make breads, hors d'oeuvres, polouri, and other local delights.

*First class on **Wednesday 28th September, 4.00 pm.** Class will be for ten persons. Email dprime1@tstt.net.tt for a place. For additional info. Call 632-4591 Ext 101*

Prices for Lunch: VAT INCLUSIVE (Table d'hôte)- Fixed Menu: Small: \$23.00 Large: \$28.75

**Prices for (A la Carte Menu) : VAT INCLUSIVE: Beef Sub:\$16.10(sm) \$19.55(m) Chicken Sub:\$14.95(sm) \$17.25(m)
Meatball Sub:\$16.10(sm) \$19.55(m) Bake & Shark: \$20.00 French Fries: \$9.20 Regular Juices: \$4.60(m) \$9.20 (l)**

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.

****Freshly baked bread will be on sale in the café every Friday afternoon****