



ISPS WEEKLY

NEWSLETTER

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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
11	Child Protection Meeting
13	Open Forum
15	End of Term 2 (ES)
19	MILO Games
20	PTO Meeting
20	Debate Demonstration— Prison Debate Team; 12:30 pm—2:30 pm; Theater
21	ES Reports on Skyward
27-31	CAISSA (Ecuador)
28	ES Student Led Conferences
29	End of Quarter 3 (MS/HS)

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

I hope you are enjoying the week. We have an exciting "Jump up" tomorrow and I do hope that parents come to see all students in their costumes. I understand that we are going to be recycling some of the costumes used from past ES performances and I am looking forward to seeing the transformation.

Students will be arriving at 7:30 as normal, will be involved in some house and homeroom activities, preparing final details for their costumes, and then the "Parade" begins at 10:30.

If you are going to attend the jump up, we ask that parents gather on the small north field as all "bands" will be taking a lap or two around that field. Photo opportunities will be available to parents at that venue.

HS students will have light snacks and beverages on sale, similar to what was offered at the walk-a-thon and Sports Day.

The Parade will finish by 11:30am when school will be dismissed and parents can take their children home then. The Carnival Committee is hosting an additional event for MS and HS with their "Stained" celebration beginning at 12:30. This celebration is simulating Jouvert and should be some good fun for our MS and HS students. Students who are attending are being asked to wear white.

I hope you and your family are looking forward to Carnival. If you are participating in the festivities, please be safe and stay

hydrated. If you are travelling, safe travels. For all parents, please make the necessary arrangements to be back for the 10th as school re-opens on the 11th.

On March 8th, all ISPS staff will be in Child Protection Training. We have two experts coming to T&T to facilitate this training and in addition to offering the training for ISPS staff, there will be sessions for students and parents on the 11th. There is further information on student and parent sessions in this newsletter, and an email has been sent to all guardians. I encourage parents to attend those sessions carded for parents.

Congratulations to our girls and boys volleyball teams who both placed second in the National Volleyball championships held last weekend. The competition was fierce and every game went down to the wire. It was an exciting tournament and our girls and boys should be proud of of their efforts.

Thank you to the PTO for organizing the PTO Panyard Lime. The event was a nice opportunity for the ISPS community to get together in a casual atmosphere. It was nice to see many of you there. Many thanks to all PTO members for organizing the event.

I wish you a very safe Carnival and look forward to seeing you back on the 11th.

J Barney Latham
Director

CHECK US OUT ONLINE!



ELEMENTARY NOTES

February 28, 2019



Volume 17, Issue 9

Dear Parents,

It is another hectic week with teaching and learning in the elementary. Students in grades 3, 4 and a few in grade 5 completed MAP testing in mathematics and reading. Based on their baseline scores, we have noticed that the majority have made gains. All students are monitored for growth in all subjects. MAP testing for the entire elementary school will be in May, and we will share that data with you. ERB Writing prompts have been given to students in grades 3-5. All faculty members in grades 3-5 will be marking and discussing the students' writing during March. This will give us feedback on how students are doing in their writing.

Several students took part in the Milo Games on Monday, and we await their scores. On March 19th will be the finals for the field races. Now that we have completed the annual Walkathon, we encourage students to bring in their donations for *The Society for Inherited and Severe Blood Disorders*. You may contact class teachers for any further questions.

We are ready for our band: *Trini Dreams*. Parents thank you for assisting our classes with costumes, designing banners, etc. If your child is participating in any carnival event outside school, for example, playing in the Kiddies bands, and he/she would like to showcase his/her costume please contact Ms. Celeste Johnson. Students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on Friday after their jump up on the North Field outside the gymnasium.

Term 2 ends on March 15th , and teachers will be sending out information on student-led conferences that will be held on March 28th.

If you are going to be in Trinidad and Tobago for Carnival, remember to be very careful at the beaches or on the streets.

Happy Carnival!



Suzette Julien
Elementary Principal

Dates to Remember:

March 7/8: No School—PD Days for Faculty

March 11: Child Protection Workshop for Parents

March 15: Term 2 Ends

March 19: MILO Games Finals

March 21: Term 2 Reports on Skyward

March 28: Student-Led Conferences

Primary Years Program (PYP)

All classes are on their fourth unit, and the teachers will begin to plan for their fifth unit. ES Faculty continue to participate in NGSS science webinars to improve their understanding of how to integrate cross cutting concepts, disciplinary core ideas, and science and engineering practices in science driven units. These online classes allow for the presenters to work closely with us while answering our questions about integration and phenomena. The experiences have provided us to reflect what we are doing in the classroom. From my observations, our students are curious about what they are learning. You can help by probing your child to expand on his/her thinking by asking about the key concepts in PYP: ***form, responsibility, perspective, connection, causation, change, function and reflection***. For example, ask your child about how is his/her learning ***connected*** to real-life situations?

Grade 5 students continue to work on their individual projects with their mentors. PYP words for March: *Principled, Appreciation and Commitment*

Angela Shahien, IB Coordinator

Please note the following on Carnival Friday:

7:30 a.m.—8:30 a.m. Town Meeting

8:30 a.m.—9:15 a.m. Students return to classes

9:15 a.m.—9:30 a.m. Break

9:30 a.m.—10:15 Students return to classes

10:15 a.m.—10:30 a.m. All ES students and teachers assemble on the field

10:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. Parade of Class Bands

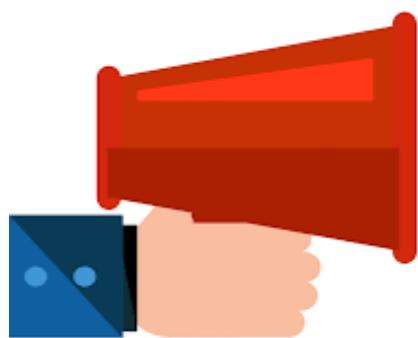
11:30 a.m. Dismissal

Grade 4s working on their government project



Grade 3s doing some independent reading





HIGH SCHOOL HEADS UP

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our upperclassmen on their stellar efforts this Sports Day. Participation was strong from our High School as they steered their houses through every event with excellent leadership and fair sportsmanship. The display of school spirit and camaraderie made this Sports Day quite memorable.

Our Carnival celebrations, coming off the heels of Sports Day, are being planned with special events from our Upper School such as a Calypso Competition and a Carnival king and queen competition. We look forward to seeing all of their creative ideas come to life.

Last week, Ms. Corinne Brisbois from the FCD Prevention Works conducted a series of workshops and meetings in our Middle and High School, with the aim of informing our students about substance abuse and its damaging effects on their health. A highlight of the week was the parent meeting on Thursday. If you attended please share the information you gained with parents that could not attend. The ISPS Child Protection team will continue providing opportunities for students and parents to learn more about staying safe and healthy. Thank you Child Protection Team for organizing a very successful FCD visit.

- Frank Huerta, High School Principal

NHS AT VITAS HOUSE

Visiting the Vitas House Hospice, an end-of-life care facility in St. James, every couple of months has become a tradition in NHS. Recently, a small group of our members, including our new inductees, paid a visit to the staff and patients there once again. In preparation for an afternoon tea with the patients, we spent the morning cooking up a variety of their favorite sweet and savoury treats.

Upon arriving and serving the food, our members walked around in small groups, greeting everyone and stopping along the way for friendly conversations. Two of our very talented members, Jada and Dominic, sang to the patients and staff, an activity that they thoroughly enjoy. As they requested their favourite songs, the patients, staff, and NHS members danced and cheered along.

Though there were fewer patients than our previous visits, our time there was still a very enjoyable and fulfilling experience, one that we will definitely continue throughout the upcoming months.

- Thomas Lee Young, NHS President



Middle School English

Three useful sites to enrich learning in the English classroom and at home

As the new year skips a pace we are preparing for the ERB writing assessment. The assessment is externally set and marked, with students being assessed on the following areas: Overall Development, Organization, Support, Sentence Structure, Word Choice and Mechanics. Students will be given an unseen writing prompt and have one session to plan and another to write and review their work. The testing days will be April 29th and 30th. All students have access to the wponline.com website, which has been developed to aid students in preparing for this and you will notice more homework being set using this site as the assessment approaches. The genres students will be writing in are as follows:

Grade 6: Expository (inform / explain / describe)

Grade 7: Narrative

Grade 8: Argumentative

Specific rubrics for your child's grade level genre are available on their Google Classroom, or on the wponline.com site. Students will be practicing writing under timed conditions which acts as very good preparation for future external examinations later on in their school career.

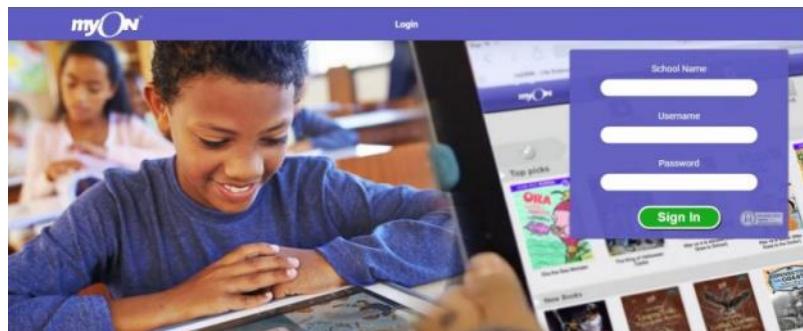
Students also have access to IXL.com which helps them develop their skills in the following areas: Reading strategies, Writing strategies, Vocabulary and Grammar and Mechanics. Which will help prepare them for the second MAP testing session in May. This site can be used any time at home in order to improve a certain skill area.

In addition to wponline.com and IXL.com the English Department is also now using the newly acquired site [myon.com](#). Students will, I'm sure, be using this site in a variety of classes, but it is particularly useful in English as it offers a range of fiction and nonfiction books and articles which can be selected by grade or reading level. Grade 6 are currently using the site to conduct independent research projects on a country of interest to them. They will gather their research from a range of nonfiction books and news articles in order to write an expository essay in preparation for the ERB writing assessment.

I will be encouraging students to use these sites both at school and at home in order to top up their skills!

Roxanne Veck

Head of English





Living Our Mission



Images from the evening of the Phase 2 Pan yard Jam hosted by our ISPS PTO.

The night included live entertainment from the Phase 2 band and drinks and a taste of our local cuisine.

Thanks to all that came out to support this cultural experience and venture.

ISPS PTO



CHILD SAFETY MATTERS

About Our Guest Speaker:



Dr. Dennis Larkin has been a respected educator for over 40 years, including nearly two decades in international schools. As an administrator, he has been consistently recognized for his excellent leadership in and contributions to the field of international education.

Dr. Larkin has just completed a seven year tenure as head of school at the Lincoln Community School in Accra, Ghana. Dr. Larkin also served as the Superintendent at Shanghai American School (SAS), where he oversaw expansion in both enrollment and the physical campus.

Prior to heading SAS, he was Superintendent at the American International School of Riyadh. Other overseas assignments have included posts in schools in Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and India.

He has also served on many international Boards. As Board member and president of the Association of International Schools in Africa (AISA) and co-chair of the Child Protection Working Group that researched and authored the AISA Child Protection Handbook which has been widely circulated and acknowledged throughout the international school community.

Along with his wife, **Dr. Lois Engelbrecht**, he was instrumental in bringing awareness of Child Protection

to the forefront of international schools.

Dr. Engelbrecht whose professional career has been in international social work in community organization, social development and advocacy for children.

Dr. Engelbrecht founded the Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Sex Abuse and has carried this work to many countries around the world and has presented at regional conferences in Africa, Japan and Central Europe. Dr.

Engelbrecht also has worked individually with a number of schools to train faculty and parent communities as they develop comprehensive approaches to ensure a robust Child Protection Program at their school. As a career long advocate for Child Protection programs, Dr. Engelbrecht emphasizes the importance of international schools developing positive and supportive relationships with the professional resources of the host country .

The Event:

Child protection is very important to us at ISPS. As part of the training for staff, students and parents Dr. Dennis Larkin and Dr. Lois Engelbrecht will be presenting at a meeting for parents on **Monday 11th March from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the Cafeteria.**

Please make an effort to attend you will be able to ask questions and get an insight into our role in child protection.

VANDA GOMES

CHILD PROTECTION

Come get your questions answered on how to be a better safeguard.



Child protection is very important to us at ISPS.

Parent
Child Protection
Seminar

March 11, 2019
6:00pm - 8:00 pm

Dr. Dennis Larkin
&
Dr. Lois Engelbrecht

Please make an effort to attend you will be able to ask questions and get an insight into our role in child protection.

CARNIVAL HEALTH & SAFETY TIPS

Hello Everyone,

For those who will be playing mas or walking around town, be aware that you **SHOULD NOT**:

- accept drinks or food/ lifts from strangers
- give lifts to strangers
- travel alone, females should not enter a taxi with only men

Always:

- Stay with your group; avoid being alone.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Take a friend to stay nearby when you have to use public restrooms.
- Keep enough money to buy food , drinks and take a taxi. No unnecessary cash.



DO NOT accept drinks or food from strangers



Hints for masqueraders:

- Have a hearty breakfast.
- Apply sunscreen before going out and refresh during the day.
- If possible cover your head from the sun with a cap/hat or headpiece.
- Wear comfortable shoes/sneakers.
- Keep band aids for sore spots on your feet.
- At night soak your feet in warm water with some baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) or with Epsom salts.
- Keep well hydrated by drinking lots of water.
- Keep your own cup on a strap so that your hands are free.
- Keep valuables on your person e.g. car keys, money, etc. in a pouch around your waist or in your pockets.
- Do not wear valuable jewelry while walking around.

- Use the toilet facilities provided by your band. (Keeping it in all day is not good for your bladder)



Headed to the beach?:

If you are going to the beach please remember to protect your skin by using sunscreen, wearing a tee shirt if you are out in the direct sun for long periods and use a hat to protect your head, neck and face and use sunglasses.



NOTES
From the Nurse

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

ORDER NOW

**FINAL DATE FOR PHOTO ORDERS:
MARCH 15, 2019**

[Click here for the Order Form](#)



ISPS

2018 - 2019 Events Calendar



MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Carnival Jump-up & Parade of Bands 10:30-11:30am North Field 11:30am All School Dismissal	2
3	4 Carnival Monday NO SCHOOL	5 Carnival Tuesday NO SCHOOL	6 Ash Wednesday SCHOOL HOLIDAY	7 Teacher P.D. Day NO SCHOOL	8 Teacher P.D. Day NO SCHOOL Child Protection Workshop - All Staff 7:30am - 3:00pm	9 SATs 7:30-2:00pm
10	11 Child Protection Workshop - Students 7:30am - 2:30pm Various locations Child Protection Workshop - Parents 6:00 - 8:00pm	12	13	14	15 ES End of Term 2	16
17	18	19 MILO Games	20 PTO Meeting Debate Demonstration - Prison Debate Team 12:30 - 2:30pm	21 ES Term 1 Reports	22	23
24	25	26	27 CAISSA - Season 3 Ecuador	28 CAISSA - Season 3 Ecuador ES Student Led Conferences 11:30am - 3:00pm	29 CAISSA - Season 3 Ecuador End of Q3 MS/HS	30 CAISSA - Season 3 Ecuador Shouter Baptist Day NATIONAL HOLIDAY Grad Committee Fundraiser-Car Boot Sale 7:00am-12:00noon North Field / Parking
31 CAISSA - Season 3 Ecuador						

ISPS Steel Ensembles Exchange with Alaska

On February 16, there were a number of firsts for this year's ISPS Biannual Exchange with Alaska.

For the first time the event took place off campus (at Diamond Vale Government Primary School), included the ASA Beginner Steel as well as the intermediate ensemble, and included an external participant; The Diamond Vale Steel Ensemble.



The exchange involved a sharing of national as well as music cultures, as the Alaskan students' main purpose in visiting Trinidad and Tobago to explore the national culture; specifically our traditions and practices during the Carnival season.



Host venue and special guests,
the Diamond Vale Youth Ensemble

They, of course, shared a few of their national traditions and practices as well.



ISPS Lunch Menu

March 11—March 22

March 2019	Monday 11	Tuesday 12	Wednesday 13	Thursday 14	Friday 15
Proteins	Parmesan chicken in tomato sauce Or Fish Moqueca	Baked Chicken Or Cajun Fish with Tomato Salsa	Beef Meatballs Or Fish Fingers	Chicken Chimichurri Or Salsa Verdi Fish	Taco Station Mexican Chicken Blackened Fish
Starches	Linguini Pasta	Roasted Red Skin Potatoes	Herb Spaghetti	Potato Casserole	Condiments Mango salsa Tomato salsa Cabbage Slaw
Peas/Veggie	Garlic Toast	Steam Vegetables	Marinara Sauce	Baked Beans	Warm Tortilla Kettle Corn Dressing
Vegan	Vegetables Moqueca	BBQ Baked Bean	Soya Meatballs	Tofu Steaks	
Soup of the Day			Oxtail Soup		Vegetable Soup with Dumplings

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.

March 2019	Monday 18	Tuesday 19	Wednesday 20	Thursday 21	Friday 22
Proteins	Oven Fried Chicken Or Fish Kebabs	Breaded Chicken Strips Or Italian Baked Fish	Pineapple glazed chicken Or Lemon Fish	Curry Chicken Or Curry Fish	Tomato & Mozzarella Pizza
Starches	Elbow Pasta Salad	Sweet Potato Mash	Saffron Rice	Buss-Up Shot	Tomato & Mozzarella Pizza
Peas/Veggie	Grilled Vegetables	Mixed Greens Salad	Sautéed Vegetables	Pumpkin Choka Potato and Channa	Mixed Green Salad
Vegan	BBQ Beans	Pinto Beans Cassoulet	Pigeon Peas Stew	Curry Tofu	Tomato & Mozzarella Pizza
Soup of the Day			Split Pea Soup		Beef in Dumpling Soup