



ISPS WEEKLY

NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S INSIDE

Walk-A-Thon & Sports Day	2
Living Our Mission	3
Middle Matters	4
The First Piper	5
News In Brief	6
Arts Department	7
Community Notices	8-9
February Calendar	10
Cafeteria	11
Open Forum	12-13

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February

- 15 All School Sports Day
- 19-22 FCD Prevention Specialists Visit
- 20 PTO Meeting - 1:30 p.m.
- 22 PTO Panyard Jam 8:00pm—12:00am

March

- 1 ISPS Carnival Jump-Up
- 1 All School Early Dismissal 11:30am
- 4-5 Carnival (No School)
- 6 Ash Wednesday (School Holiday)
- 7-8 Professional Development (Teacher Work Day; No School)
- 9 SATs

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

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Parents,

Happy Valentines Day to our entire community.

A reminder to all parents that our annual Walk-a-thon and Sports Day is tomorrow. We will begin at 7:30 taking attendance in Homerooms and will then head to the Spanish Court Field. We begin with the walk-a-thon, and we thank those parents who have already come in with their \$20 donation. The more people that attend the walk-a-thon, the more money we can donate, so please come in with the entire family for a morning walk.

House spirit is high for both of these events and we have a variety of groups in charge of a variety of activities. Food and refreshments will be on sale, including doubles, hamburgers, hot dogs, juice, water, etc... The tents are up, the fields are marked, house captains are organizing their houses for the various events during Sports Day. We are looking forward to a successful event.

Parents, particularly in MS and HS, please ensure your children attend both events. They may tell you that it is only a half day (dismissal is at 12:00pm) and there will be no classes, yet as a school, this event is very important to us in building community spirit. This has been one of our goals for the year, and encouraging your older children to attend will help us reach this goal. We appreciate you coming along with your older children to help us build that school spirit.

As a lead up to the event, both MS and HS Student Counsels held mini tournaments or

events yesterday. It was great to see the participation on MS and HS students in the volleyball and dodgeball events, building House spirit.

Last weekend, ISPS hosted the National Volleyball league's under 16 boys and girls tournament to determine who would make it to the finals. OUR very own under 16 girls have made it to the National finals - a great achievement. GOOOOO Caimans!

Saturday and Sunday ISPS will be hosting the Under 20 Girls and Boys National Volleyball league's tournament to determine who will enter the finals. We have boys and girls teams in the tournament, with boys playing Saturday and Girls playing Sunday. There will be some great volleyball to watch this weekend. Please come in to support our Caimans. Matches start at about 9:30am and will run all day Saturday and Sunday. The Finals for the National Volleyball League will also be held at ISPS on February 23rd and it should be a great showcase of volleyball, our community involvement, and our school.

Next week we look forward to hosting FCD Prevention Works, a group that comes to speak to students, parents, and teachers about drug and alcohol prevention. They will hold sessions with our students all week and will be hosting an event for parents on February 21st, 6:00-8:00pm. Please mark your calendar for this very important event.

Enjoy your weekend and I hope to see you at Sports Day and some of the volleyball tournaments.

J Barney Latham
Director

CHECK US OUT ONLINE!





WALK-A-THON & SPORTS DAY SCHEDULE

- ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF must participate in Walk-a-Thon.
 - Registration is \$20.00
 - Registration takes place during the week leading up to the event.
 - 7:30am ALL STUDENTS report to class for attendance.
- Walk-a-Thon participants move to the big field
(teachers will record participants in houses and give numbers to Ms. C. Johnson)
- 7:45am Walk-a-Thon starts on the big field, house points awarded for participants.
 - 8:30 am Walk-a-thon ends on the big field.
 - 8:30 – 8:50 ALL SCHOOL BREAK
(students and teachers move to designated house areas)
 - 8:50 – 9:30 House Meetings (finalize participants in events, prepare march/walk pass and cheer competitors)
 - 9:30 – 9:45 March/Walk Pass and Cheer Competition
 - 9:45 – 9:55 PTO surprise (while judges deliberate)
 - 9:55 – 10:00 Houses proceed to respective House Tents and Sport areas
(ES move to North Field, MS and HS stay on Spanish Court Field)
 - 10:00 Events start
 - 11:30 Events end and clean up begins.
 - 12:00 ALL SCHOOL DISMISSAL

Spanish Court Field (Starts at 7:45am)		
Walk-a-thon (7:45 to 8:30)		
	10:00am – 11:30am	MS/HS - Spanish Court Field Time
1	100m Flat- Grade 6 Boys,	(2 students per grade per house)
2	100m Flat- Grade 6 Girls,	(2 students per grade per house)
3	100m Flat- Grade 7 Boys,	(2 students per grade per house)
4	100m Flat- Grade 7 Girls,	(2 students per grade per house)
5	100m Flat- Grade 8 Boys,	(2 students per grade per house)
6	100m Flat- Grade 8 Girls,	(2 students per grade per house)
7	100m Flat- Grade 9 Boys,	(2 students per grade per house)
8	100m Flat - Grade 9 Girls,	(2 students per grade per house)
9	100m Flat - Grade 10 Boys,	(2 students per grade per house)
10	100m Flat - Grade 10 Girls,	(2 students per grade per house)
11	100m Flat - Grade 11 Boys,	(2 students per grade per house)
12	100m Flat - Grade 11 Girls,	(2 students per grade per house)
13	100m Flat - Grade 12 Boys,	(2 students per grade per house)
14	100m Flat - Grade 12 Girls,	(2 students per grade per house)
15	100m Flat- Best of the best Boys, 3 per house	(1 from grade 6, 1 from grade 7, 1 from grade 8) from MS
16	100m Flat- Best of the best Girls, 3 per house	(1 from grade 6, 1 from grade 7, 1 from grade 8) from MS
17	100m Flat- Best of the best Boys, 2 per house	(1 from grade 9, 1 from grade 10) from HS
18	100m Flat- Best of the best Girls, 2 per house	(1 from grade 9, 1 from grade 10) from HS
19	100m Flat- Best of the best Boys, 2 per house	(1 from grade 11, 1 from grade 12) from HS
20	100m Flat- Best of the best Girls, 2 per house	(1 from grade 11, 1 from grade 12) from HS
21	100m Flat- Female Teachers	
22	100m Flat- Male Teachers	
23	100m Flat - Female Parents	
24	100m Flat - Male Parents	
25	Ski Race- Grades 6-9 Mixed	(2 from each grade, plus a teacher or parent)
26	Ski Race- Grades 10-12 Mixed	(2 from each grade, plus a teacher or parent)
27	Partner Sack relay- Boys, Grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12	(2 from each grade)
28	Partner Sack relay- Girls, Grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12	(2 from each grade)
29	Ball and spoon relay mixed - Grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12	(2 from each grade, plus a teacher and a parent)
30	Balloon Pop Relay- Mixed- Grades 6-8	(1 boy and 1 girl from each grade, plus a teacher or parent)
31	Balloon Pop Relay- Mixed- Grades 9-12	(1 boy and 1 girl from each grade, plus a teacher or parent)
32	Spin relay Male (Grades 10, 11, 12 and teachers)	(2 per grade and 2 teachers)
33	Spin relay Female (Grades 10, 11, 12 and teachers)	(2 per grade and 2 teachers)
34	Water Relay- Boys, Grades 6, 7, 8	(3 from each grade, plus a teacher or parent)
35	Water Relay- Girls, Grades 6, 7, 8	(3 from each grade, plus a teacher or parent)
36	Water Relay- Boys, Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12,	(3 from each grade, plus a teacher or parent)
37	Water Relay- Girls, Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12,	(3 from each grade, plus a teacher or parent)
38	Tug - of - War Semi Final. Grade 6 - 12.	2 per grade and 1 teacher or parent (15 for each house)
39	Tug - of - War Semi Final. Grade 6 - 12.	2 per grade and 1 teacher or parent (15 for each house)
40	Tug - of - War Semi Final. Grade 6 - 12.	2 per grade and 1 teacher or parent (15 for each house)
21	Clean up race. House with most garbage. 15 points.	
Announce results. Sports day ends 11:30am- Dismissal is at 12:noon		

Points System:
 1st – 5 points
 2nd – 3 points
 3rd – 2 points

20 points for House Spirit Cheer
 20 points for Clean-Up Race

House with most points at the end of Sports day will be awarded the ISPS House Cup.



Living Our Mission

... Global Leaders

ISPS Celebrates Women and Girls in Science

On February 11, the International School of Port of Spain (ISPS) joined the United Nations and the world in celebrating the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

Science and gender equality are both necessary to help us formulate ideas to assist in making positive changes in our rapidly developing world. For years women and girls' have fought for their voices to be heard and for their expertise in science, technology and innovation to be recognized to become leaders in their professions.

As ISPS celebrates our 25th year, we celebrate the efforts of those women to pave the way for the future generations, through their contributions and inspiration, as we encourage our students to explore and continue to achieve their best by offering them full and equal access to Science education.



MIDDLE MATTERS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week, Middle School teachers have been meeting in departments to discuss Quarter 2 grade data. Ultimately, the goal of these meetings are to determine how students are performing as a whole and to identify ways teachers can improve instructional time. The grades data will also be compared to student MAP scores to highlight disparities in performance between these two types of assessment and to pinpoint areas of development for each student.

Last week, we held our Middle School town hall meeting and the focus was on recognition in areas beyond academics. Students were awarded in categories such as effort grades, perfect attendance, tidiest cubby area, Christmas brunch games and house games. We believe it is important to recognize these areas where our students apply themselves diligently and uphold excellence.

This week our STUCO sponsored volleyball tournaments at lunchtime were filled with competitiveness and high energy. The five Grade 8 teams battled it out to victory and it was certainly was an engaging way to enhance class spirit and also a great lead up to our much anticipated all School Sports Day on Friday. I look forward to great participation from Middle School this Sports Day and may the best house win.

- Frank Huerta

MYP UPDATE

The Personal Project

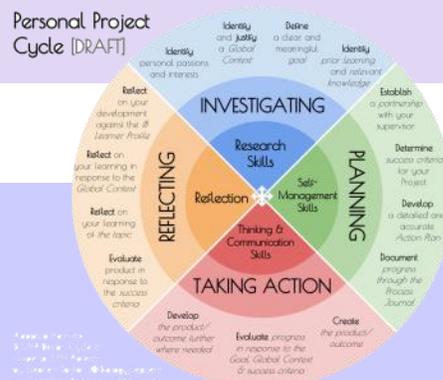
What is the personal project?

How many of us have had the opportunity to explore an area of personal interest as part of a class assignment and be graded on it? That sounds great, right! I would think that most students would love to have a chance to do this. Well, guess what? Students in grade 10 do have this great opportunity to develop an area of personal interest to demonstrate their learning in the MYP. In fact, all students in grade 10 are expected to seize this opportunity to create a product or outcome that is truly personal to them, one that motivates and interests them. Although some of our students have recently joined our school this year, they also participate in exploring an area of interest. The beauty of it is that it offers the opportunity for differentiation of learning and expression according to students' individual needs.

Deciding on a topic began at the beginning of the school year, and students have been working through different stages to complete the process. These stages include: investigation, planning, taking action, and reflecting. It's an independent project and each student is assigned a mentor from the school community to guide him/her. The personal project coordinator, Ms. Quamina, oversees the entire process. As a culminating activity of the MYP, this project not only allows students to use, but also to consolidate the knowledge and Approaches to Learning skills (ATLs) that they have acquired over the years.

The final outcome actually consists of a report and the actual product. At this stage, students have already completed their product, and are currently working on the report which is even more important than the actual product. The report documents the entire process, step by step, and includes all the different stages that a student goes through to achieve the outcome. Throughout the process, students have been keeping a journal for each stage which becomes the basis for the report. Once the reports and products are completed by March, the mentors will assess the outcomes. The results will then be submitted to IB for further moderation of a range of selected samples. There is no doubt that this challenge to be self-directed learners will help our students to develop into independent, lifelong learners.

MYP Coordinator
Angela Shahien





The First Piper Blows Through ISPS

The International School of Port of Spain (ISPS) was fortunate to have Ross OC Jennings as our guest speaker to talk to our Elementary School students, and become part of his story of becoming a world-renowned bagpiper.

Instagram phenomenon, Jennings, known for his bag-pipe-playing around the world, clad in his family kilt is on a quest to be the first bagpipe player to play in every country of the world.

Ross OC Jennings, who is half Scottish, half Irish, also known as The First Piper, has now checked his 90th country off of his list with his visit to Trinidad and Tobago.



**NEWS
IN BRIEF**

Exploring Shapes



in Pre-K 4

Pre-k 4 students have been learning all about shapes in Math to be able to see the connections between objects in the world around them. They have been exploring the basic shapes and its attributes through many different games and activities.



NOTES From the Nurse

VANDA GIBBINGS-GOMES
SCHOOL NURSE, R.N., R.M.

Hello Everyone,
Just when I thought we were getting less cases of students with flu like symptoms I saw a few more this week.

This is to let you know that every ten (10) years we expect a flare up of Dengue Fever and this year we are expecting it. In between we have occasional cases which is expected.

Dengue fever is cause by the Aedes Aegypti mosquito which bites in the daytime. So I take this opportunity to remind you to keep your surroundings clean. Remove any containers which may retain water leading to the breeding of mosquitoes and apply insect repellent when outdoors. Fortunately it is now the dry season so there should be less mosquitoes around.

Have a safe and fun filled weekend.



Elementary School Counselor's Corner



KINDNESS TREE



All of
Kinder
Khan

Entire
class

Students showed appreciation for each other by sharing good qualities they noticed in everyone.

Renata

2D

For sharing fidget balls with the all the girls in her class so that all students had their own.

IYOR

Spearheaded by HS Visual Art, ISPS students are in the process of giving the hallway mural to the Cafeteria a makeover in honour of this year's UN Theme; The International Year of the Reef.

This year's theme promotes the continuing ideals of sustainability and responsible consumption.

Below, HS students can be seen adding background features, using reused styrofoam packaging for palletes, with ES adding fish and bubbles. All grade levels will be contributing to the completion of this project.



ISPS PTO PANYARD JAM 2019

FEBRUARY 22 8:00 PM- 12:00 AM

PHASE II

Dan Groove

GROWN-UPS ONLY!

DRINKS & BITES INCLUDED/ EXPERIENCE TRUE 'TRINI VIBES'

TICKETS @ \$200

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH YOUR GRADE REP. OR MS. HAZEL

THIS IS AN ADULT ONLY EVENT (NO STUDENTS)

DRUGS AND YOUR CHILD: WHAT EVERY PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW

WHEN
February 21st
6pm - 8pm

WHERE
ISPS Cafeteria

WHO
ALL ISPS PARENTS
(ES, MS, & HS)

FEATURING ·
Guest Speakers:
FCD Prevention Works
&
ISPS Child Protection Team

HOW TO SPEAK EFFECTIVELY WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT DRUGS

UP-TO-DATE FACTS: CURRENT DRUG USE AND TRENDS

WHAT TO SAY ABOUT YOUR OWN EXPERIENCES WITH ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF USE AND EFFECTIVE WAYS TO RESPOND



Part of the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation

As part of our ongoing commitment to prevention and wellness, we have invited prevention specialists from FCD Prevention Works to join our community during the week of February 19-22, 2019.

Their mission is to:

- Encourage and support the non-use of alcohol and other illegal or illicit drugs during the growing years.
- Empower young people to make healthy, responsible choices about alcohol and other drug use
- Teach students and adults how to recognize the early warning signs of substance abuse and to intervene appropriately
- Educate students, parents, teachers, and administrators on the physiological and psychological effects of alcohol and other drugs
- Promote awareness of drug addiction, including alcoholism, as a progressive, chronic, and often fatal disease

Feb 19–22 FCD will meet with student groups and ISPS Staff

Feb 21 FCD Parent Information Session at ISPS— (6:00—8:00PM)



Charity Bake Sale

Don't worry about that carnival body, we have healthy stuff too.

Banana Bread, oatmeal chocolate chip cookies, muffins and more!

Thank you for your support! We are raising money for charity 😊

Message these numbers and it would be delivered in school:
Courtney (224-8113)
Naileja (276-7508)
Shane (490-9656)

BOOK NOW pay later

LIMITED TIME ONLY
February 24th-28th!

PTA Meeting

Come join us!

FEBRUARY 20; 1:30 PM—2:30 PM; GREEN ROOM



ISPS



2018 - 2019 Events Calendar

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 CAISSA - Season 2 D.R.	2 CAISSA - Season 2 D.R.
3 CAISSA - Season 2 D.R.	4	5 NHS Induction Ceremony 5:00-7:30pm Theatre	6 5th Grade PYP Exhibition Meeting for Parents 2:45pm-3:15pm Ms. Bishopp's Room Open Forum 7:00-9:00pm Cafeteria	7	8	9 ACTs 7:30-2:00pm
10	11	12	13 ZUMBA 3:00 p.m.	14	15 All School Sports Day 7:30am-12:00pm Early Dismissal 12:00pm	16
17	18	19 FCD Prevention Specialists Visit FCD Introduction MS/HS Student Assembly 7:30-8:15am Theatre	20 FCD Prevention Specialists Visit PTO Meeting 1:30pm Green Room	21 FCD Prevention Specialists Visit FCD Parent Discussion Session 6:00-8:00pm Cafeteria	22 FCD Prevention Specialists Visit ISPS PTO Panyard Jam 8:00pm - 12:00am	23
24	25	26	27	28		



ISPS Lunch Menu

February 18—March 1

February 2019	Monday 18	Tuesday 19	Wednesday 20	Thursday 21	Friday 22
Proteins	Caramelized Chicken in Potato Carrots Or Grilled Fish	BBQ Chicken Drumsticks Or Honey Glazed Fish	Chinese Chicken Tenders Or Asian Fish	Garlic Chicken Skewer Or Paprika Fish Skewer	Bake and Shark with Accompaniments
Starches	White Rice	Mac & Cheese	Asian Noodles Salad	Wild Rice Pilaf	(Fried Bake)
Peas/Veggie	Sautéed Vegetables	Roasted Vegetables		Sautéed Patchoi	
Vegan	Red Bean Chili	Lentil Loaf	Vegetable Spring Rolls	Honey Garlic Tofu	Soya Burgers
Soup of the Day					Corn Soup

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.

February 2019	Monday 25	Tuesday 26	Wednesday 27	Thursday 28	Friday 1
Proteins	Spanish Chicken Thighs Or Stew Fish Cubes	Oven Fried Chicken Or Fish Steaks	Beef Meatballs Or Grilled Fish Marinara Sauce	Curry Chicken Or Curry Fish	BBQ Baked Wings Or BBQ Glazed Fish
Starches	Basmati Rice	Mash Potato	Penne in Pesto	Bus Up shot	Steak Fries
Peas/Veggie	Mediterranean Salad	Broccoli Gratin	Fresh Apple	Dasheen Bush Potato and Channa	Fresh Fruit Chow
Vegan	Grilled Tofu Kebab	Lentils Loaf	Soya Meatball	Curry Tofu	Soya Jamaican Patties
Soup of the Day					Pumpkin Bisque



OPEN FORUM

February 6, 2019



Communication to Parents on the AdvancEd Accreditation Report

The following was presented to parents (as a slideshow) at the Open Forum on February 6th, 2019.

The AdvancEd team (4 persons) visited ISPS in October for three days. The purpose of their visit was to verify that ISPS is meeting the Standards as set for by AdvancEd for Accreditation. The report they send the school is very detailed and points to areas where the school is doing well, and where the school needs to focus efforts for their next continuous improvement cycle. The following are excerpts from each of the areas identified in the summary reports.

The visiting team's report recorded the following findings:

1. "The Engagement Review Team recommends to the AdvancED Global Commission the the institution earns the distinction of accreditation for a five year term".
2. "AdvancED provides the Index of Education Quality (IEQ) as a holistic measure of overall performance based on a comprehensive set of standards and review criteria. IEQ results are reported on a scale of 100 to 400". *ISPS' IEQ is 264.50. "An IEQ in the range of 225-300 indicates that the institution has several standards within the Improve level and is using results to inform continuous improvement" (Improve level is defined as; those in which the institution is using results to inform their continuous improvement processes and using results over time to demonstrate the achievement of goals).*
3. Strategic Planning: "The goal is to develop a strategic plan for the years ahead. The timely event will provide direction for improvement toward school cohesiveness".
4. "The analysis of data for decision making and to monitor effectiveness of classroom practices and organizational practices is in the initial stages of implementation".
5. "Comprehensive, systematic supervision and evaluation processes for all staff are not in place. ISPS acknowledges the current inconsistencies, as well as the requirements for developing effective supervision and evaluation policies and procedures".

6. "A review of Professional Development documents which noted participants, courses, and costs across years indicated a myriad of growth opportunities above those supporting PYP, MYP and AP. Documented were trainings for faculties of all divisions, as well as for administrative and support services, such as security and counseling".
7. "The school is in the process of definitive planning, use, and accountability for effectively integrating the available technological resources into teaching, learning, and operations".
8. "An all encompassing technology plan which includes ongoing training and development for users with the vision of active use and collaboration is imperative".
9. "Student Support Services is an integral part of the school's culture and permeates teaching and learning at all levels through facilitating personalized and differentiated learning opportunities for identified students".
10. "Although the team was initially concerned at the percent of students enrolled with learning disabilities, the Student Support Services provides the students with the assistance necessary for success".
11. "ISPS provides a wide variety of high quality resources aligned to curricular, instructional, and organizational needs, and school initiatives. Observation of facilities, review of budget, and interviews will all stakeholders confirmed the plethora of resources at ISPS".
12. "ISPS is a school in transition. However, the future is bright. Stakeholders' descriptive words of the school encompass the past, present and future: committed, collaborative, progressive, supportive, community, integrity, and team-oriented. These certainly indicate a foundation upon which the future ISPS can be built!"

ISPS supports the findings of the visiting team. There are things that ISPS needs to continue developing and the next step in the process is to form a Continuous Improvement Team to develop a Continuous Improvement Plan that will run from August 2019-2022.

Grade 2 | Moko Jumbies



Grade 2 students are studying cultures and visited the Moko Jumbie Mas Camp in Belmont. They learned about the history of the Moko Jumbie Spirit and got to try out the stilts... Look out for Moko Jumbies this Carnival Season.