



ISPS WEEKLY

NEWSLETTER

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

- 8 ACTs
- 12 ES Holiday Production: "The Nutcracker"; 1:00pm
- 13 ES Holiday Production: "The Nutcracker"; 6:00pm
- 14 Last Day of School 11:30 am Early Dismissal
- 15 Start of Holiday Break

January

- 7 School Resumes

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

Dear Parents,

I hope all is going well with you and your children.

The holiday spirit is buzzing through the school and the excitement of the holidays is in full swing. MS had a homeroom competition yesterday and they "Decked the Halls" - literally decorating the MS hallways and the central foyer with Christmas cheer. Congratulations to grade 7 who won the competition. Thanks to all MS who were involved, the halls look great.

HS has also been having a competition for decorating each Home Room (HR). The competition is building spirit for the season but there is also the element of competition, which is always exciting. The HS decorations must all be hand made from recyclable materials and this an additional element of creativity to the competition. HS HomeRooms will be judged next week Wednesday.

The excitement surrounding the ES holiday production is also building. As a reminder, the ES Holiday production will be held Dec 12th starting at 6:00pm in the theatre. The Production will be repeated on the 13th at 1:00pm. I know that all ES students and teachers have been working hard, getting ready for the big show. There are many

parents helping out as well and we thank you for your support.

I would like to inform the ISPS community that recent behaviours in the HS and MS have indicated a need for a review of certain policies and guidelines in our Parent/Student Handbook. We have made some changes to this handbook regarding cell phone use in school, Junior and Senior privileges, and vaping. We have held a series of Town Hall meetings with MS and HS students to discuss these changes with the students, and they understand more severe consequences for the violation of the school rules in these three areas will be effective immediately. Mr Huerta will be sending a Skyward message to MS and HS parents regarding the changes. Please be on the lookout for that message.

I'd like to thank the 7 parents that attended the Open Forum last night. Many topics were discussed and the minutes/notes from that Forum will be distributed next week.

The last newsletter of the term will be sent out next Thursday, yet it will be a much abbreviated version of the regular newsletter.

I hope you enjoy your weekend.

J Barney Latham
Director





THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PORT OF SPAIN
presents



Nutcracker

A Youth Musical

Adapted from "The Nutcracker Suite" by
PETER I. TCHAIKOVSKY



and "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King" by
E.T.A. HOFFMAN

SHOWTIMES

Wednesday 12th December 2018

6:00 PM



Thursday 13th December 2018

1:00 PM

ISPS Theatre

BY INVITATION ONLY



Children's Rights Through Children's Eyes

The Child Rights Ambassador program was an insightful and inspiring lesson into the rights and responsibilities of children as stated in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The widespread Injustice faced by millions of children in the world leaves little hope for the future if this matter is not urgently addressed. My research and exposure to this subject has been a great motivator for me to make a difference which I hope to do through advocacy to build awareness amongst my peers and influencers in society who can help me make a difference in the lives of disadvantaged children.

I am currently working on a plan of action that will enable me to fulfill my mission to improve the lives of children in Trinidad and Tobago. I look forward to working with my classmates to make this difference. **Priyanka Lala (Grade 6)**



Today I am pleased to present myself as a proud Child's Rights Ambassador. A few weeks ago, I was one out of 45 children around Trinidad and Tobago that got this opportunity. I was given the chance to go to the Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs) to learn about children's rights with Priyanka, a student in 6th grade.

I learned a lot about children's rights that I was not aware of before. They taught us about children's rights in

an exciting way. We wrote a poem, made music, and acted out the rights of a child. I have very much expanded my knowledge on this subject.

The rights of a child is more important than it seems — we represent the future. I learned that children need important aspects like a guardian, protection, love, food, water, and everything that you can imagine a child needing to be happy. After we learned about the rights of a child, it was our turn to share the information with our peers.

We had an important assignment ahead of us. We had to come up with a creative way of teaching our classmates and school about this very important subject. We decided to make a slideshow and write a very thoughtful poem.

Our poem gave examples of the rights that stood out to us. All of the rights are important, but the rights of making a child happy really stood out to us.

About a week after we presented our poem to the

school, it was time to head to City Hall and see what the other schools did.

It was impressive to see how everyone used different methods to present their ideas and to see how successful they were in getting their community involved.

It was intriguing to see how much children's rights really mean to other people across the nation. I was so thankful and happy to be part of this

Continued next page

Children's Rights ...from page 2

community building project.

This experience was hard work, but it was all worth it. This experience really means a lot to me and I'm so grateful that I got this opportunity to show everyone how important children really are.

I want to thank all the teachers and students for making this happen. I will always remember this experience, it means a lot to me. I'm so honored that I got the opportunity to represent my school, ISPS, even though I'm a foreign student. This has changed my mindset about the right of a child.

Nicole Branski (Grade 5)

Thank you to Ms. Bishopp for assisting with the students' presentation, and Mrs. Lala, parent representative who accompanied the students to the workshops held at City Hall, Port of Spain.



Hello Everyone,

As we prepare for the festive season let us all try to stay healthy. This week is "hand washing week". Hand washing is one of the most effective ways of preventing the spread of disease.

Washing hands with soap and water kills microorganisms, gets rid of dirt and other debris which we pick up when we touch objects.

Children should be encouraged to wash hands before eating, after playing indoors and outdoors, after coughing, sneezing and using the bathroom. We should also try to keep hands away from our faces since organisms enter through our mouths and noses.

Recently I have been noticing an increase in complaints of sore throats, not associated with fever.

Have a good weekend.

12 million pounds of ground beef recalled

Beef from the USA has been recalled due to contamination with salmonella.

JBS Tolleson Inc. is recalling more than 12 million pounds of raw beef products that may be tainted with salmonella, the US Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service said Tuesday.

The affected products were

packed on various dates between July 26 and Sept. 7 by JBS Tolleson, an Arizona-based beef processing plant that ships nationwide. The specific products subject to recall are stamped with "EST. 267" within the USDA mark of inspection, the agency says.

A list of affected product labels can be found on the [USDA's website](#).





“It is a sacred space because you can come and be free to be yourself without judgment.”



Barber Shops... Good for the Community

We’re tapping in the Christmas spirit in the ISPS library by continuing the library’s community service in Port of Spain Prison.

Today, I launched a certified barbering class through the Wishing for Wings Foundation.

Twelve inmates are taking this class so they can return to society with a skill and the possibility of their own businesses.



Library Corner

By Debbie Jacob

I hope to spread this class to all eight of Trinidad and Tobago’s prisons.

Sacred Spaces

Barber shops are important places in society where boys and men come for haircuts and to discuss what is going on in society.

In an article entitled *“Five Black Barbers on Why Barbershops Are Sacred Spaces”*, barbers

remind us “the barber shop plays a major role in the community by bringing all types and ages of people together to have an open dialog.

It is a sacred space because you can come and be free to be yourself without judgment.” The article, found at the following URL, is a fascinating look at the important role traditional barber shops play.

[5 Black Barbers on Why Barbershops are Sacred Spaces.](#)

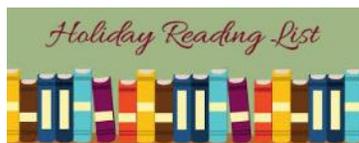
Our next goal is to provide starter kits with the tools inmates need to work as barbers when they return to society. If you are interested in supporting this important effort of rehabilitation and donate money or buy a starter kit for an inmate, please contact the ISPS library.

‘Tis the Season for Reading

December is a great month to start a reading tradition in your family.

Reading to your children is an important all-year round activity because it helps build the listening, comprehension and analytical skills they need to succeed in school and in life, and December reading can reinforce those values of kindness and giving that we celebrate for Christmas.

Reading also helps to create the empathy skills we want children to have.



Most of the award-winning authors on this list have written several children’s chapter books, and when children get hooked on one of these author’s books, they inevitably want to read all. These are books that can be read to children from eight to 12.

1. **Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly** -- This 2018 Newbery award-winning children’s book had me on the edge of my seat. Hello, Universe is a beautifully written story about four social outcasts: shy Virgil Salinas; a bully, Chet Bullens; a shy, deaf girl, Valencia Somerset and a quirky self-claimed psychic, Kaori Tanaka.



When their lives cross in an unimaginable way because of the bully, the suspense matches any adult book I have read. Kelly is bound to be a popular children’s office on par with Cynthia Kadohata and Kate DiCamillo.

2. **Some Kind of Courage by Dan Gemeinhart** -- Every Gemeinhart book is a gem, but I particularly like this novel because it is an

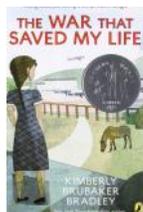
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authentic cowboy book for children. After Joseph Johnson loses his whole family, he manages to survive because of his love for his pony, Sarah. When thieves steal Sarah, Joseph embarks on an action-packed journey to get her back. Many boys also like Scar Island, a children’s version of Lord of the Flies by William Golding.



3. **The War that Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley** –

Always on my list of the best children’s books, this 2016 Newbery award-winning book is still the favourite book for most of my students ten through 14. Children love it because it is a historical novel set during World War II, and it has to do with unfairness. Ten-year-old Ada has a club foot and she is treated horribly by her mother. When the government decides to send the children of London to the countryside to live, Ada flourishes in her new environment. Her story reminds children of everything we take for granted.



4. **The Angel Tree by Ashley Benedis-Grab** –

In this holiday mystery novel, a group of children decide to find the anonymous person who puts up a wish tree every year in the town square before



Christmas. Readers will ponder the true meaning of gift-giving, grapple with questions about altruism and decide if it is wrong to identify a kind person who wants to remain anonymous.

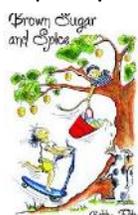
5. **Louisiana’s Way Home by Kate DiCamillo**

– Elementary students who are fans of Kate DiCamillo will certainly recognise that she is taking a new turn in her writing in this book about a girl named Louisiana Elefante. This newly released DiCamillo novel is the first time the two-time Newbery award-winning novelist doesn’t feature an animal as a main character. Instead, there is a story about new beginnings and forgiveness filled with many small surprises and a big one in the end.



6. **Brown Sugar and Spice by Betty Peter** –

When it comes to Caribbean children’s literature, Brown Sugar and Spice still tops my list. Set in Grenada, St. Vincent and St. Lucia during, this light-hearted tale of Harriet and her English family living in the Caribbean during World War II is a tribute to the imagination and resilience of children who can find hope and inspiration even when times are tough.



Here is hoping that you have a Christmas vacation filled with good reading.

Communication Through Technology

A peek into Grade 7 English classroom

The Giver by Lois Lowry (genre, theme & intertextuality)



it, they may very well be in deep interaction with each other.

Today the face of how students communicate in class has taken on new dimensions and textures from when I started teaching just over 30 years ago.

I now invite you into my classroom to see for yourself this 35 minute discussion.

Ms. Quamina

The Giver

Chapters 19, 20 & 21 What is the ONE thing that you most want to discuss or the ONE point you most want to make, having read these 3 chapters?

Grade 7 students are coming to the end of the dystopian novel The Giver. Having read 3 chapters for homework, the task was to identify the one thing/point that they would want to discuss.

Ellice Ali

10:00 AM

With a 35 minute period in which to have the actual discussions however, without the use of Google Classroom it would have been virtually impossible to get the range of responses and the level of communication and collaboration that was achieved.

At the end of chapter 20, we learn that the Giver's daughter was Rosemary. "I love you, Jonas. But I have another place to go. When my work here is finished, I want to be with my daughter." 'I didn't know you had a daughter. You told me that you had a spouse. But I never knew about your

This also provides the opportunity for students to learn HOW to communicate respectfully with each other and on my end is a great tool for assessment. So if you pass by my classroom and see students fixated on their computers and punching away at their keypads, though it might not look like



daughter.' The Giver smiled and nodded. For the first time in their long months together, Jonas saw him look truly happy. 'Her name was

Rosemary.' The Giver said." We realize here that Rosemary released herself, so after everything The Giver

Click [here](#) for full article



ES Counselor's Corner



KINDNESS TREE

- Jack 2D As he was walking past during break, he stopped to help a Pre-K clean sand off the big slide.
- Savannah KKe Used some of her center time to make a nice card for her friend.
- Gabriela 2J Surprised a teacher and warmed her heart by putting a Christmas cookie on her desk
- Aura PK4 Helped take a friend by the hand into school as she was sad to leave her parents.

ISPS PHOTO ORDERS...

Extension: December 13, 2018



Orders should be submitted by DECEMBER 13, 2018

Photo Retakes: JANUARY 29, 2019

It's Easy...

- 1 **Review** your portrait
- 2 **Print** order form ([CLICK HERE](#)).
- 3 **Complete** form, using the image numbers found in the online gallery.
- 4 **Return** form and payment to ISPS by the deadline date.

**** ONE FORM must be used PER child**

**** please note that failure to follow instructions may result in your order being returned or delivery delayed ****

Order School Portraits today

SHOP NOW



Private Online Gallery: <https://tinyurl.com/y7vbslqv>

Password: ISPS Students 2019



ISPS



2018 - 2019 Events Calendar

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 SATs 7:30-2:00pm
2	3	4	5 Open Forum 7:00-9:00am Cafeteria	6	7	8 ACTs 7:30-2:00pm
9	10	11	12 ES Holiday Production "The Nutcracker" 6:00-7:00pm Theatre	13 ES Holiday Production "The Nutcracker" 1:00-2:00pm Theatre	14 Last Day of School All School Early Dismissal @ 11:30am	15
16	17 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	18 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	19 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	20 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	21 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	22 Start of Holiday Break
23	24 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	25 Christmas Day NATIONAL	26 Boxing Day NATIONAL	27 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	28 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	29
30	31 SCHOOL HOLIDAY	Important Reminders SCHOOL RESUMES ON JANUARY 7, 2019				

CHILDREN 5 - 10 YEARS OLD

CHRISTMAS CAMP

BAKING GOODIES
MOVIES
ARTS & CRAFTS
OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
A SPECIAL SURPRISE!

When: Monday 17th - 21st, December from 9am-2pm
(OR call for after hour care)
Where: Cascade
Cost: \$600 OR \$130/day
Call us for more details: Ms Alley 722-9999
OR
Ms Hadeed 686-5094

PIZZA PARTY

Congratulations!

FOR SELLING THE MOST IFF TICKETS,
GRADES 2 & 7 HAVE WON THE PIZZA PARTY.
THANK YOU TO ALL!

  SPONSORED BY THE ISPS PTO



ISPS Lunch Menu

December 10 — December 14

Dec-18	MONDAY 10	TUESDAY 11	WEDNESDAY 12	THURSDAY 13	FRIDAY 14
PROTEINS	SWEET AND SOUR CHICKEN	STEW CHICKEN (BONES)	GRILLED BREAST	CURRY CHICKEN	
STARCHES	VEGETABLE RICE	SCALLOP POTATOES	MAC AND CHEESE	BUS UP SHUT	
PEAS/VEGGIE	CHUNKY VEG	STEAM BROCCOLI	ROASTED VEGETABLES	MASALA MANGO POTATO AND CHANNA	
VEGAN	TOFU (BY ORDER)	RED BEANS	TOFU (BY ORDER)	CURRY TOFU	
SOUP OF THE DAY					

If you have a special diet or have any allergic reactions to certain foods, please advise our caterers at your earliest convenience so that they may prepare a menu that fits your needs.

2018

a·la·cARTe

Breakfast

Ham and Cheese Omelette	\$15.00
Three Cheese Omelette (Cheddar, Parmesan, Pepper Jack)	\$15.00
Garden Omelette (Bell peppers, Tomatoes, Onions)	\$14.00
All omelettes are served with 2 pieces of Toast, Garlic Butter and Roasted Tomatoes	
Choka Trio (pumpkin, spinach, fried aloo) served with Sada or Roast Bake	\$14.00
Salt fish or Smoked Herring served with Sada or Roast Bake	\$16.00
Large Pancake with Eggs and Breakfast Sausages, Butter, Maple Syrup	\$25.00
Pancake	\$ 8.00
Wild Berry Waffles	\$10.00
Extra Syrup	\$ 3.00
Grilled Cheese Melt	\$15.00

Sides

Eggs	\$8.00	Hash Browns	\$13.00	Breakfast Sausage	\$5.00
Maple Bacon	\$9.00	Turkey bacon	\$7.00	Bagel & Cream Cheese	\$14.00
Parmesan rolls	\$10.00	Mushrooms	\$10.00	Toast	\$6.00
Croissants	\$5.00				

Lunch

GCG 4oz Gourmet Burger 3oz fries (Smoked Cheddar, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Garlic Mayo)	\$40.00
Crispy Fish Po Boy (Cole Slaw, Pickles, Tomato and Herb Mayo)	\$45.00
Steak & Cheese Melt Press (Bell Pepper, Onions, Chilli Cheddar)	\$45.00
Linguini Pasta Alfredo	\$50.00
Add Chicken \$10	Shrimp \$20
Wings (Cajun, Honey Buttered, Buffalo) Served with French Fries / Waffles	\$35.00