



ISPS Weekly Newsletter

Volume 17, Issue 6: Friday 1st October, 2010

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,

It has been a good week at ISPS. The Board of Directors met on Tuesday during which time they reviewed last year's parent survey results, AP exam scores and MAP test results. Information concerning the parent survey results and the AP scores will be in next week's newsletter. We utilize parent surveys to gain your opinion about our programs and guide us in ways to improve our school.

At the recent parent meeting on September 23rd we discussed the pick up procedures at the end of the school day. In an effort to ease congestion, we will implement the procedures below on **Monday, October 4th**.

At 2:15 each school day cars will not be allowed to park outside of designated parking spaces. Parents or drivers may only pause to pick up students who are at their designated pick up point. If the student is not present the driver will have to drive around the traffic circle until the student is present.

We will do our best to ensure students are at the pick up areas in a timely manner. Note that middle school and high school students are dismissed at 2:15 so they will not be in the pick-up area until after 2:20. We need your cooperation and I ask that you respectfully follow the directions given by our security officers. We will monitor the effectiveness of this procedure and welcome your ideas to make student pick up safe and efficient.

Elementary school progress reports are being sent home today. The reports provide a snapshot of your child's progress so far this academic year. Please be sure to contact your child's teacher if you have questions or would like more detailed information. Middle school and high school progress reports will be sent home next week.

Please note that October 11th and 12th are professional development days for ISPS staff and there is no school for students on those days. The majority of staff will take part in training from a Northwest Evaluation Association consultant on how best to use student performance data gained through MAP testing to improve instruction and learning. We are excited about the training as we continue to implement this powerful assessment tool at ISPS. We will also provide training in the effective instructional use of information technologies during these days. Thank you in advance for your support of teacher professional days- they make us a better school.

We hope to see you at the **PTO Welcome BBQ tomorrow!** The BBQ runs from 12:00-2:00 and is free of charge. It is a great way to meet other families at the school in a relaxed setting. A BIG thanks to the PTO for sponsoring this opportunity for our school community to come together.

Eric Larson



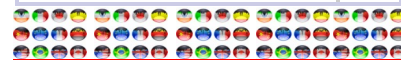
Dates for your Diary:

- Oct. 2** PTO Welcome BBQ:
12:00 - 2:00 pm
- 4 MS Q1 Progress Reports
- 5 HS Q1 Progress Reports
- 8 Speech & Hearing Screening
- 11 Blood Bank Visit
- 11-12 No School (Teachers PD)
- 18-22 International Week
- 23 Food Festival
- 29 End Q1
- Nov. 4** MS Report Cards
HS Report Cards



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International Week Opening Ceremony
You are Invited ISPS Theatre
Monday 18th October, 2010 from 12:50pm

Science Corner

Welcome to the first Science Corner of the new academic year!

Firstly I would like to welcome Ms Andrea Potts to the Science Department Ms Potts, a Trinidadian who has been working in the United States has returned to Trinidad to take up the role of AP Chemistry, Chemistry, Environmental Science teacher. For those of you who are new to the school, the Science Corner is a monthly article that will give you a little insight into what is happening in our Science classes from K- 12. So here goes for September!

High School

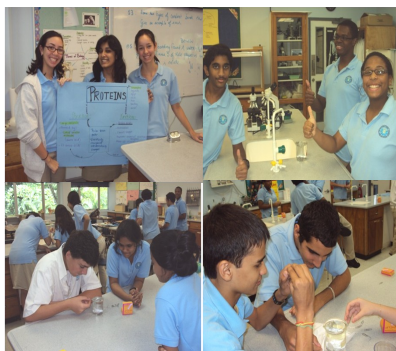
AP Biology

AP Biology students started off the year by extracting enzymes from cow liver and performing assays to determine the rate of an enzyme catalyzed reaction. This is the first of 12 labs required by the College Board and proved to be very successful indeed.



Biology

Students' in the Biology classes have been busy modeling macromolecules, testing Scientific hypotheses and lots of Concept mapping. We are currently studying macromolecules and it will culminate this with analysis of the cafeteria foods!



AP Physics

AP Physics kids are using a potato cannon (which they made last year in AP Chem) in a 2-d motion lab. They were trying to find the muzzle velocity of the potato (how fast it leaves the barrel) without using a stopwatch. The results showed it's moving at 52 m/s, which is about 115 miles per hour!



Middle School

In 7th grade Watershed, students are learning skills in class and using them in the field!

SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS IN CLASS!

In Watershed we are learning how to make accurate observations in science! We use qualitative (using words) and quantitative (using numbers) observations. For some observations we use formulae to work out mathematical strategies to relate to science. In our lab, we measured lengths using rulers and meter sticks, degrees of temperatures of different states of water, measured liquid volumes, and mass. In science you must also be precise in what you are measuring because you need correct data. One big and important rule when you're dealing with boiling water is to never leave water boiling on a stove and turn your back. These experiments were so much fun; I cannot wait to observe other things in our science class as we learn a lot in the science lab every day. We work hard and do our best while having fun and learning. *By Alexa Hadeed 7b*



We then took our observation skills to Chaguaramas where we visited two reaches (sites) on the Cuesa River. This forest is home to many beautiful species of plants, trees and animals. We took qualitative observations comparing the two sites... the waterfall and the mouth of the river. At the waterfall it is full of clear and drinkable water but near the ocean it is brown and dirty. There are some dangerous plants and animals in the forest but we didn't see any. One interesting thing was the rubber tree which bark contains a liquid that hardens into rubber. We put it on our fingers and waited for it to dry. We also found an ancient bunker from WWII, home to bats.. We had some flashlights so we could see the bats which were both frightening and cool. We also did some **orienteeing** using our compasses to hide and find a "treasure". We hope for more field trips to be as exciting and beneficial as this one was. *By Sajeew Maraj 7B*



Well that just gives you a little insight into the commitment of our teachers to enhance the learning process here at I.S.P.S.

You can look forward to more in the coming articles. Until next month, keep safe!

Attention High School Parents:

The PSAT 2010 at ISPS

The **PSAT**, more formally referred to as the **PSAT/NMSQT** stands for the **Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test**. It is a standardized test that has been designed to help prepare students for the SAT Reasoning Test™. The PSAT/NMSQT is designed for 11th graders (juniors) and therefore it is associated with High School. Together with the juniors, most 10th and 9th graders also decide to do the test. Furthermore, the PSAT also gives US students (who are juniors) a chance to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) scholarship programs.

The PSAT/NMSQT measures:

- ♦ critical reading skills
- ♦ math problem-solving skills
- ♦ writing skills

Students have generally developed these skills over the many years that they have been in school. Consequently, this test doesn't require you to recall specific facts from your classes.

The most common reasons for taking the PSAT/NMSQT are:

- ♦ to receive feedback on your strengths and weaknesses on skills necessary for college study. You can then focus your preparation on those areas that could most benefit from additional study or practice.
- ♦ to help prepare for the SAT. You can become familiar with the kinds of questions and the exact directions you will see on the SAT.
- ♦ to see how your performance on an admissions test might compare with that of others applying to college.
- ♦ to enter the competition for scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (grade 11).

The PSAT is **only offered once per year**, in October. This year the exam will take place on **Saturday 16th October 2010 at ISPS, from 8:00 am to about 12:30 pm.**

Since the PSAT is designed for eleventh graders, ninth and tenth graders may find the test a bit difficult. Therefore, it is important to note that the PSAT results have **absolutely no impact on college entry**. However, the PSAT helps to familiarize students with the format and style of the real SATs, thereby serving as a good college-prep exercise.

How Do I Sign UP!

Since the school absorbs the cost of this exam, there are no registration fees. However, all 11th graders are required to do the test. Tenth and ninth graders are also welcomed.

If you are planning on having your child participate in this exercise, please send a short email to lmoore@isps.edu.tt indicating the student's name and grade level.

Participating students must report to school for 8:00 am and the entire exercise should take approximately four to four and a half hours, finishing at about 12:30 pm.

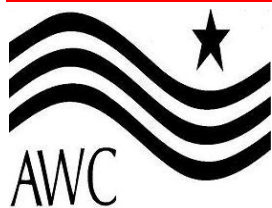
Participating students are required to:

Show up at school on Saturday 16th October at 8:00 am
Walk with their own supply of pencils (No. 2)
Walk with their calculators (and backups).

If you have any questions regarding the PSAT/NMSQT feel free to give me a call at school or email: lmoore@isps.edu.tt

Regards,

Louis Moore
School Counselor



The next American Women's Club Meeting for 2010-2011 will be held next Tuesday, October 5th. It will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Wrightson Road, Port of Spain, on the 12th floor from 10am - 12:00pm. Please plan on arriving a bit early so you can mingle with other members. Coffee / tea and finger foods will be served. Hope to see you there.

For additional information, please call Julia Nagy @ 701-4880.



Nurse's Notes

Hello Everyone,

Vision screening was completed this week. You will only get a response if there was a problem with your child's vision.

Did you know that hearing loss can affect a child's ability to develop communication, language and social skills? The earlier children with hearing loss start getting services the more likely they are to reach their full potential. Some actually realize that selective hearing works to their advantage.

If you are in doubt of your child's status or just want to ensure that his/her hearing is normal you may access the hearing screening available at the school on Friday October 8th 2010.

A copy of the form is attached for those who did not complete it before. The cost is \$60.00 and cheques are to be made to Wendy Senior Gomez.

Dengue fever is still a national problem, I continue to encourage all our families to use preventative measures to keep the mosquitoes away. At school we continue to be vigilant and spray routinely and whenever necessary. Remember this cannot be done when students are in school.

As a community service we have the Blood Bank visit the school. Parents, staff and students over the age of 18yrs are encouraged to donate blood which may save a life. The next visit is on Friday 29th October, 2010. Let me know what time is convenient for you and I will put you on the list.

Do have a great weekend.

Vanda Gomes R.N. R.M.
School Nurse

Please return the completed form by Monday 4th October 2010

I want my child/children to have Speech & Hearing Screening done on Friday 8th October 2010

Name/s -----

Grade -----

Parent/Guardian

**Speech
&
Hearing
Screening**



**Friday
8th
October**

PTO UNIFORM SERVICE

NOTICES

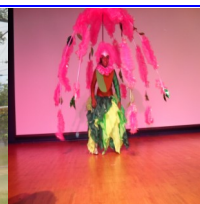
- ◆ Used Uniform Sale - **October 2, 2010** at the PTO Welcome BBQ
 - ◆ Donations of used uniforms which are in good repair are welcome. To donate please leave a bag at the Front Desk, labelled Rachel Mears

ISPS Snorkel and Dive Trinidad Trip

On Saturday 25th September, 2010 we went snorkeling at Chacachacare. Leaving on a sunny morning at Power Boats we took half an hour to arrive at La Tinta beach. When we were anchored we swam to shore onto the sandy, rocky and brownish side of the bay. We put our gear on practiced snorkeling. We had our lunch and cleaned up the beach for Ocean Awareness month. A small thunder storm came and we go back on the boat until the storm passed. Getting the OK from the life guard we went back into the water to snorkel. We saw a barracuda, baby star coral, a school of small wrasses and a parrot fish. The water visibility was quite poor at first, but it cleared up as we got nearer to the edges of the mountain, when the bottom dropped away. Can't wait to go again!

By Brynn, Elmira and Megan

The Divers: We went on two low visibility dives. The first dive was Chacacharcare on the third boca. We saw 2 lobsters, a tarpon, and a school of carvel. Our total bottom time was 46 minutes at about 70 ft. Then we went to the north side of La Tinta, and it was like we were diving at night, it was so dark! We had to use our torches to see where we were going. We didn't see much – only lots of shelves. We had a good time, and even had thunder and lightning.... Enjoying duck curry for lunch. *By Adam*



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

PTO WELCOME BBQ

Saturday, October 2, 2010

12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon of Fun

ADMISSION IS FREE!





Our annual International Food Festival will take place on Saturday October 23rd 2010 from 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the ISPS gym.

Tickets go on sale at the school from **October 4th 2010**.

Adults: \$100.00 Children: \$50.00*

**Available to students in Grade 5 and below*

If your country's name does not appear on the following list of participating countries or you wish to participate in hosting a booth or volunteering on the day, we would love to have you join us.

Here is a list of participating countries to date:

Argentina	Germany	Philippines
Bolivia	Guyana	Puerto Rico
Brazil	Honduras	Senegal
Canada	Hungary	Syria
Chile	India	Trinidad & Tobago
China	Indonesia	UK
Colombia	Italy	USA
Costa Rica	Jamaica	Venezuela
Egypt	Korea	
El Salvador	Peru	

Please call or email the following persons for more information:

Patricia Ghany – Cell: 620-4101, patricia@esauielfield.com

Debra de Montrichard – Cell: 788-8949, ddem@usa.com



Love & Logic Corner

PARENTS!

Many of us struggle daily with feeling we have less and less control over our children as the pressure from working and living takes our attention away from them.

Most times we then resort to shouting, warning, threatening, and frustration!

Or 'letting them off' because we're too busy and exhausted.

The LOVE AND LOGIC program will give you practical parenting skills that can be used immediately.

NEW 7 Weeks CLASS for parents **Wednesdays (Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24 and**

Dec. 1) at ISPS from

9:00-11:00am with facilitator

Moreena Mohammed-Campey

Cost: \$500TT (couples \$900TT)



October 2010

International School of Port of Spain 2010—2011 School Calendar

September 26	September 27	September 28	September 29	September 30 Vision Screening ES Progress Reports	1	2 PTO Welcome BBQ 12:00n—2:00pm Used Uniform Sale
3	4 MS Q1 Progress Reports	5 HS Q1 Progress Reports	6	7	8 Speech & Hearing Screening	9 SAT's 7:30am-2:00pm
10	11 Teacher PD No School	12 Teacher PD No School	13	14	15	16 PSAT 7:30am-2:00pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 ACT 7:30am-2:00pm International Food Fest
International Week						
24	25	26	27	28	29 End of 1st QTR (45 days)	30
31	November 1	November 2	November 3	November 4 MS/HS Report Cards	November 5 Diwali (National Holiday)	November 6 SAT 7:30am-2:00pm

Dates for your Diary:					
Oct. 2	PTO Welcome BBQ: 12:00 - 2:00 pm	11-12	ing Blood Bank Visit No School (Teachers PD)	Nov. 4	MS Report Cards HS Report Cards
4	MS Q1 Progress Reports	18-22	International Week	5	<i>Divali (National Holiday):</i> TBC
5	HS Q1 Progress Reports	23	Food Festival	10-14	CAISSA - Dominican Republic
8	Speech & Hearing Screen-	29	End Q1	19	MS/HS Parent Conferences

Cafeteria Menu: October 4 - 8, 2010

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 (À la Carte)

MONDAY 4TH ITALIAN MEATBALLS, LINGUINI, GARLIC BREAD, CAESAR SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE

TUESDAY 5TH BARBEQUE BEEF SUBS, MEATBALL SUBS, CHICKEN TERRIYAKI SUBS, FRENCH FRIES, SALAD BAR, FRESH FRUIT JUICE (A LA CARTE)
BEEF LASAGNE, BAKED BEANS, GREEN SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE (TABLE 'D' HOTE)

WEDNESDAY 6TH HAWAIIAN LAMB CHOPS, MUSHROOM CHICKEN, SAFFRON RICE, VICHY CARROTS, TOSSED SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE

THURSDAY 7TH GRILLED FISH, CARIBBEAN STYLE CHICKEN, BUTTERED CASSAVA, SNOWFLAKE RICE, LENTILS, MIXED SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE

FRIDAY 8TH GEERA CHICKEN, GEERA FISH, GEERA PORK, BHAGHEE RICE, CURRIED POTATOES, DHAL, POMMECEY THERE CHUTNEY, FRESH SALAD, FRESH FRUIT JUICE

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: Small** \$4.60 **Large:** \$9.20

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.