



THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



Dear Parents and Students

I believe that the photo that accompanies my introductory item this week says it all: **we have a truly fantastic PFO and PFO Committee here at IST!** I am sure that those of you who attended last Saturday's PFO Picnic will agree that it was a wonderful day, incredibly well organized and led by our dedicated PFO committee, and a fine testament to the spirit of community and voluntarism that characterizes our school. On behalf of us all I wish to extend a huge vote of thanks to the committee and to everyone else who helped make this a picnic to remember (including the school's maintenance staff and ayis!)



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One of our annual community highlights is our international or UN Day celebration. The theme for this year is based upon UN Sustainable Development Goal #16 and IST's own Community-wide goal for 2024-25 "cultivating reflective inquiry").



"Cultivating a climate of reflective inquiry; fostering a culture of peace."

I am sure that you will all agree that in the context of increasing political polarization and the many terrible conflicts currently afflicting our planet, this is a most worthy theme upon which to focus our attention.

At IST we also like to formalize connections between our chosen theme and IST's guiding statements, and in particular the IB Learner Profile. Please be sure to discuss the importance of these attributes of internationally minded global citizens with your children:

IST Community Members

- *show empathy, compassion and genuine interest and goodwill towards others. We reach out to others in a sincere desire to understand their experience, to make meaningful connections, and to cultivate peaceful and inclusive relationships (**friendly and caring**);*
- *pause to think critically about our assumptions and biases and the reasons behind our beliefs and decisions, and actions towards others. We analyze issues from multiple*



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viewpoints, seeking to understand diverse experiences and consider alternative solutions (**thinkers**); and

- *act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere to live in peace (**principled**).*

One of the highlights of our UN Day celebrations is the **UN Day Concert** and I wish to encourage families and community groups to consider sharing some aspect of their culture and country by way of performance. Please click on the following link to register interest in preparing a performance:

<https://forms.office.com/r/nUqScga0Qx> The deadline for the submission of concert item proposals is Tuesday 8 October, with auditions being held on Thursday/Friday 10/11 October between 3:30PM and 5:00PM.

At the beginning of each new school year the **IST Board of Governors** circulates a **welcome letter to the IST community** outlining its plans for the coming year and encouraging our community to continue to work together in the spirit of the school's mission and philosophy. This letter was circulated to all parents earlier today.

I wish all families a safe and enjoyable National Holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday 7 October.

Steve Moody
Director





The College Corner

The Importance of SAT for College Admission: A Guide for Parents



As your child embarks on their college preparation journey, grasping the significance of the SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test) is crucial. This standardized test plays a vital role in the college admissions process. Here are key points to keep in mind:

1. A Standard Measure of Readiness

The SAT provides colleges with a consistent way to evaluate students from diverse educational backgrounds. It assesses essential skills in reading, writing, and math, helping admissions officers determine a student's readiness for college-level coursework.

2. Influence on Admission Outcomes

Although the SAT is not the sole criterion for college acceptance, a strong score can significantly enhance a student's application. In competitive admissions environments, where many candidates have similar GPAs and extracurricular activities, a high SAT score can set your child apart.

3. Access to Scholarship Opportunities

Many colleges offer merit-based scholarships that are linked to SAT scores. Achieving a strong score can open doors to financial aid, making college more affordable.

4. Navigating Test-Optional Policies

An increasing number of colleges have adopted test-optional admissions, allowing students to choose whether to submit their SAT scores. However, for those who do submit, a solid score can still strengthen their application.

5. Preparation for Future Assessments

Studying for the SAT familiarizes students with standardized testing formats, which can be beneficial for future tests like the GRE, GMAT or other professional entrance exams.

Recommended Resources for SAT Practice

1. College Board Official SAT Practice

- Free access to practice tests and sample questions. <https://www.collegeboard.org/>

2. Khan Academy

- Personalized practice and instructional videos in partnership with the College Board. <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>



3. Official SAT Study Guide

- Book: “The Official SAT Study Guide” (published by the College Board) - This comprehensive guide includes real SAT questions from past exams, practice tests, and detailed answer explanations.

4. Official SAT Practice Tests

- PDFs Available at College Board - Download full-length, real SAT practice tests in PDF format directly from the College Board website.

5. The SAT Prep Black Book

- Book: “The SAT Prep Black Book” by Mike Barrett and Patrick Barrett- While not official, this book offers insights into test strategies and detailed explanations of how to tackle SAT questions effectively.

Utilizing these resources can empower your child to navigate the SAT and enhance their college application experience.



IST Library & Information Literacy Center

Our Mission

The IST Library is a friendly place where our community is inspired and challenged to think critically, read widely, act ethically, value creativity, and defend the right to access information.

Author Visit September 23 & 24

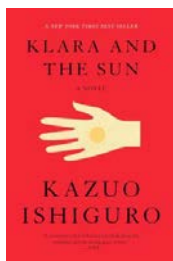


We were thrilled to welcome author Mo O'Hara to IST on the 23rd & 24th of September. During her two-day visit, she worked with students from Nursery to grade 9, engaging them with storytelling, drama, insight into the work of an author, and more.

We have several of O'Hara's books available in the IST library, including the *My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish* chapter book series and *Agent Moose* graphic novel series. If you would like to purchase any of her books, the order form is available on Toddle or in the library. Students who order her books can bring a copy of their online receipt and receive a signed sticker to put in their books when they are delivered.



Parent Book Club



Our next Parent Book Club selection is the novel *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro. We will meet in the library to discuss the book on **Thursday, November 7th**, in the IST library. The library has copies of the book in English, Chinese, German, and Korean. A digital copy in English or Chinese is also available upon request.

All interested parents are welcome to join us for a book discussion, coffee, and treats, even if you haven't had a chance to read the book.

Library hours: Monday to Thursday 7:30 to 4:30 | Friday 7:30 to 3:30



ISCOT Table Tennis Tournament at IST

We had an exciting time at IST hosting the first ISCOT Table Tennis tournament of the year! Our enthusiastic Primary Table Tennis students from grades 3 to 5 were eager to compete against their friends from Wellington and TEDA. Unfortunately, due to the rain, TEDA couldn't join us, but that didn't stop the fun!

It turned into a friendly competition between IST and Wellington, and we saw some fantastic sportsmanship on display. The students kept their own scores and even acted as their own referees! A special shoutout to the grade 4 students from both schools for managing the schedule so well. Great job, grade 4!

Overall, the tournament was a success. While IST won a few more matches, the focus was on having fun and connecting with other schools. A big thank you to Wellington for coming to IST. It was wonderful to host you!

Kind greetings,

Ben Silvis
Athletics and Activities Director





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This was a busy week for our sports teams as our MS Footballers attended football exchanges in Beijing and our High School Volleyball teams took on TEDA. Our Football teams will also play TEDA at home on Thursday, but this will be in next week's report. Here is a quick summary of the football exchanges and the Volleyball matches that took place over the last week.

Monday 23 September – HS Boys Volleyball IST vs TEDA

In our recent away game against TEDA, IST took the opportunity to experiment with a new formation, aiming to refine our rotations and positions. This strategic shift was intended to enhance our gameplay, but nerves got the better of us as we stepped onto the court.



From the outset, we struggled to find our rhythm. The unfamiliarity with the new setup led to several unforced errors, which proved costly. Despite our efforts to adjust, TEDA's strong defense stifled our attempts to mount a comeback, allowing them to take both sets comfortably.

Throughout the match, we showcased moments of determination and teamwork, and while the final score didn't reflect our potential, we learned valuable lessons about communication and adaptability. This experience will undoubtedly help us as we continue to work on our formation and grow as a cohesive unit. We look forward to applying what we've learned in our upcoming matches! (Mr Silvis)

Monday 23 September – HS Girls Volleyball IST vs TEDA



The HS volleyball girls delivered a strong performance against TEDA, winning the match 2 sets to 0. Though they faced early challenges in both sets, allowing the home team to take the lead, the girls rallied back with determination to secure victory in each set. This match highlighted their resilience, but it also underscored the need for improved consistency and focus as they aim to maintain their momentum throughout future games. Overall, it was a promising display of teamwork and potential as we continue to prepare for the upcoming ACAMIS tournament at the end of October. (Ms Lily)

Saturday 21 September – MS Football Girls Exchange @ BWYA

The MS girls' football exchange at BWYA showcased a spirited display of talent and determination. In their first match against KWA, the girls fought back from an early setback to secure a thrilling 1-1 draw, highlighted by a well-executed throw-in leading to a goal from Rio. The second game against BIBA was fiercely contested, with IST narrowly missing opportunities in the first half, ultimately losing 0-3 despite a strong effort. In their final match against BSB, the girls faced the tournament's toughest team but held their ground, finishing the game at 0-2 after a commendable second-half performance that kept the opponents scoreless. Overall, the girls demonstrated resilience and teamwork throughout the day, making the event a memorable experience. (Mr. Williams)





Saturday 21 September – MS Football Boys Exchange @ BCIS

The MS boys football exchange at BCIS was a valuable learning experience filled with growth and teamwork. In their first match, despite a narrow 0-1 loss to YCIS, the team showcased strong individual performances, particularly from captain and goalkeeper Tjan, and effective contributions from players like Jordan and Adem. The second game against the home team proved challenging, resulting in a 0-2 defeat, but allowed the boys to experiment with different positions and identify their strengths on the field. We were out skilled in the final match, and while it ended in a tough loss, the game emphasized skill development and camaraderie, with players enjoying their fixed positions and focusing on dribbling and passing techniques. Overall, the exchange fostered resilience and personal growth among the players and we look forward to improving more throughout the season. (Mrs. Bekkenk)



With the holidays coming up, our student-athletes will get some well-deserved rest, however, they will hit the road running when they return as our HS Volleyball teams host Wellington on Monday 07 October and our MS football teams travel to take on Wellington on Tuesday 08 October. This is quickly followed by tournaments for our HS VB team and MS Badminton teams on Saturday 12 October. Please support our teams as they continue to work on improving their skills and do their best to promote IST on the sports fields.

GOOOOO BLAZE!!!!!!

Byron Kennedy
Athletic Director



Global Citizenship Spotlight at IST

In today's interconnected world, cultivating global citizenship is essential for empowering our students to thrive as responsible and engaged members of society. Beginning this year, IST aims to highlight the importance of global citizenship within our school community, encouraging students, teachers, and parents to explore diverse cultures, understand global issues, and develop empathy for others. Each month, a Global Citizenship Spotlight will be presented, showcasing our collective efforts and initiatives within the IST community.

The Global Citizenship Spotlight for September focused on **Leadership and Inclusion**. Activities and events at IST that exemplified these themes included the Elementary and Secondary Student Council elections, where students actively participated in the democratic process, learning about leadership roles and the importance of inclusive decision-making. Additionally, workshops were held to foster discussions around respect and understanding, enabling students to share experiences and perspectives that promote a sense of belonging.

Looking ahead, we will explore various themes each month, such as **Diversity, Global Issues, Cultural Awareness, Ethics and Equity and Service**, linking them to ongoing classroom learning and broader events in our community. Through these spotlights, we aim to inspire our students to take meaningful action, engage with global challenges, and collaborate with one another to build a more equitable and compassionate world. Join us in this journey as we celebrate our collective efforts and strive to make a positive impact both on campus and beyond!

For October, our Global Citizenship Spotlight will focus on **Diversity**, celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures, perspectives, and experiences within our IST community. This theme will align with our UN Day celebrations, highlighting the importance of inclusivity and global awareness. Additionally, Library Week will feature activities that promote diverse literature and voices, encouraging students to explore stories from around the world. A variety of other events and actions throughout the month will further engage our community in discussions and initiatives that honor and celebrate our differences, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of diversity. Join us as we embrace this vital aspect of global citizenship!



Juilliard Outreach Creates Opportunities for IST Musicians

Last weekend, music students from IST's elementary, middle, and high school, along with their parents, were invited to attend an open dress rehearsal by graduate students from Tianjin Juilliard. The concert, which featured Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet* and Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, was a rare glimpse behind the scenes of how professional performers rehearse and what directors think about as they practice and perform.

Before the rehearsal began, everyone participated in a brief class where students learned about the different musical symbolism used in each piece. They explored how Tchaikovsky used distinct musical themes to represent the love and conflict in *Romeo and Juliet* and how music can be used to tell a story all on its own. This interactive mini-lesson helped students understand the composers' intentions and enhanced their appreciation of the performance.

Watching the Juilliard performers bring these pieces to life on stage was inspiring, and experiencing the care and skill that professionals use when performing was truly eye-opening. The dramatic intensity of *Romeo and Juliet* and the playful, magical atmosphere of *Hansel and Gretel* kept everyone on the edge of their seats. This unique outing provided a wonderful opportunity to experience the power of music and storytelling, and we look forward to more enriching collaborations in the future!





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Elementary Student Council

We are thrilled to announce the results of the Elementary Student Council officer elections after a fierce and exciting campaign period. These dedicated students were chosen by their peers to represent our school community.

- President: Chloe Wang
- Vice President: Queena He
- Secretary: Angela Lu
- Treasurer: Max Ma
- Communication Officer: Curtis Liu

While all of our candidates have demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities, our newly elected officers have shown their classmates a strong willingness to commitment to our school community, and a passion for making a positive impact. We are confident that they will represent our school with enthusiasm and dedication.

Well done to all of our ESC representatives, candidates and officers! We all look forward to your contributions to our Elementary Student Council.

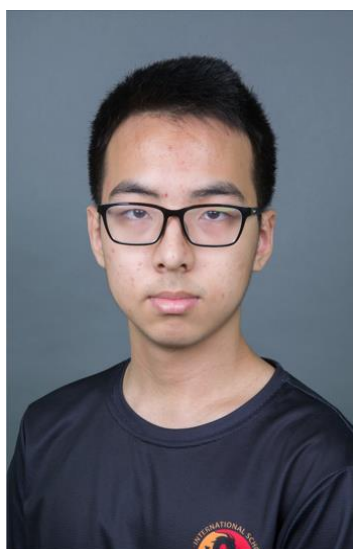




Secondary Student Council

We are excited to announce the Secondary Student Council Officers elected by their peers to represent secondary and lead the Secondary Student Council for 2024 – 2025. We recognize the courage and commitment of all candidates involved in the election process and wish our newly elected officers luck in the tasks ahead. We are confident that all of you will positively impact our school community.

- **President:** Bowen Chen
- **Vice President:** Hee Yu Cho
- **Treasurer:** Manaka Kawamura



President: Bowen
Chen



Vice President:
Hee Yu Cho



Treasurer: Manaka
Kawamura



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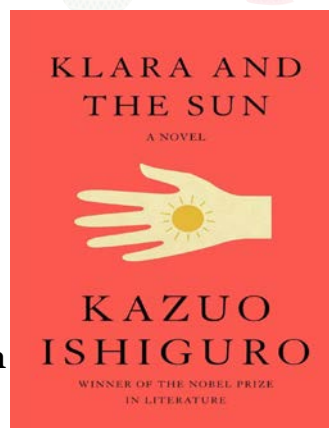
Come along to our monthly meet ups to discuss books and enjoy coffee & cakes!

This month's book is *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro. The library has copies in English, Chinese, German and Korean.

Our next meeting is November 7th at 8.30am in the Library.

Even if you haven't read the book come along.

Book suggestions welcome. Hope to see you there!





Weekly Menu

23 Sept~27 Sept



Type	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Snack	Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Mini Pizza Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Cheese Sandwich Fruit Cut
Set Meal	Pizza Margherita 芝士比萨 Stir fry Vegetables 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, cheese</i>	Baked Rice with Sausage 香肠芝士饭 Stir Fried Cabbage 炒洋白菜 <i>Allergy: milk, cheese</i>	Pork Dumplings 猪肉白菜水饺 Sweet Corn and Vegetables 玉米粒炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>	Kimbab 韩式饭卷 Stir fry Vegetables 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: sesame</i>	Teriyaki Chicken 日式照烧鸡排 Cauliflower with Tomato Sauce 番茄菜花 <i>Allergy: breadcrumb</i>
Fruit	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day
Nutritional reading over the week 每周营养分析		Energy 热量 (Kcal) 710	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 25	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 105	Fat 脂肪 (g) 20

Weekly Menu

7 Oct~11 Oct

Type	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Snack	Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Steamed Dumplings Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Ham Sandwich Fruit Cut
Set Meal	Stir Fry Noodles 炒面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 <i>Allergy: wheat, cheese</i>	Chicken Curry 咖喱鸡肉 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 <i>Allergy: coconut, milk</i>	Pork Rolls 猪肉卷 Sweet Corn and Vegetables 玉米粒炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>	Chicken Burger 鸡肉汉堡 Roasted Potatoes 烤土豆 <i>Allergy: wheat, mayonnaise</i>	Baked Beef Macaroni 小弯牛肉面 Stir Fry Zucchini and Corn 西葫芦玉米 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>
Fruit	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day
Nutritional reading over the week 每周营养分析		Energy 热量 (Kcal) 715	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 26	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 102	Fat 脂肪 (g) 19

Weekly Menu

7 Oct~11 Oct

Type	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Salad/ Fruit	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day
Western Food	Parmigiana Eggplant 意式芝士烤茄子 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 Mashed Potatoes 土豆泥 <i>Allergy: milk, wheat, cheese</i>	Chicken and Ham Roll 火腿芝士鸡肉卷 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Potatoes 烤土豆 <i>Allergy: cheese, soy sauce</i>	Chili Con Carne 墨西哥炒牛肉馅 Steamed Black Beans 蒸黑豆 Steamed Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: beef, soy sauce</i>	Chicken Burger 鸡肉汉堡 French Fries 薯条 <i>Allergy: wheat, mayonnaise</i>	Beef Goulash 红烩牛肉 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 Steamed Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: beef, herb</i>
Asian Food	Stir Fried Tomato with Egg 西红柿鸡蛋 Stir Fried Potatoes with Green Pepper 青椒土豆丝 Steamed Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: egg, soy sauce</i>	Stir Fried Pork with Chili 韩式辣椒炒猪肉 Stir fry Cabbage 炒洋白菜 Steamed Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: chili</i>	Stir Fried Chicken with Lemon 柠檬炒鸡 Stir fry Vegetables 炒时蔬 Steamed Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: soya sauce</i>	Pork stewed with potatoes 猪肉炖土豆 Stir fry Vegetables 炒时蔬 Plain Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: soy sauce</i>	Indonesia Fried Rice with Chicken 印尼炒米饭配鸡肉 Stir fry Vegetables 炒时蔬 Shrimp Cracker 虾片 <i>Allergy: samba sauce, egg, shrimp cracker</i>
Noodle Dishes	Noodle in Korean Bean Paste or Chili Pasta 韩式炸酱面/火鸡面 Fried Eggs 煎鸡蛋 <i>Allergy: wheat, egg, pork</i>	Noodles with Pork Soup 豚骨拉面 boiled Vegetable 煮蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, pork</i>	Pork Stewed in Pita Bread 白吉馍夹五花肉 Cucumber Salad 拌粉丝黄瓜 <i>Allergy: wheat, soy sauce</i>	Noodles with Seafood Broth 三鲜打卤面 boiled Vegetable 煮蔬菜 <i>Allergy: dried tofu, shrimp, soy sauce</i>	Eggplant with Ground Pork 火饼茄夹 Cabbage Salad 拌洋白菜 <i>Allergy: pork, eggplant</i>
Vegetarian		Noodle with Tomato Sauce 番茄面	Vegetables in Pita Bread 饼夹蔬菜	Noodles in Vegetable Sauce 打卤素面	Fried Rice with Vegetable 蔬菜炒饭
Soup	Tomato and Egg Soup 西红柿鸡蛋汤	Noodle with Tomato Sauce 番茄面	Red Bean Soup 红豆汤	Vegetable and Egg Soup 蔬菜鸡蛋汤	Tomato and Egg Soup 西红柿鸡蛋汤
Dessert	Banana Bread 香蕉包	Cookies 饼干	Chocolate Cake 巧克力蛋糕	Carrot Cake 胡萝卜蛋糕	Fruit Tart 水果塔
Nutritional reading over the week 每周营养分析		Energy 热量 (Kcal) 769	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 26	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 105	Fat 脂肪 (g) 21



DIARY DATES

Monday~Friday - September 30~October 4, 2024
National Holiday

Monday~Friday - October 21~25, 2024
Library Week

Monday - October 21, 2024
Scholarship Announcement

Tuesday~Wednesday - October 22~23, 2024
Parent-Teacher Conferences (Afternoon)
Fall Book Fair

Thursday - October 24, 2024
UN Day

Friday - October 25, 2024
Dress-Up Day

SPORTS DATES

Monday, 7 October
HS Volleyball v WEL-Boys & Girls @ IST

Tuesday, 8 October
MS Football v WEL-Boys & Girls @ WEL

Saturday, 12 October
ISCOT HS VB Tournament-Boys @ IST; Girls @
TEDA

Saturday, 12 October
ISCOT MS Badminton Tournament@TIS

Wednesday, 16 October
ISCOT Cross Country (G3-12)(12:00-
15:30)@IST

Thursday, 17 October
MS Football v TIS Boys & Girls @ IST

WELCOME TO THE IST SPORTS AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCA) PROGRAM FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Please take note of the following dates:

Season 1 Sport Schedule

- ☺ Starts Monday, 2 Sep and ends Friday, 15 Nov
- ☺ The program will run for approximately 10 school weeks
- ☺ No CCAs during holidays and PTSCs (conferences)

Please do not hesitate to contact our department with any questions.

- ☺ Mr. Kennedy – Athletics Director (byron_kennedy@istianjin.org.cn)
- ☺ Mr. Silvis – Activities Director (ben_silvis@istianjin.org.cn)
- ☺ Ms. Guo Ying – Activities Officer (CCA's) (ying_guo@istianjin.org.cn)
- ☺ Ms. Durian Wang – Activities Officer (Sports) (durian_wang@istianjin.org.cn)
- ☺ Activity Office: telephone 022-28592003 / extension 8150.