



ISPS WEEKLY

NEWSLETTER

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

8-9	MS Grade 6 Lock-In
11	MS Parent Discussion Group 7:30am-8:30am, Green Room
12-14	HS Exams
13	ES School Production: Holidays Around The World: The Search for Santa; 6:00-7:30 pm, Theatre
14	ES School Production: Holidays Around The World: The Search for Santa; 1:00-2:30 pm, Theatre
15	Last Day of School
15	11:30 am Whole School Dismissal
15	MS Christmas Party
16-7 (Jan)	Christmas Break

January

8	School Resumes
10	All School Design & Build Competition

MISSION

ISPS is a vibrant learning community dedicated to developing passionate learners who strive for excellence and pursue their unique potential. We encourage resilience, innovation and collaboration, preparing students to act with confidence and integrity as caring global citizens.

VISION

Inspiring thinkers and doers to shape a better world.

MOTTO

Difference Makers,
Future Shapers

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Parents,

It has been a busy week here at ISPS with a lot of different activities.

To begin with, I'd like to thank the PTO for putting on a "Christmas Cheer" lunch for our staff today. The PTO continues to support ISPS and we thank them for helping us attain one of our goals for the year, which is building community. Thank you for your generosity.

As we come to the end of the term, many of our MYP students are doing summative assessments. These are assessments at the end of a unit which are designed in a way to help students apply the knowledge and skills they have learned throughout the unit of Inquiry.

I had the pleasure of sitting through a MS assessment in the theatre. The students on stage were in a mock trial debating arguments for and against the defection of a soldier from North Korea. It was clear that students had researched the topic well and had then prepared for and demonstrated communications skills, presenting and defending arguments, and bringing the issue into a real life situation.

I would like to thank the parents who attended the Open Forum last night. Topics that were discussed were the school calendar for the 2018-19 school year (which

was sent to all parents earlier this week), the Administrative structure for ISPS for 2018-19 and beyond, the change in the structure of our competitive sports teams, Homework loads in the MS, format of MS and HS Parent Teacher conferences, HS Exams, and there was a concern raised about the Cafeteria.

I also shared with the parents that the Board and I have agreed that I will extend my contract through the 2018-19 school year. I will be sending minutes of that Open Forum, to all parents by early next week.

On Wednesday afternoon, MS and HS Houses were involved in a "Christmas Cheer" activity called *Deck the Halls*. Students from each house decorated the hallways and corridors in the MS and HS. The hallways and locker areas are now very festive.

The ES is in their final stages of getting the ES production "Holidays Around the World—The Search for Santa". Dress rehearsals are happening this week and next week and the production is Wednesday and Thursday of next week. Please join us for what will be a great show.

Enjoy your weekend.

J Barney Latham
Director

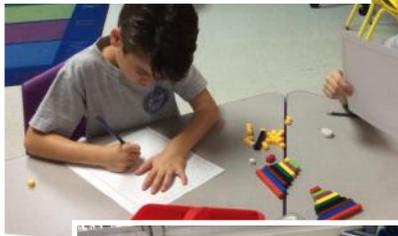
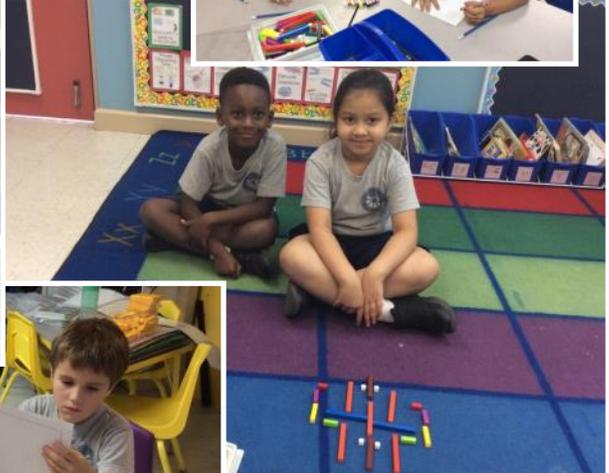


ISPS Contact #: 633-4777

CHECK THE ADMISSION DEPARTMENT FOR MERCHANDISE.

ISPS Briefs

QUICK READS



GRADE 1 MATH

Cuisenaire Math Rods for Exploring Math

Grade 1 students use Cuisenaire rods to make number sentences. Cuisenaire rods are used to promote thinking in Elementary students and enables them to visualize problems, making it easier to understand and solve.

Tracy Ann Bellemare
ES Grade 1

SKYWARD SPOTLIGHT

Quick Tips for Accessing Skyward

Have you downloaded the Skyward app to your mobile phone yet? Go on....yield to the pressure and do it!

The Skyward App gives you access to a condensed version of Skyward on your mobile phone. You can review cafeteria purchases, balances, grades, attendance and even set up alerts. You don't have to type in a password and username every time, just a 4-digit code or your thumbprint if your phone supports this.

Need to see the bigger picture? Can't get the app to work? Use your phone's browser to open the ISPS website at www.isps.edu.tt Navigate to Quick Links and then to Skyward. Go on and enter your Login Id and password. Now you can access the full version of Family Access on your phone.



THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PORT OF SPAIN



CONFIDENCE . EXCELLENCE . INTEGRITY

Login ID:

Password:

Sign In

Forgot your Login/Password?

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Login Area: All Areas



Need help logging in to Skyward? Email me at jcalvert@isps.edu.tt and I will get you onboard!



PRE-K 4 HOW THE WORLD WORKS

Pre-Kinder Students Think Like Scientists

Children naturally think like a scientist as they try to understand the world around them. Young children try to understand the world around them by exploring through their senses, seeing, hearing, touching, tasting and smelling.

With this in mind, Pre-K 4 began their "How the World Works" unit with an open inquiry lesson exploring a variety of materials.

The students explored the concept of absorption and repulsion with Insta-Snow and Mars Sand. They cooperated to make structures from pallet sticks and cups. As well as the exploring magnetism. We will be exploring these concepts deeper over the new term.

Sarah Tagliaferri

Pre-K 4



STRATEGY

IN ACTION



Students from all over gathered to participate in the Trimont College Junior Invitational Chess Tournament on November 18. The tournament featured several different competition brackets — 8 & Under, 12 and Under and Open.

Grade 5 student Ali Sher participated in the tournament where he played 5 rounds. Ali won 1 match and drew one. He played with some of the finest chess players who have won on an international level.

Submitted by

Ms. Hyndman



FINAL
MO-MENTS

In ISPS this year, the Movember Foundation saw a few of our staff and students embracing the special cause to try to raise awareness and change the face of men's health.

We would like to thank those of you who took part!
See you in November 2018!

Submitted by
Ian Joseph

Deck the Halls

"It's the most wonderful time of the year!"

As the Christmas season is upon us, the Middle School students prepare their hallways for the annual Deck the Halls competition. Deck the Halls took place today, December 7.

Deck the Halls is not primarily about competition, but about promoting school spirit. The students from each class come together to work on this fun and creative activity, making their hallways look festive and decorative and leaving all with a the food feeling of holiday cheer.

This year the Grade 7 students have won the competition with their theme, *The Light of Christmas*.

The other participants were Grade 6, with *Winter Wonderland*, and Grade 8, with *Santa's Cottage*.

Patrice Trim
Middle School



Merry Christmas!!!

INDIVIDUALS & SOCIETIES

A History of Democracy

Mrs. Veck

On Friday 1st December Grade 8 Individuals and Societies created their own museum exhibition 'A History of Democracy'.

Students have been studying systems of governance in class and the exhibition's aim was to trace the history of democracy from its origins in ancient Greece all the way to Apartheid just decades ago. Their aim was to inform, educate and entertain their audience.

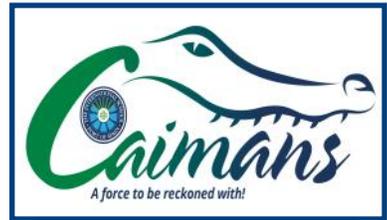
Students had to decide which subject to focus on and in chronological order presented the following ten exhibits:

- 1 Ancient Greece
- 2 Ancient Rome
- 3 The Magna Carta
- 4 The French Revolution
- 5 Women's Suffrage
- 6 The Russian Revolution & Animal Farm
- 7 World War II
- 8 The Civil Rights Movement
- 9 The Fall of the Berlin Wall
- 10 Apartheid

Parents were invited and Grade Six also had an opportunity to experience the interactive displays during their English class.

The final part of Grade 8's assessment on Leadership and Power was to persuade their class why they should lead the world. Students had to draw from their knowledge of leaders from the past and present, and the various systems of governance studied this unit, in order to present themselves as a leader who would ensure fairness and development globally.





CAISSA:

CAISSA is “Togetherness” is just six weeks away.

Let’s show what togetherness means. Together we will host the best CAISSA ever.

We will kick off the excitement with our Pep Rally. You can look forward to Boys’ Basketball and Girls Round Robin games, a fantastic Rock Out Concert, a fun filled Family Day and the Grand Finale: the Championship Game Day.

Ways to Show Support:

Support by coming out to games, by hosting visiting student-athletes, wearing our Caimans’ T-Shirts and colours, and by sponsoring. You must be part of the excitement. Be there!



CAISSA T-shirts (Just \$60 TTD)

On sale from next week for all supporters.

All parents and members of the community who would like to support the event by supplying sports drinks, bottled water, fruits and other food items or in any other way can also contact Physical Education Department. Your assistance is vital to hosting a successful event for the entire school community. Please call (620-6866) or email (aali@isps.edu.tt) if you are interested in assisting.

Make “Togetherness” the best CAISSA ever!!

ISPS CAIMANS TRAINING SCHEDULE SEASON 2 (Until December 14)

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
BOYS’ BASKETBALL 2:45-4:45 PM	GIRLS’ SOCCER 2:45-4:45 PM	BOYS’ BASKETBALL 2:45-4:45 PM	GIRLS’ SOCCER 2:45-4:45 PM	BOYS’ BASKETBALL 2:45-4:45 PM
		GIRLS’ SOCCER 2:45-4:45 PM		

Caimans Athletics

By: Ashmir Ali

SPORTS TEAMS Development Program:

- This is for Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball and Rugby. These clubs will range in grades from 3 to 12.
- These clubs will run throughout the year in three Seasons- August to December, January to March and March to June.
- Students will train two days every week for ninety minutes. Or, three times if they are preparing for a major tournament.
- Interested students will pay to register (\$600 TTD, see form below) for each club at the beginning of each season.
- Coaches will be responsible for entering tournaments, organising tournaments and setting up friendlies.
- Students will be responsible for purchasing their own training kits and uniforms.
- Only students from these clubs will be selected for CAISSA teams, Local League games, other tournaments and friendlies.
- This will not interfere with our existing After School Activity program as students are free to register for the activities of their choice.

Rationale for this program:

- This program will ensure the continuity and quality of our sports teams.
- This will provide parents and students opportunities for further development in the sport of their choice year round.
- Our teams will be in training throughout the year and not seasonal.



ISPS Registration Form for Sports Teams Developmental Program
 Complete this form and return with payment to the Front Desk no later than
 Friday 12th January, 2018.

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Tick off Sport that you would like to be involved in:

Basketball Soccer Volleyball Rugby

Total Paid: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

After School Activities:

- Registration Forms for ASA 2 are available from the front desk.
- Please register before 12th January, 2018 to ensure a place in your favoured activity and to facilitate a smooth start of ASA 2.

Thank you very much for supporting the ASA and Athletic Programs.

Training Schedule for Developmental Sports Teams

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
3:45-5:15 PM Basketball Grades 3 -12	3:45-5:15 PM Basketball Grades 3 -12	3:45-5:15 PM Rugby Grades 3-12	3:45-5:15 PM Volleyball Grades 3 -12	3:45-5:15 PM Basketball Grades 8 -12	7:30-9:00 AM Rugby Grades 3-12
	3:45-5:15 PM Soccer Grades 3 -12	3:45-5:15 PM Soccer Grades 3 -12	3:45-5:15 PM Soccer Grades 7 -12		2:00-5:00 PM Volleyball Grades 3 -12

THIS IS A PILOT PROGRAM THAT WILL RUN FROM JANUARY 8TH TO MARCH 22ND
 IT WILL BE MONITORED CLOSELY

MIDDLE MATTERS

FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELOR, MS. VIRGINIA:



Hello Everyone,

As we count down to the holidays I am still seeing students with flu like symptoms and some with cold symptoms. The weather is varied these days and appears to be affecting those with allergies.

Have a safe and fun filled weekend.

Again, please encourage the children to cough and sneeze into their sleeves or shirts or into paper towels then discard.

Have a safe and fun filled weekend.

Students, Leah Shafer)

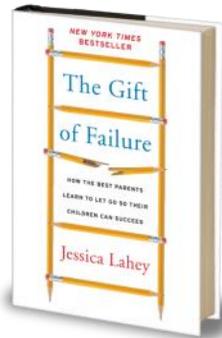
Attaining the book:

Parents can attain their own book by ordering an electronic copy or hard copy. The school will also order some for lending purposes or buying. The library will have some copies on Kindle to lend as well.

Parents of Middle school and High School students, are welcome to join me as we learn these and other valuable parenting tools every Tuesday morning from 7:30-8:30 in the Green Room from January 16 to March 20. I hope you can find the time to join us. If you are interested, please contact

Ms. Virginia at

veggleston@isps.edu.tt



The Gift of Failure Opens Parenting Talks

What: Parent book study/discussion group
Who: Middle School Parents
When: Every Tuesday, Jan 16-March 20
Where: Green Room

About the book:

Come and join a parent discussion group with Ms. Virginia and the New York Times Bestseller, "*The Gift of Failure*. HOW THE BEST PARENTS LEARN TO LET GO SO THEIR CHILDREN CAN SUCCEED" by Jessica Lahey.

New York Times Book Review:

"The ugly and wonderful truth about middle school,' [Lahey] says, is that 'failure is not an if proposition, it's a matter of when.' Or it used to be. Now that parents shelter their children every step of the way, we have 'failure deprived' college students (as administrators at Stanford and Harvard call them) and entitled, anxious 20-somethings who can't function in a world that's sometimes cold or cruel or indifferent. So how can teachers snatch back their critical role and give children the necessary space to fail? They could start by making parents read Lahey." (Read the rest of the review, in the

August 23, 2015 edition of the New York Times

<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/23/books/review/the-gift-of-failure-by-jessica-lahey.html>)

Deeply rooted in research, Lahey's book will help parents learn how to instill the next generation with resilience, confidence and joy by teaching children how to fail. After all, learning from mistakes is where we learn the most.

Research shows that anxiety in students is directly tied to the lack of skills to handle difficult situations, which can only come from actually tackling difficult or challenging situations and making mistakes. These experiences help kids to build resilience and skills to cope with life's twists and turns. They ultimately help to foster resistance to stress and other related illnesses like anxiety in the long run. (Resilience for Anxious



Student checkouts are **CLOSED**. This means that if children want books checked out, their parents have to come and check them out for them.



Elementary School Production 2017

Holidays Around the World 祭

The Search for Santa

With a script by **PATRICE TRIM**

Come and help us find Santa!

Can you find Santa?!

Wednesday 13th December; 6pm
Thursday 14th December; 1pm

ISPS Theatre

By invitation only!



NHS CHRISTMAS CANDY GRAMS

\$10 PER GRAM

To be distributed on December 15th

PURCHASE FROM ANY NHS MEMBER



JANUARY 10, 2018

DESIGN & BUILD COMPETITION

THE COMPETITION
The Institution of Structural Engineers is having their 10th annual design and build competition on the 27th January 2018.

Teams of students will compete to design, build and test to failure an enclosed stadium roof (space frame) formed with Bamboo Skewers and String. As such, we will be having our internal competition to decide on the delegation to represent ISPS. Although the official competition is only open to high schoolers, ALL ISPS Students are invited to participate internally.

GUIDELINES
The structure must have a minimum plan dimension of 350 mm. Send an email to sscalbio@isps.edu.tt to register the house teams of 6 and get a full copy of the rules.
House Teams will be asked to test their structure by loading a provided platform at the center of the span until it collapses.

INTERNAL COMPETITION
Wednesday 10, January, 2018

MATERIALS
75 Bamboo Skewers (each skewer is approx. 300 mm)
String (Crochet Knitting Yarn 20-50 yards, approx. 46m)

OPEN TO ALL



International School of Port of Spain

2017 - 2018 Events Calendar



DECEMBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1 11:30am Dismissal for ES Only Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:00 - 3:30pm	2 SATs 7:30am - 2:00pm NHS Christmas Bingo Fundraiser 4:00 - 9:00pm
3	4 MS Parent Discussion Group 7:30 - 8:30am Green Room	5	6 Open Forum 7:00-9:00pm Cafeteria	7	8 MS G6 Lock-In 2:30pm	9 ACTs 7:30am - 2:00pm MS G6 Lock-In 9:00am
10	11 MS Parent Discussion Group 7:30 - 8:30am Green Room	12 HS Exams	13 HS Exams ES Holiday Production 6:00 - 7:30pm	14 HS Exams ES Holiday Production 1:00 - 2:30pm	15 Last Day of School 11:30am All School Dismissal	16
17	18 Start of Christmas Break	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30
31	_____ NOTES _____					

Easy Print Page	DATES FOR YOUR DIARY		13	ES School Production: Holidays Around The World: The Search for Santa; 6:00-7:30 pm, Theatre	15	MS Christmas Party	
	December	8-9	MS Grade 6 Lock-In	14	ES School Production: Holidays Around The World: The Search for Santa; 1:00-2:30 pm, Theatre	16-7 (Jan)	Christmas Break
	11	MS Parent Discussion Group 7:30am-8:30am, Green Room	15	Last Day of School	January	8	School Resumes
	12-14	HS Exams	15	11:30 am Whole School Dismissal		10	All School Design & Build Competition



Menu: December 11th to December 15th, 2017



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 11th

Breakfast: Hops & Chow Mein, Cheese, Ham
Lunch: Baked Fries & Fried Chicken or Fried Fish, Dinner Rolls, Fresh Salad.

Tuesday 12th

Breakfast: Eggs, Sausages, Sada & Bodi, Cheese Slices
Lunch: *Pizza: Meat Lovers (Beef Or Pepperoni), Cheese Lovers (Pizza served with Fruits & Fresh Salad & Fresh Juice) *All Lunches are \$28.00 on this day.
Coconut Bake, Salt Fish or Smoked Herring, Melongene, Eggs, Sausages.

Wednesday 13th

Breakfast:
Lunch: Christmas Rice or Cream Potatoes with Cranberry Sauce, Glazed Turkey, Glazed Ham Baked Chicken, Christmas Salad.
Juices: Sorrel, Ginger Beer, Orange.

Thursday 14th

Breakfast: Eggs, Sausages, Sada with Dasheen Leaves, Tuna, Bacon
Lunch: Chicken Alfredo, Mac & Cheese, Baked Chic

Friday 15th

Breakfast: Bake & Shark with Pineapple, All Sauces (ex. Garlic Sauce) & Fresh Salad.
Lunch: School Dismissal 11:30am

Elementary Options: Any Sandwich served with a small salad, milk, water or juice and fruit: \$15.00

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

Elementary Lunch: \$23.00 Medium Lunch: \$28.00 Large Lunch: \$32.00

Prices for (A la Carte Menu):

6 in. Subs (Tuna, Ham and Cheese, Turkey, Ham): \$10.00 Chicken Sub: \$12.00
Vegan Delight (Cheese, Vegetables): \$10.00 Fruit Bowl served Monday and Tuesday: \$10.00
Baked French Fries: \$10.00 Fresh Juices: \$6.00(s) \$7.00(m) \$8.00(l) Milk (normal/soy): \$6.00



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.