



ISPS Weekly Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 12: Friday 21 November 2008

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,

As reported in the last newsletter, the Board of Directors held their annual retreat last weekend. The retreat provided Board members training in effective governance and the opportunity to spend concentrated time discussing ways we can continue to ensure ISPS provides the best education possible. The Board considered the different indicators we use to determine the effectiveness of our programs, how we can further enhance our facilities and how we can best ensure the long term financial health of the school. On behalf of the ISPS community, I express thanks to our Board members for their dedication and service to our school.

The High School drama production, **Looking Through You**, opened last evening, with an excellent performance. The play will be performed again this

evening and on Saturday at 7:30 and I encourage you to come see the production if you missed it last night. Please be reminded that the content of the play is suitable for high school aged students and not appropriate for younger children. Tickets are only TT\$25 and can be purchased at the door.

Elementary students will have their drama production, **Sasha and the Pearl**, on November 25th and 26th, (we have two performances scheduled to accommodate more people). Prekindergarten through Grade Two parents are invited on the 25th and Grades Three to Five parents are invited on the 26th. Both shows start at 6:00. *Come support our fine arts programs at ISPS!*

Please also notice that there will be a benefit show, **Imagine**, held at ISPS on November 29th, (see page 5 in this newslet-

ter for more details). This show will benefit Christ Child Convalescent Home and will feature performances by some ISPS students. You are encouraged to support this worthwhile event.

The first session of the After School Activities program ends on November 28th. The next session will begin after the winter holidays. Please contact Mr. Ali, our Athletics' Director, if you would like to help provide activities to our students. This is a fun and rewarding way to help us provide a broad range of activities to our students.

Finally, note the PTO is sponsoring a Yard Sale on Saturday, November 29th in the school cafeteria. See more details in this newsletter.

Have a good weekend.

Eric Larson

Dates for your Diary:

Nov 21-22	Looking Through You 7:30pm
Nov 25	ES Sasha & The Pearl : PK-2 6:00pm
Nov 26	ES Sasha & The Pearl : Gr 3-5 6:00pm
Nov 28	ES Report Cards distributed
Nov 28	After School Activities End
Nov 29	PTO Yard Sale
Dec 4	ES Parent Conferences
Dec 8	MS Q2 Progress Reports
Dec 12	Last day of School
Dec 15-Jan 2: Christmas Break	
Jan 5	School Resumes

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Departing Families Notice

Please ensure that you have formally notified the Admissions Office in writing of your family's impending departure.

This process initiates our withdrawal procedures and facilitates the distribution of withdrawal packages to the parents of departing students in a timely manner.

*Jackie Fung-Kee-Fung
Admission Director*



- ◇ Elementary School Holiday Concert "**Sasha & The Pearl**" Nov. 25th & 26th with both shows starting at 6pm
- ◇ **8th Grade Car Wash TOMORROW!!! from 10am-2pm \$30TT per car - All proceeds go to charity**

Celebrating 15 Years of Excellence

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



Nurse's Notes

Hello All,

We have three students with Dengue fever at present. We are monitoring the environment to ensure there is no breeding ground for the Aedes Aegypti mosquito.

Due to the increase in Flu at the school we have decided to offer the Flu Vaccine to the ISPS Community and Staff Members at a cost of \$100.00 per shot, per person on Friday 5th December, providing we receive the vaccination order.

If you would like to have the shot for your family let me know the number of persons by completing and returning the attached form as soon as possible in order to facilitate ordering the vaccine.

Persons who cannot get the shots are those:

- with allergies to chicken or eggs and neomycin
 - who are immunosuppressed
- have been sick or have had fever within 48hrs
 - Children under 1 year old

After getting the shot some possible side effects are:

- Headache, Sweating, Tiredness & Muscular Pains

Do enjoy the weekend.

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

Please complete and return the following to Nurse Gomes or Hazel Walker by Wednesday 26th November,2008

Family Name -----

Number of persons over 3yrs old -----

Number of children 1- 3yrs old -----

ES Christmas Sport Camp

November 21, 2008

Dear Parent,

I am having an activities sport camp in school during the Christmas Vacation.

Monday December 15th - Friday December 19th.

Times: 9:00am to 1:00 pm

Place: ISPS Gym

Cost: \$360 per child

Grades: K-5

If you are interested, please fill out the bottom portion of this form and return it to me with your payment no later than **Wednesday December 3rd, 2008**. The minimum number that I would require for this program to occur is ten (10) students.

If you have any questions or concerns please call me at 633-4777 Ext. 135. or 724 3511 (cell) after 3:00pm

Sincerely,

Ricardo Lue Shue: Physical Education Teacher

Child's Name: _____

Grade: _____

Contact Information:

Parent's Name: _____

Telephone #: _____

Allergies: _____

Payment enclosed: **Cash** **Cheque**
(payable to Ricardo Lue Shue).



AP[®] SCHOLAR AWARDS
For Immediate Release

Date: 13th November 2008

Thirty one students at the International School of Port of Spain (ISPS) have earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP Exams.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program[®] (AP[®]) provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. About 18 percent of the 1.6 million students worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams. At ISPS:

Ten students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are John Castagne, Rebekah Chin Lee, William Fryar, Jeffrey Natenstedt, Maria Portela, Arvind Ramnauth, Shivaa Ramsewak, Yannick Sealy, Kathleen Tompsett, and Gregory Van Gestel.

Five students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are Sarah Clark, Samantha De Gannes, Enitan Marcelle, Kelly Rajack, and Justin Thomas.

Sixteen students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams with grades of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are Ishana Akal, Luanne Chin, Andrew Clark, Ornella Cyrus, Daniela De Los Reyes, Stacey De Souza, Stechelle Hazell, Jonathan Hendy, Kendra Hypolite, Andrew Laquis, Jordan Millar, Phillip Miller, Kiran Pereira, Carlos Portela, Dominique Samaroo, and Stefan Scott.



Of this year's award recipients at ISPS Eleven are sophomores or juniors: Luanne Chin, Andrew Clark, Sarah Clark, Samantha De Gannes, Daniela De Los Reyes, Andrew Laquis, Enitan Marcelle, Jordan Millar, Phillip Miller, Carlos Portela, and Arvind Ramnauth. These students have at least one more year in which to complete college-level work and possibly earn a higher-level AP Scholar Award.

Through 37 different college-level courses and exams, AP provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit or advanced placement and stand out in the college admissions process. Each exam is developed by a committee of college and university faculty and AP teachers, ensuring that our exams are aligned with the same high standards expected by college faculty at some of the nation's leading liberal arts and research institutions. AP is accepted by more than 3,600 colleges and universities worldwide for college credit, advanced placement, or both on the basis of successful AP Exam grades. This includes more than 90 percent of four-year institutions in the United States. Research consistently shows that AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP Exams (based on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest) typically experience greater academic success in college and higher graduation rates than students who do not participate in AP.

The College Board is a not-for-profit membership organization whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the association is composed of more than 5,400 schools, colleges, universities, and other educational organizations. Each year, the College Board serves seven million students and their parents, 23,000 high schools, and 3,500 colleges through major programs and services in college admissions, guidance, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning. Among its best-known programs are the SAT[®], the PSAT/NMSQT[®], and the Advanced Placement Program[®] (AP[®]). The College Board is committed to the principles of excellence and equity, and that commitment is embodied in all of its programs, services, activities, and concerns.

Congratulations AP Scholars

Community Notice Board : Upcoming Events & Notices



Have you booked your table yet???

If not, you're missing out on the best opportunity of the year

PTO YARD SALE

Saturday 29th November

ISPS Café from 9am-1pm

LIMITED TABLES are still available

Book your table at the front Desk by Ms. Hazel for only \$150.00 payable either in cash or by cheque.

For further information, please contact Maria at 632-1775/389-7250 or e-mail magusinya2002@hotmail.com or Lee at 629-0510/729-4129 or e-mail ondvill@yahoo.co.uk

"Imagine"

is a benefit concert at the auditorium of The International School of Port of Spain on Saturday, November 29th to aid the Christ Child Convalescent Home in Diego Martin. This is home to abused and abandoned children under age 19 and is run by the Carmelite Sisters.

ISPS Students under John Horsfall make weekly visits to this home to play, read and interact with the children.



The concert features some amazing young talent all of whom are champions, winners and participants in the Trinidad and Tobago Music Festival 2008 .

Beautiful uplifting songs and music to inspire and delight. Support our very own ISPS students Andrew Hadad, Sarah Jane Clark, Sebastian Lucas, Eoin Ible, Kemi Ible and Rafael White while giving to a good cause.

All proceeds from this concert will be donated to the home.



Showtime: 7pm

Cost: \$85.00

tickets are available at The ISPS (633-4777), and The Knowledge Zone Ellerslie Plaza (622-9663).

Just "IMAGINE" what your support will do...

We look forward to seeing you there!

ISPS Elementary School presents

Sasha and the Pearl

Tuesday 25th (Pre-K to 2 families)
&
Wednesday 26th (Grade 3 to 5 families)
November 2008
ISPS Performing Arts Theatre
6:00pm
By invitation only!



Easy Print Page

Dates for your Diary:

Nov 21-22	Looking Through You 7:30pm
Nov 25 & 26th	ES Sasha & The Pearl 6:00pm
Nov 28	ES Report Cards distributed and ASA End
Nov 29	PTO Yard Sale
Dec 4	ES Parent Conferences
Dec 8	MS Q2 Progress Reports
Dec 12	Last day of School



**December 15th, 08 to January 2nd, 09:
Christmas Break**

Jan 5 School Resumes

Cafeteria Menu: November 24th to November 28th

Mon 24th: Baked Chicken, Fish Orly, Saffron Rice, Vichy Carrots, Garden Salad & Fresh Fruit Juice (**Table 'd' hote**) - **Fixed Menu**

Tue 25th: Spaghetti Bolognaise, Garlic Bread, Caesar Salad & Fresh Fruit Juice (**Table 'd' hote**) - **Fixed Menu**

Wed 26th: HAPPY THANKSGIVING: Roast Turkey, Roast Chicken/Cranberry Sauce, Creamed Potatoes, Chestnut Stuffing, Peas & Carrots, Pumpkin Pie, Festive Salad & Fresh Fruit Juice (**Table 'd' hote**) - **Fixed Menu**

Thu 27th: Chicken Kiev, Grilled Fish, Savoury Rice, Blackbean Salsa, Plantains, Fresh Salad & Fresh Fruit Juice (**Table 'd' hote**) - **Fixed Menu**

Fri 28th: Jerk Chicken, Stewed Pork, Pigeon Peas Pelau, Coleslaw & Fresh Fruit Juice (**Table 'd' hote**) - **Fixed Menu**

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

Security Advice

Dear Parents,

The Christmas Festivities are here and with it comes a lot of shopping. Here are some Safety Tips for you.

- During Christmas shopping, different organizations locate themselves at the malls and groceries asking for charity. If you intend to share the Christmas Spirit by giving money, please do so after you have finished with your shopping. This allows you to set aside your donation without exposing your wallet with credit cards in the public, thereby making you an easy victim for a snatch and run.
- If there is a crowd at the cashier when purchasing your items, make sure your purse zipper is placed in front of you. Pickpockets work in groups as well, so while one person distracts you the other accomplice is fishing into your purse. So be vigilant at crowded lines at cashiers.
- For major purchases of groceries and gifts please use your Linx, Cheques or Credit Card.
- As best as possible avoid late evening and night shopping. If you do go out to shop, go with friends or relatives. Shopping at night may reduce your visibility of your surroundings and who is around.
- Thieves place flyers on your car windscreen or rear widow to lure you out of your vehicle. As long your visibility is not obstructed, drive your vehicle till you arrive home or at a safe location where you can remove it yourself.
- As the season progresses, when driving on the road be cautious of the driver in front, at the side and the rear of you. Drivers may be driving under the influence so you must be alert.

These are some safety tips you can follow to ensure your Christmas Season is safe. More safety tips while shopping will be given in the next school's Newsletter.

Anthony Ralph: Head of Safety & Security

Elementary Notes



November 21, 2008

Volume 6, Issue 7

Dear Parents,

Penning this week's newsletter, I just cannot imagine that the term has ended and the holidays are a few weeks away. This term has been very productive with the many events and activities our students have been involved in: projects, town and house meetings, IB PYP visit, unit celebrations and rehearsals for the upcoming play.

Reports will be distributed on November 27th. Please make sure that you discuss your child's report and celebrate his/her achievements.

Parent conferences have been scheduled for December 4th. Please make an effort to meet with all the teachers who are involved with your child's education program. Classroom and specialist teachers will be available to discuss your child's progress. Specialist teachers (art, music, Spanish, media, P.E., counselor, music etc.) will be set-up in the gymnasium. It is Important that you understand your child's elementary program, so please make every attempt to visit the specialist teachers.

Classroom teachers will be sending home scheduled times for conferences. If you are unavailable for the conference on December 4, please reschedule for another time that is convenient.

Many of our students do not have art shirts, and they have been soiling their polo school shirts. Every child must have an art shirt or apron. The students are excited about art, and we would not want to deny them from enjoying their art because they do not have a shirt. The art teacher has allowed the students to participate in art, but paint gets on the school uniform and that has been a problem. So, please check with your child on art days to ensure that his/her art shirt is in his/her bag.

An e-mail was sent out last week regarding the changes in the schedule for the play: *Sasha and the Pearl*. The play is on for two days (November 25 & 26) to facilitate the number of parents who would like to attend. Seating in the theatre is limited, so please make an effort to send in your slips indicating how many individuals will be attending. For more information regarding the play, contact your child's teacher.

Grades 3-5 will be receiving 20 analogy words next Thursday for the upcoming WordMaster challenge test in December. Please assist your child with the words so that he/she can be prepared for the first of the three challenge tests that will be given throughout the academic year.

Thank you to the parents in grades 1 and 2 who so kindly treated the staff to the snacks and food last week. Teachers loved the treats!

Have a great weekend!

Suzette Julien



EVENT:	ISPS Elementary School production
PLAY:	<i>Sasha and the Pearl</i>
DATE:	Wednesday 25 & 26 November 2008
TIME:	6:00 pm
VENUE:	ISPS Performing Arts Theatre



Students (grades 3-5) have been asked to log onto the ERB website to enter their writing pieces. Parents can assist their child with typing in his/her writing piece, so that it can be scored. Please do not make any changes to your child's writing pieces, so that we can identify the writing elements that require tweaking or re-teaching.



MAP for Parents

On Thursday, November 13, a parent meeting was held to discuss the components of the (Measures of Academic Progress) MAP Test.

Items explained are: What is a RIT score, what are Lexiles, and how to compare your student's percentile scores and RIT scores with the norm group. There was an explanation of how mastery scores (ISA) compare with instructional level scores derived from MAP. A question and answer session was provided.

PYP Corner

The authorization visit has left us feeling excited about being on the right track in implementing the PYP. As we come to the end of the term, students and teachers are in the process of completing the second unit of inquiry. Teachers are also in the process of completing stand alones that are not part of the unit. Term reports will reflect students' progress in the two units completed, as well as other areas of the curriculum. Information about the third unit of inquiry will be sent home to you. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the classroom teacher.

Angela Shahien: PYP Coordinator

Dates to Remember:

November 25 & 26:	Sasha and the Pearl
November 28:	Report Cards distributed
December 4 : 2:15 pm. - 4 :15pm	Parent Conferences
December 10:	WordMasters Challenge (Grades 3-5)