



ISPS WEEKLY

NEWSLETTER

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October

- 29 **Divali (National Holiday)**
- 31 **School Holiday (No School)**

November

- 2 MS/ HS Reports
- 4 **International Food Festival 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**
- 4 Mini-College Fair
- 5 SATs
- 9 **MS Parent Conferences (11:30 Dismissal for MS only)**

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

ISPS Contact #: 633-4777

Good afternoon parents,

By the time this reaches you, the IFF will still be in progress, or will have just finished. I have been watching preparations for this event develop since school started. The Gym has been transformed (yet again) and it looks like an elaborate street market with booths and stalls from around the world. A HUGE thank you to Rosie Ramsingh, our PTO president, for bringing the entire army of people together for this great event. A big thank you to all the parents who volunteered to sponsor or contribute to a booth. I'm sure the event will be fabulous.

Our Middle School and High School reports have gone out this week and it is the first time we are using our new student information system. There has been a tremendous amount of time and energy placed into making sure the system was working properly, and while it is not yet where we would like it, reports went out with very few issues. I would like to thank Leigh Murrell and Aubrey Curran for their efforts in making sure reports were on schedule. As parents have seen, reports are also available online through SKYWARD and this will be the last time reports are printed and sent home.

As a reminder, MS parent/teacher conferences are scheduled on Nov 9th and HS conferences are scheduled for Nov 10th. Both are starting at 12:00pm and finish at 3:00pm, in the gymnasium. We hope to see you there.

Elementary School reports are due to go out on the 23rd of November with Parent Conferences held on the 30th. Again, conferences will be held from 12:00pm to 3:00pm.

As an update for you, The Elections and Boundaries Commission has confirmed

that they will be using ISPS as a polling station on the 28th of Nov and I am confirming that we will NOT hold classes on Nov 28th. Enjoy the day off.

November is upon us and I remember stating at the first Open Forum, that around the end of October or beginning of November we would start to see the effects of this very long first term without a break. In school we are seeing that children are tired, they are restless and we are beginning to see a few more disciplinary issues. You can help us at home by ensuring your children are eating and sleeping well. The lack of sleep, especially in MS and HS, can negatively affect performance at school and so we ask you to help us ensure that your children are getting the rest they need.

I encourage parents to complete surveys that will be sent by the consulting group Inflection. The more input we get from parents, the better the data analysis will be. The data will help inform us of our strengths and areas where we need to improve and your participation and input is crucial. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Attached to this newsletter, you will find the notes from the Open Forum held on Nov 2nd. There were about 15 people in attendance and the notes do not do justice to the rich conversations parents were having about school wide topics. I encourage all parents to attend the next Open Forum that is scheduled for December 7th from 7:00pm-9:00pm, in the cafeteria.

I hope you enjoy your weekend.

**J. Barney Latham,
Interim Director**

Elementary Notes



November 4, 2016

Volume 14 Issue 6

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all the teachers, students and parents who participated in International Week. Our students are always so proud to represent their country during the flag ceremony. Thank you to all choir members and their teachers for their performance. The topic, sustainable communities will continue throughout the year. We are looking forward to creating the gardens and bins for our vegetable plants. We know that many parents work feverishly to prepare the menus for the food festival, and we thank you for your commitment to the school.

Term One reporting period will end on November 11th, please make sure that your child is managing his time and completing all projects.

Students in Grades 3-5 received their Wordmasters list for their upcoming analogy test. Classroom teachers have created vocabulary assignments to assist the students with understanding how to use analogies.

All students are to remain outside the building until teachers arrive on duty. Early morning programs begin at 7:15 a.m., and students who attend the program will be allowed in the building. All other students will remain in their designated areas until the bell rings at 7:30 a.m.

We encourage all students to eat their snacks before going out for break and lunch. We have noticed that students are not eating a balanced meal. Please review the weekly menu with your child.

Our three student teachers from Kennesaw University, Georgia completed their final teaching internship and we hope that their teaching and learning experience with us will be a memorable one, and we wish them all the best as they search for their first teaching position. Additionally, we are thankful to Ms. Parkes, Ms. Bednarek, Ms. Denoon who mentored the students in the classroom and Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Lue Shue and Ms. Bednarek for housing them for the last three months.

Congratulations to Kendell Rodney who conducted a workshop at the C-TEC 2016: Caribbean Technology & Education Conference and Expo, in St. Maarten for teachers.

We look forward to seeing you later this evening at the food festival.

Suzette Julien
Elementary Principal

Primary Years Program (PYP)

All students are ending their second unit of inquiry and they will be preparing for their summative task.

Teachers continue to work in the PYP self-study for the upcoming evaluation that will be scheduled in January/February 2017. Our November 11th, professional development will focus on the following:

- Balance and articulation within the program of Inquiry
- Updating the units of inquiry in Atlas (repository for curriculum)
- Vertical alignment of subjects

A reminder that our Words this month are: Balance and Confidence.

Angela Shahien
PYP Coordinator

International Week



We need extra eyes on the playground. We are looking for a parent to coordinate times for volunteers to work during the lunch breaks (15 minutes each day). If you are interested, please contact the principal. Thank you!

CALENDAR

November 4	International Food & Cultural Festival
November 11	Term One ends Teacher P.D. Day—No School
November 23	Reports distributed
November 25	ASA Session 1 ends
November 30	Parent Conferences (early dismissal at 11:30 a.m.)



...ES Counselor's Corner...



Hello Everyone,

Our Kindness tree continues to bloom!

Just wanted to share some insights behind this wonderful phenomenon...excerpted from Conscious Discipline by Dr. Becky Bailey:

"We will get more of the behaviors on which we focus (Power of Attention). Our focus also determines what we strengthen within ourselves and others... When we encourage their contribution to others, we teach them the importance of sharing their strengths. We can use noticing to encourage children in a variety of situations. ..such as noticing kind and helpful acts.

It is important when we notice the act of kindness, that we describe what the child did and the impact that it had on others or the class. This "demonstrates that we are all in this together while teaching the value of connection and helpfulness."

As we say at school:

Who can be on the Kindness Tree? – **ANYONE!!** Because Who can be kind? – **EVERYONE!!**

Now let's celebrate...



ACTS OF KINDNESS

October 24 – 28		
Dominic Darcy	5J	Donated \$100 to Haiti even though he was not in free-dress
Phinneas	KKh	Held his partner's hand to guide him so he would not have an accident as they walked
William Farah	5W	without being asked by his teacher or partner - tidied his work station and that of his table partner
Lucius	4G	Stayed back after class to organize all chrome books and their wires – totally on his own
Camila	2D	Shared lunch with another student who had none.
October 31– November 4		
Ollie Eaton	3P	- Voluntarily gave up his snack to another student who would miss break time because of Flag practice.
Zane	3P	- Instead of working with his good friend, he happily worked with another student for group work to balance the numbers
William	1B	Without hesitation, jumped off a neighboring swing so another student could have a turn. Blew away the teacher!
Sara	5W	Went out of her way to seek emotional support for another student
Marcos	3K	Showed support and comforted a class mate who was upset and crying
Teeghan	PreK	Freely gave up her swinging time to push another student on the swings
Gabby S	2J	Instinctively held the door open for someone when she noticed the person's hands were full

SEE PAGE 4 FOR PICTURES



Build ISPS Spirit!!!... Come Shop in our School Store



\$60



\$65



\$65



\$50



\$60

Available at the School Store! (Prices quoted in TTD)

Check the Admission Office for more information.



Learning Fractions with Pizza

This week Grade 4 worked in the learning kitchen to make pizzas. The pizzas help to inquire and understand fractions. The students were divided into groups and had to determine how to share the pizzas equally for a set number of students. The students then compared which group of students would get a larger amount of pizza. Students then enjoyed their creations of veggie pizza and fruit pizza!





Connecting all as we journey forward together!

THE JOURNEY

Issue 4, Friday 4th November, 2016

Over the next few weeks until the end of November 2016 we will work together with the Inflection Team to understand the challenges that we are currently facing within our school and co-create sustainable solutions to achieving our Mission/Vision.

KEY ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

We have successfully completed Week 4 of the Diagnostic Phase. Our main accomplishments included the following:

1. Launched the Employee Satisfaction (68 completed to date)
2. Launched of the Students Survey (Elementary School Grades 3-5, Middle School and High School) (156 completed to date)
3. Shortlisted ISPS Liaison Team members to work with the Inflection Team
4. Crafted a Communication Plan to keep stakeholders connected



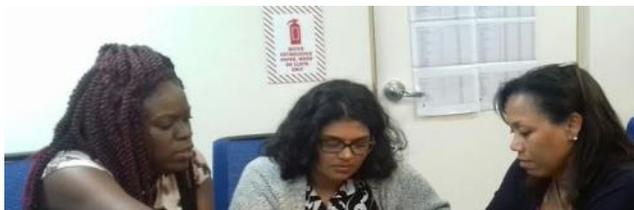
ISPS Leaders crafting the Communications Plan

KEY ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

Our key activities for the upcoming week will include the following:

1. Launch of the ISPS Parents Survey
2. Facilitate Open Forums with ISPS Parents, Students and Staff
3. Observe and document key systems and processes at ISPS (e.g. staff meetings)

We wish to thank each and every one of you who provided feedback to date and look forward to working with all of you.



Our Liaison Team in action



Our Liaison Team in action

*To be inspired is great,
to inspire is INCREDIBLE!
-Author Unknown*

Contact Us
at inflection@isps.edu.tt
or 1-868 633 -4777 ext. 406
If you have any further questions or would like to meet with us in person
Please feel free to visit us at the Conference Room
(Monday-Thursday)





Suggested reading from the Library

The ISPS library offers a variety of resources including books that will inspire you to reach a whole new level in life. Here are some of our latest books for your enjoyment.

- **Into the Magic Shop: A Neurosurgeon’s Quest to Discover the Mysteries of the Brain and the Secrets of the Heart**
by James R. Doty, MD:
 Into the Magic Shop is both a guide to creative visualisation, and an explanation of how the mind and the heart are connected. Doty, grew up poor and neglected, but with the help of a kind woman who showed him the art of creative visualization, he became an affluent neurosurgeon.
- **Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don’t**
by Jim Collins:
 The title says it all. Filled with chart and diagrams, this book look at how some companies succeed beyond



Library Corner

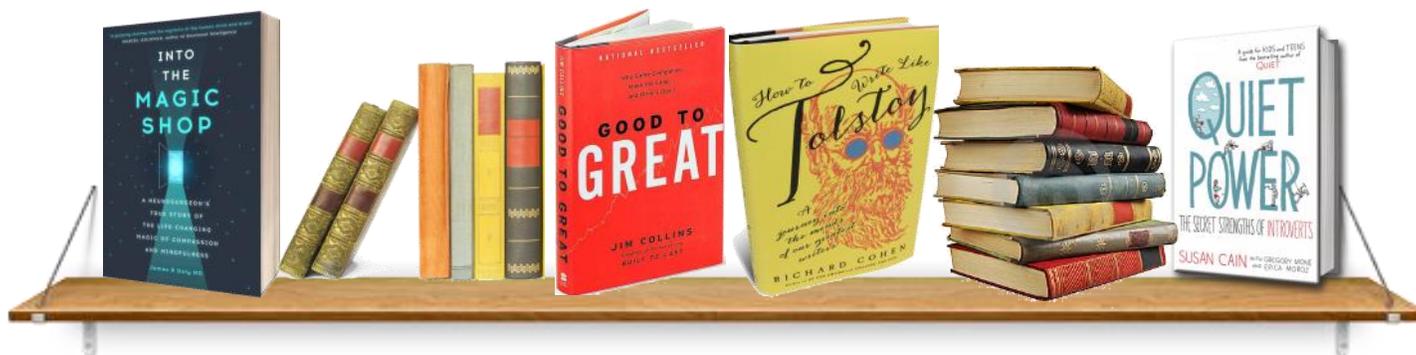
By Debbie Jacob

anyone’s wildest imagination. It’s not luck. It’s a combination of factors that make a good company grow into a great one.

- **How to Write Like Tolstoy, A Journey into the Minds of our Greatest Writers**
by Richard Cohen:
 This is not so much a guide for writing as it is a survey of great literature and a candid look at how great authors succeed by their use of literary elements. There is much food for thought in this book. You’re bound to find some books that you want to read in all of Cohen’s examples of exemplary books.

- **Quiet Power: The Secret Strengths of Introverts**
by Susan Cain:
 This fascinating look at the power of introverts is quite relevant in today’s society which leans heavily towards group projects and team work that appeal more to extroverts. Make no mistake about it, those quiet individuals who often go unnoticed have an invaluable role to play in the success of any endeavor. How does an introvert contribute to creative projects and why are their special skills necessary? Do introverts recognize their special gifts or do they feel flawed because they prefer quiet time alone with a book rather than going to a party. Find out the answer to these questions and more in this inspirational read, which also comes in a guide for kids and teens.

We have reading material for all your needs so check us out in the ISPS library.





Tech Tips

by Adrienne DeBoucher, Ed. Tech. Coordinator

Safe Searching Online



For younger students, sometimes an innocent search online can result in unwanted results. While older students need more comprehensive search engines such as Google, younger ones usually find enough information by using one of the below. Explore together and decide which ones you and your child prefer.

<http://www.kidrex.org/>

<http://www.kiddle.co/>

<https://www.juniorsafesearch.com/>

<http://www.kidzsearch.com/>

<http://www.kidfriendlysearch.com/>



A counselor from the FCD organization will be working with students in grades 9 and 11. The purpose of the visit is to talk to children about drugs, give up to date facts about drug use trends, and to give tips on how to spot signs of trouble and ways to respond.

The FCD representative will be on campus from Monday 14th through Friday 18th November.

He will be addressing students, parents and teachers at various workshops.

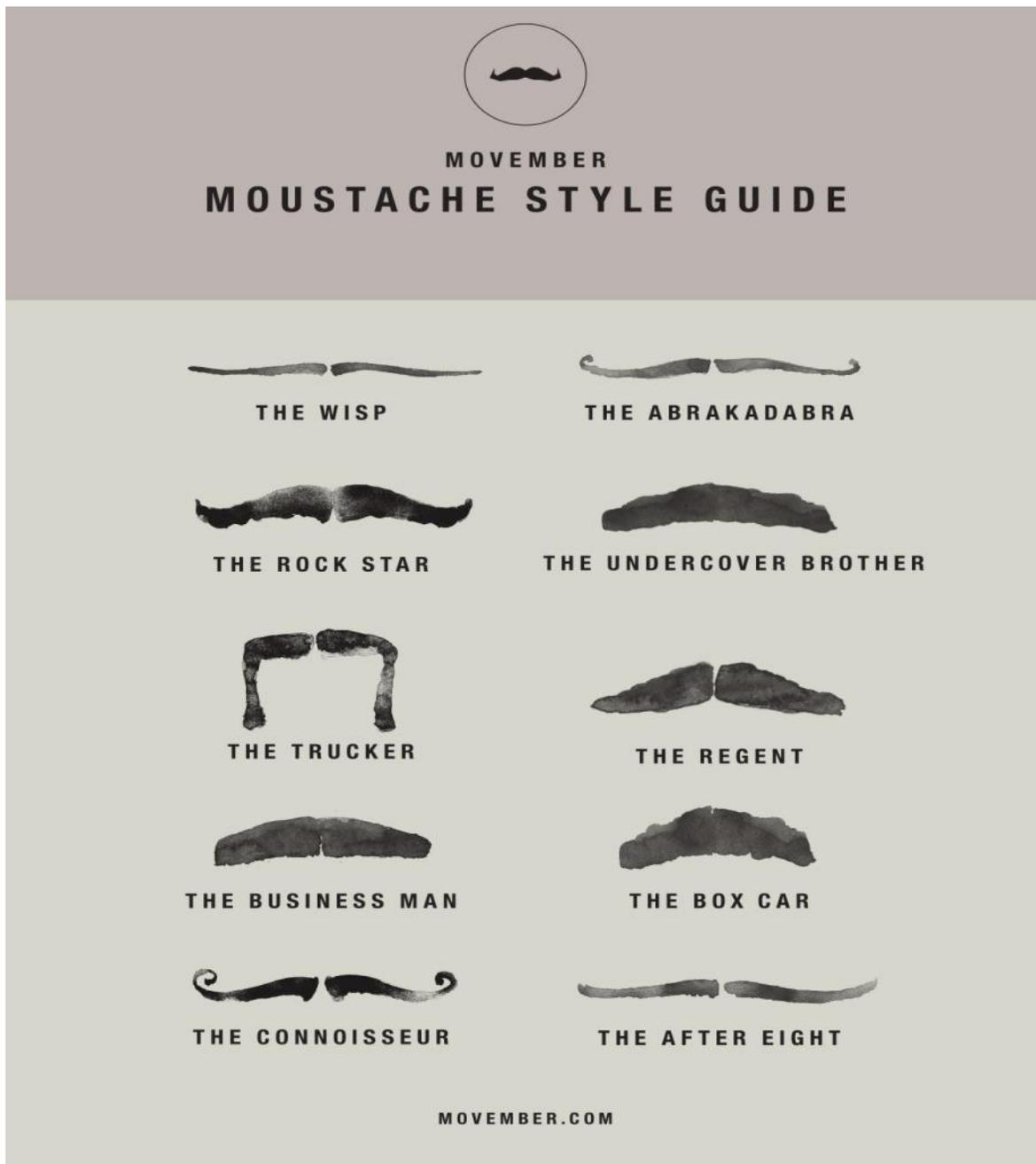
Keeping our children safe and informed about drug and alcohol abuse is a critical responsibility.



FCD Prevention Works

Part of the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation

MOVEMBER



Welcome to year five in our Mo crusade. Once again we shall be working hard to raise awareness (and maybe grow a moustache or two) for men's health issues.

You can participate in several ways: Go to the following site <https://ex.movember.com> and read, donate, register to join in. Failing that, you can simply assist in raising funds for a local cause by sponsoring others to go 70s with a furry upper lip (a donation box will be placed at the front desk). All proceeds will go to the Trinidad & Tobago Cancer Society.

A word from the Movember Foundation:

We're the only charity tackling men's health on a global scale, year round. We're addressing some of the biggest health issues faced by men: prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and mental health and suicide prevention.

We know what works for men, and how to find and fund the most innovative research to have both a global and local impact. We're independent of government funding, so we can challenge the status quo and invest quicker in what works.

In 13 years we've funded more than 1,200 men's health projects around the world.

Many thanks.

Matthew Broughton



ISPS wins prizes at local recycling competition

In keeping with this year's theme of "Sustainable Communities" two ISPS high schoolers entered the competition "Give new life to Blue Waters bottles." Alexandria Brontë-Tinkew submitted an illustration entitled "Blue Waters Hanging Garden."

By recycling Blue Waters 1.5L bottles, one can create a beautiful outdoor hanging garden. Thomas Lee Young created a 3D model of a Wind Turbine which was made with different sizes of Blue Waters bottles (650ml, 1.5L and 5G) and a small motor which can generate a voltage. Even the turbine blades were made from the bottle material. The voltage created was able to be measured with a multimeter.

Due to their efforts the International School of Port-of-Spain was awarded the third place school prize of five thousand dollars. Also, Alexandria won the first prize in the individual illustration category and walked away with an Ipad mini 4. A special thank you to Ms. Clarke and Ms. Harford for their support to our students.

Ms. Sarah Sue Calbio



ISPS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY PRESENTS

OUR ANNUAL CHARITY

CHRISTMAS

B I N G O

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26TH
3:00 PM UNTIL 6:30PM
GREAT PIZES TO BE WON

\$100 TICKET INCLUDES A PLATE OF FOOD, DRINKS, AND 2 BINGO CARDS

Extra food, drinks and cards on sale

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO FUN MEMORIES FOUNDATION AND OUR ADOPT A SCHOOL PROGRAM 2017 TO ASSIST ST. HILDA'S GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL

Tickets will be available at the front desk.

Health Ride/Motorcade

Date: Nov. 20th 2016

Health Awareness and Prevention of Obesity Ride/Motorcade from St. Mary's Home, Tacarigua to Salybia Beach Resort

- Hosted by Daniyelle Bennett and Caribbean Cross Training
- Frequent stops along the ride to raise awareness of the problem of childhood obesity.
- All are invited (only competent riders on the road, all others welcome to drive along)
- Police escort from 6:30am-11:00am.

Others may drive along and enjoy a GREAT day at the resort (at your own expense)

Email: preventobesityinyouth@gmail.com
 Facebook: Promote Wellness and Prevent Obesity in Youth
 Website: www.preventobesityinyouth.simplesite.com

Please contact: 495-4063,375-4481,348-4305, 299-4644

Raise Health Awareness in Youth



Thank You!

On behalf of Reach Out, a big thank you to staff and students for the donations and support to the Rock Out With Reach Out cause. Reach Out made \$18,000 TT. Thank you

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alternate Parent Director Vacancy



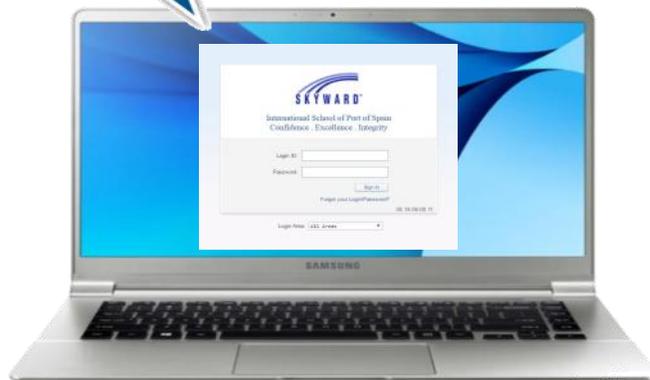
Two parents have stepped forward for the vacant position of Alternate Parent Director on the ISPS Board.

The PTO will be holding a special meeting on Tuesday November 22, 2016 for elections to this post.

Rosie Ramsingh
PTO President
ispspto@isps.edu.tt



"Have you logged into Skyward and verified your information?"



Update:

Gradebook will be added to Family and Student access in December.

Parents have more options available in Skyward Family Access. Middle and High School parents have the ability to view their student's schedule and attendance records. Elementary parents have the addition of viewing their student's attendance records.

Middle and High School students were given access to Student Access in Skyward. Students have the same viewing options as their parents:

- Attendance
- Schedule
- Cafeteria
- Message Center
- Family Information
- Health/Nurse

Students do not have the ability to make changes to items in Skyward.

Middle and High School students who have signed and returned the school Acceptable Use Policy received their login to the School Wifi. The Guest password will be changed over the next week. Visitors can check with Ms. Hazel in the front for the Guest Wifi Password.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Manager of IT Integration **Leigh Murrell:**
lmurrell@isps.edu.tt



ISPS DADS

POLO

"ISPS Dads" polo jerseys will be on sale by Ms. Hazel - \$100

REGISTRATION OPEN ONLINE FOR NOV-DEC 2016 COURSE

AFTER SCHOOL ESL LEARNING PROGRAM FOR ADULTS

Learn English in 10 weeks!

Learn English as a second language (ESL) at the International School of Port of Spain!



ESL GROUP CLASSES/PRIVATE CLASSES FOR ALL LEVELS

ESL COURSES 6 weeks (10 weeks course begins in January)
 START: Monday 7th November
 END: Friday 16th December
 Course schedule & price options provided online*

Course Benefits:

- Learn English quickly & effectively
- Qualified & Dynamic teacher
- Small class sizes
- Highly interactive learning environment
- Comfortable and modern classroom
- State of the art technology and infrastructure
- Convenient & Secure Location

we also offer IELTS Preparation classes and ESL Saturday classes!

READING	WRITING
LISTENING	SPEAKING

REGISTRATION CLOSES: FRIDAY 4th NOVEMBER
 OPEN DAYS: Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd November 3:30pm-5:30pm at the International School. (Meet the teacher, learn more about the course and check out the classroom!)

For more information or to register online please visit www.linguatt.com
 1(866) 269-5470 Chelsea | linguatt@gmail.com



ISPS PHOTO ORDERS...

Payment due November 8, 2016

It's Easy...

- 1 Review** your portrait package.
- 2 Print** order form (sent via e-mail).
- 3 Complete** form, using the image numbers found in the online gallery.
- 4 Return** form and payment to ISPS by the deadline date. (\$200 sorting and processing fee if late)

Order School Portraits today

SHOP NOW



Private Online Gallery: <http://tinyurl.com/gtpd6>

Password: Students2016

We have in studio packages available should they want to have their children reshot. We will assign a day based on the majority's availability but considering the studio's schedule as well. **Assigned day: \$1,000.00 Outside of assigned day: \$1,200.00**



International School of Port of Spain

NOVEMBER 2016

2016 - 2017 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday									
		1	2 MS/HS REPORTS OPEN FORUM 7:00—9:00 p.m. (Cafeteria)	3	4 MINI-COLLEGE FAIR INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.	5 SAT 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.									
6 Daylight Saving	7	8	9 MS PARENT CONFERENCES 11:30 a.m. Dismissal for MS only	10 HS PARENT CONFERENCES 11:30 a.m. Dismissal for HS only	11 TEACHER P.D. DAY (NO SCHOOL) ES end of Term 1 (55 days)	12									
13	14	15 NHS INDUCTION	16	17	18	19 PTO GARAGE SALE									
FCD PREVENTION WORKS VISIT — Grades 9 & 11															
20	21	22 PTO SPECIAL MEETING: Elections for vacant position	23 ES REPORTS	24	25 ASA SESSION 1 ENDS	26 NHS BINGO 3:00 p.m.									
27	28 NO SCHOOL Local Elections	29	30 ES PARENT CONFERENCES 11:30 a.m. Dismissal for ES only												
Languages Week (Nov 28—Dec 2)															
		October '16			December '16										
		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
								1					1	2	3
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		30	31												



After School Activities

ASA 1 ends on November 25th.

Registration Forms for ASA 2 are available from the front desk from November 11th.



ISPS vs Dunross Prep

Date: November 9, 2016

Participants: ES will be playing a soccer match against Dunross Preparatory

Time: 3:00pm

Location: Dunross Preparatory School

Two matches will be played —
9 & under and 12 & under.

Dunross are the 2015 Primary school champions and this year's 2nd place winners.

ISPS CAIMANS TRAINING SCHEDULE — SEASON 2

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Boys' Basketball 3:30-5:30PM		Girls' Soccer 3:30-5:30PM	Girls' Soccer 3:30-5:30PM	
Boys' Basketball 3:30-5:30PM		Boys' Basketball 3:30-5:30PM		Boys' Basketball 2:30-4:30PM
	Rugby 2:30-3:30	Rugby 2:30-3:30	Rugby 2:30-3:30	

CAISSA Season 2 (Girls' Soccer/Boys' Basketball)
Ecuador from January 25th to 29th, 2017

Easy
Print
Page

	October	5	SATs	14	NHS Induction
29	Divali (National Holiday)	9	MS Parent Conferences	19	PTO Garage Sale
31	School Holiday (No School)		(11:30 a.m. Dismissal for MS only)	22	PTO Special Meeting: Elections for vacant position
	November	10	HS Parent Conferences	23	ES Reports
2	MS/ HS Reports		(11:30 a.m. Dismissal for HS only)	25	ASA Session 1 ends
4	International Food Festival 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.	11	Teacher P.D. Day (NO SCHOOL)	26	NHS Bingo, 3:00 p.m.
4	Mini-College Fair	11	ES end of Term 1 (55 days)	28	No School (Local Elections)
		14-18	FCD Prevention Works Visit		



Menu: November 7th to November 11th, 2016

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 7th	Breakfast:	Toasted Bread, Scrambled Eggs, Jam, Cheese Slice.
	Lunch:	Grilled Quesadillas Or Chicken Tacos , Three Bean Salad.
Tuesday 8th	Breakfast:	Sada, Pumpkin, Tomato Choka, Eggs, Sausages.
	Lunch:	Vegetable Rice Or Macaroni Pie, Callaloo, Baked Chicken, Garden Salad.
Wednesday 9th	Breakfast:	Pancakes, Waffles, Eggs, Sausages.
	Lunch:	Bake & Shark With All Sauces Or Pelau, Fresh Salad.
Thursday 10th	Breakfast:	Coconut Bake, Saltfish, Smoked Herring, Stew Chicken, Eggs.
	Lunch:	Fries Or Macaroni Salad , Bar- B- Que Chicken, Garden Salad.
Friday 11th	Breakfast:	
	Lunch:	P.D DAY

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.

ISPS BOARD PARENT REPRESENTATIVE

Expression of Interest to serve on the board of The International School of PoS

By

ROBERT HADAD

Dear ISPS Community,

I would like to express my willingness to serve as an Alternate Parent Director on the ISPS Board of Directors.

I presently have two sons at ISPS. My elder son is in Grade 8 and my younger son in Grade 4.

After graduating from The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, in 1988 with a BSc in Accounting, I began working as an auditor at KPMG Corporate Finance Limited. After a successful three-year tenure, I tendered my resignation, in order to pursue a dream of starting my own business.

Together with my two brothers John and Joseph, we formed Hadco Ltd. in 1992 and I hold the position of Group co-Chief Executive Officer. What started off as primarily a food and electrical import and distribution company has evolved into a dynamic and diverse group of companies with specialty in other areas such as lighting, ice cream cone manufacturing, bonded warehousing facilities, transport services and retail operations.

The following companies fall under the Hadco Group umbrella: Haagen Dazs, Peppercorns, Nova Lighting, The Lighthouse, Apadoca's, G&M Warehousing, Sampson's Transport, Happy Time Ice Cream Cones and Fresh Organics Ltd.

Hadco Ltd. has also recently embarked on a partnership with Phase II Pan Groove Steel Orchestra. I believe in promoting and supporting our local culture and see it as important to form a link between business and society. My goal with this venture is to enable the members of this band to use their resources and talents to be a sustainable entity all throughout the year and not just at Carnival time.

I served as a Board member of the Brian Lara Cancer Treatment Foundation from 2008 to 2010.

I understand that life is about balance, and spending quality time with family is a top priority. I am confident of my leadership skills and my reputation in the business community. I believe in a hands-on approach to solving problems and am committed to excellence. I am eager to make a positive difference wherever I can.

Sincerely,

Robert Hadad

ISPS BOARD PARENT REPRESENTATIVE

Expression of Interest to serve on the board of The International School of PoS

By

JULIA THIESSEN

Julia Thiessen
Windy Drive 12
110714 Westmoorings

To the
International School of Port of Spain
Nominating Committee
c/o the PTO President
Ms. Rosie Ramsingh
1 International Drive
Port of Spain

Westmoorings, 23 October 2016

Willingness to serve

Dear Parents, Faculty, Principal and Management of ISPS:

Following the call for expression of interest in the ISPS newsletter to serve as an Alternate Parent Director on the ISPS Board of Directors, I would like to express my interest.

I was born in Kiev, Ukraine where I received a master's degree (diploma) in sociology with honours. I subsequently worked for two and a half years in the foreign service before marrying my husband who worked in Kiev as a German economist. After several years in Kiev, we were then living in Germany, where our home is in Berlin and where our four kids were born. In 2012 we moved to Tajikistan where my husband worked for the development cooperation department of the European Commission, and last year we were transferred to this beautiful island. Our kids are at our school in grades 6 – 11. We are impressed by the quality and achievements of the school, its management and the engagement of all parties involved. The school appears to be an important asset in Port of Spain, it was a major reason for us to come here and hence, I would see my main task as alternate parent director to contribute for the school's high quality to continue. Specifically, my objectives would be to contribute to

(i) the ongoing systematic approach in meeting the school's objectives, including academic program success, organizational viability and faithfulness to charter,

(ii) convey the interests of parents and students in the school on issues of concern (as identified through communication and possibly a regular survey) to school management,

(iii) form a consensus in the board and with the school management on how to solve them,

(iv) a regular reporting back to teachers, students, and parents and

(v) give credit to achievements.

Kind regards,

Julia Thiessen



THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PORT OF SPAIN

November 3rd 2016

Dear All,

On behalf of the International School of Port of Spain, I would like to thank you for all your help in supporting the CAISSA Competition. Your support will open many new opportunities for the young men and women who participated in the events and has made lasting memories for them. Your contributions enabled them to participate in highly distinguished tournaments. These events broaden their discipline and character, on and off the court.

Your contributions to CAISSA, whether they were in time or donations, were greatly appreciated. Without the support of parents, student government, staff, the Board of Directors, the National Honor Society, the PTO, the maintenance department, Mr. Ali and all the PR staff, we would not have been able to have a successful CAISSA Tournament.

Thank you once again for your generous support of our athletes.

Best Regards,

Jeffrey Barney Latham
Interim Director

CONFIDENCE EXCELLENCE INTEGRITY

1 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE, WESTMOORINGS TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, W.I. 1(868) 633-4777 1(868) 632-4595 www.isps.edu.tt

Minutes from the Open Forum held on November 2, 2016

Question about why the calendar has such a long term without a break.

I am not sure why the calendar was set this way. One of the arguments was to create more time to prepare kids for the AP exams. The data we have shows that ISPS is consistently higher results than worldwide average, and the data goes back for over 10 years, when the calendar had a mid-August start, an October break, and an end of June finish. I realize many stakeholders aren't happy with the calendar. I have asked our teacher reps on the Faculty Council to provide me with three versions of the calendar, by November 15th, which will then be discussed among parents (via a committee) and then to be taken to the board for a decision in January. We will never satisfy everyone, but if the process is inclusive, we should be able to come up with a calendar for the 2017-18 school year that better suits ISPS.

Could we approve a provisional start date?

Traditionally the start date is somewhere between 15 and 20 August. A start date dictates the end date. The June public holidays and how they fall play into how the school year ends. It is a complicated puzzle but one that I'm sure we can resolve.

Can we add the reporting days and Parent Teacher Conferences days on this year's calendar?

All dates are confirmed on the calendar on the inside cover of the directory. The newsletter also includes the Parent Teacher Conference days for this year.

It is difficult for some people to get to the PTC as it is in the afternoon. Can we change that?

A note to look into this is made. For at least five years it has been a half-day in the afternoon. The group brainstormed suggestions and some suggestions were; look into several evenings with allotted times for conferences, or a Saturday, or split grades 9 and 10 from 11 and 12, as the needs for conferences are different for these different groups. Another parent emphasized they want a more comprehensive conversation about the subject choices in the last semester in G10, before going into 11 & 12. It was pointed out that the High School Handbook used to have this function. It is being updated now. Another idea would be to appoint one person to have an overview of the pastoral care. That person could then meet with parents and summarize different teacher's comments and this would save time. Another idea would be to appoint a guidance teacher for each student to fill this roll (possibly a Home Room teacher). Student-led conferences would have to be held during the day.

Do you know what is going on with your interim status?

The extension of my contract to July 31 is official. The Board and I are discussing the possibility of extending this by one more year. We will let the community know as soon as things are decided.

Exploratories in MS over the last three years have been dissatisfactory. Will you be looking at this?

If it is not working, I can guarantee we will look at it. We will need to look at what we presently have, discuss the merits of the programme, and make adjustments where necessary. Exploratories were developed as part of the thinking when we created a distinct Middle School; it would be giving students a chance to explore other areas of study, but if it is no longer working, it will be looked at.

Minutes from the Open Forum held on November 2, 2016

Update from Barney

In trying to make sure the ISPS community understands the structure of ISPS for this and next year I want to make it perfectly clear that there are certain facts that won't change.

Fact 1: We are an MYP school. We want to make that programme the best we can.

Fact 2: We will continue to deliver our programmes through the ES, MS, HS structures. These three entities are not going away. Each will operate separately but hopefully more aligned next school year.

Fact 3: We have an academic programme spanning G6 - G10, which goes across two schools. We need to maximize the potential of the MYP and the choices in G9 & G10. How we administer this is what we are looking at. One line of thinking is how best to lead the pastoral side of the school as well as the academic side of the school. We are looking at many options and this will include the Heads of Department and a special committee has been formed to look at this.

We are not looking at the ES because there is a fundamental difference between ES and MS/HS. The ES is organized horizontally (academic: subject specialists teach all subject areas), while the MS/HS has a vertical component (subject specialists teach one subject area to many grade levels)

The 11 November Professional Development day will focus on the vertical alignment of the standards & curriculum K-12 by department (example all K-12 science teachers will meet to make sure the curriculum is aligned). A curriculum documentation software, which was introduced last year, will, by the end of the year have the curriculum documented (meaning that we will be able to send, or have parents access) units of study, inclusive of curricular goals, assessment tasks, etc...

Another piece of software we use is Google Classroom. It is a good way to stay informed of work assigned, assignments completed, etc...

How much are you looking at other schools for advice?

We are. However, we need to have buy-in here and if something is working in e.g. Ontario, it might not work here.

Compliments with simplifying the report card this year

(Thank you) The piece that is missing is the evidence of how the teacher got to the grade. A couple of tasks were marked on Google Classroom, but we are missing what happens in between.

Penmanship or computer writing? Can we offer courses for students to learn typing?

We are slowly progressing towards more and more computer-based testing/assessment. It is difficult for schools to look at what we are doing well, what we need to do better and we are estimating what is needed in the future.

Can you speak about AP in particular?

We know what the AP expectations are and how to deliver the curriculum successfully. Our AP results are very good (normally above average) as compared to the global average. Now we need to build the G9 & G10 programme to ensure students are prepared for the AP, yet keep the integrity of MYP intact. If there are changes, it would be introduced G9 first, and a year later G10. We are currently focusing on making sure learning lines from G6 into G12 are continued (e.g. offer Spanish consistently). We want to learn from mistakes and create a well-thought through plan and implemented slowly.

Minutes from the Open Forum held on November 2, 2016

Barney introduces Inflection. They are helping us work through our internal challenges.

Gillian introduces Inflection and outlines what they are doing in school. She indicates they will reach out to parents and want the feedback from parents. This is to help the school improve, to look into co-creating the plan that will help the school chart a way forward.

Barney adds: as you all know, we went through some difficult times last year. To get through and heal, they have been collecting data and in a couple of weeks will present to the board their findings. They are including members of staff to implement the changes needed. If the board accepts, they will then stay longer and help us work through it.

We have a dozen parents here today. We are moving in the right direction. What help do you need to get more parents in?

I agree we are moving in the right direction. These forums were never created to have a large group of people here, but rather to pass information to those who need it and want it. A discussion followed about how to get more parents actively involved in the school and it's programmes.

Later on: maybe you collect ideas parents have / an easy way to suggest additions such as table tennis tournament.

When and where do the children get an 'open forum' like this?

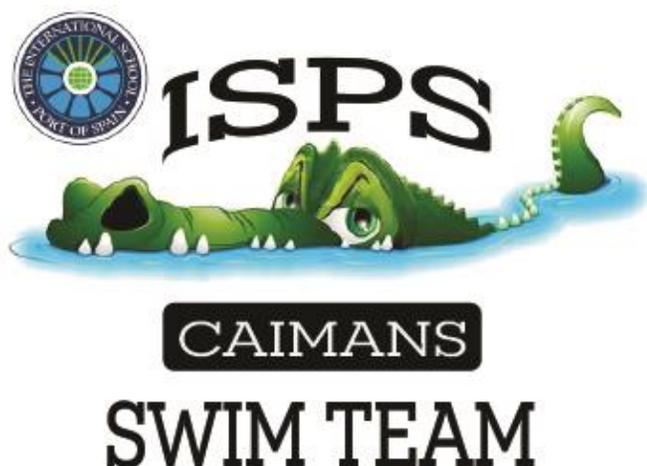
We recognize that the pastoral side needs some attention.

One parent: in ES they have a 'bond' / they are in 'houses' / and I feel in MS and HS that gets lost and all is academically focused. CAISSA was a disappointment because of the selection process, my daughter became despondent and didn't even try this time. What are you doing for the kids who are not top notch athletes? Those who aren't excelling but want to participate? Not enough activity where everyone participates (a sense of elitism). Barney adds: we can develop the house system to develop a sense of unity and a culture of trying.

A sports day once a year is not enough; we need to get the students together more often.

Further discussions were held on how to improve student life for students, in MS and HS, who are not CAISSA

The Forum finished at 9:00pm



**COME OUT TO
SUPPORT OUR TEAM**

Date: Sunday November 6, 2016

Time: 9:00 a.m.—til (All day event)

Location: Center of Excellence

The Team: Christopher Avey, Daniyelle Bennett, Mikka Cabral, Graham Chatoor, Luciana Decormis, Mateo Decormis, Christian Marsden, Reynaldo Montano, Robin Montano, Alonso Rosado, Lily Stauble.