



THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



Dear Parents

As mentioned last week, our seniors (G12) have spent the past week undertaking ‘**mock’ IB Diploma examinations**—a series of practice exams that seek to mirror, as closely as possible, the upcoming final examinations in April and May, thereby better preparing students for the significant challenge ahead. The results of these examinations will provide students and teachers alike with valuable insights into their preparedness for the finals, thus allowing the next two months to be strategically targeted towards helping students achieve to the best of their abilities. Congratulations to our Seniors on a terrific effort this week – be sure to enjoy some restful downtime this weekend!

Parents will all be aware that our school is currently in the process of preparing for a synchronized three-party team evaluation visit in May by our three accrediting agencies, the IB, CIS, and WASC. As part of our work towards the visit, and towards the future, teachers, staff, students, and parents have been working on a range of curriculum related projects, including what we are referring to as **Project 4: ‘Student Agency and Duties of Citizenship’**. One of the outcomes of this global citizenship-oriented project is the development of a ‘**community curriculum**’ that seeks to bring together and engage all members of our community in structured efforts to achieve common, shared purposes.

Part of this process involves the annual setting of a **community-wide goal** (see link in the Contents menu) that encourages parents to reinforce some of the international mindedness messaging that we promote at school ... I trust that you have discussed the goal of cultivating a climate of reflective inquiry with your children! The new community curriculum initiative is also seeking to provide a parallel structure that reinforces the community-wide goal with other **key elements of our school’s commitment to global citizenship**, which include eight conceptual domains and associated learning experiences related to ‘**Leadership and Inclusion**’, ‘**Diversity**’, ‘**Global Issues**’, ‘**Communication**’, ‘**Service**’, ‘**Sustainable Lifestyles**’, ‘**China and Tianjin Context**’, and ‘**Ethics and Equity**’.

Each month we will now highlight one of these eight key domains for community-wide reflection and inquiry (as per the annual goal), and **this month the focus is on ‘Ethics and Equity’**. Ethics relate to the moral principles that govern our daily behavior as world citizens, and equity to the moral quality of being fair and impartial in our treatment of others, including the distribution of resources and opportunity. I encourage all IST community members to think about, inquire and reflect on these notions, and to take time to help your children understand how these concepts impact our lives as members of families and communities, both here in China and beyond.

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Another important opportunity for reflective inquiry and learning will take place during the three **parent educational forums that will follow the PFO Meeting next Wednesday morning**. Presentations include Action and Service Learning (Ms. Bekkenk), Creative and Writing Processes (Mr. Schaaf), and Time Management (Ms. Jiang). I encourage all parents to come into school to engage in these community building information sessions!

Finally, please note that **we will be sending out a very quick parent survey on Monday** asking that you provide us with an early indication of your likeliness to have your children return to IST next school year, or not. The survey is 'non-binding' and simply provides us with important data on what enrolment is likely to look like, and this is obviously important for the school in determining our budget and our staffing allocation. You are asked to please indicate whether you are likely to return, are undecided, or likely to leave IST next year. We will then release another survey later in the year, by which time we hope undecided parents in particular will be more able to confirm their plans. Please do complete the survey ... it will literally take you less than one minute!

I wish you all a most enjoyable and relaxing weekend, especially with the weather warming up considerably!

Steve Moody
Director





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Gratitude: A Key to Well-Being

At IST, we focus on the well-being of our students, and this week, we want to emphasize the importance of gratitude within the PERMA model, which stands for Positive Emotion, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning, and Accomplishment. Practicing gratitude can greatly enhance our daily lives. By taking a moment to appreciate the people and experiences around us, we can boost our positive emotions and feel more joy and contentment. This practice helps us connect better with friends and family and encourages us to engage fully in our activities. Recognizing what we're thankful for can also bring greater meaning to our lives and a stronger sense of accomplishment. We encourage all students to take a moment each day to reflect on what they are grateful for—it can truly make a difference in your well-being!

This week's Parent Partnership includes some gratitude prompts for you to enjoy together with your children.

IST Counseling

GRATITUDE PROMPTS

1. A **strength** of mine for which I am grateful is...
2. Something **money can't buy** that I'm grateful for is...
3. Something that **comforts me** that I'm grateful for is...
4. Something that's **funny** for which I'm grateful for is...
5. Something **in nature** that I'm grateful for is...
6. A **memory** I'm grateful for is....
7. Something that **changes** that I'm grateful for is....
8. A **challenge** I'm grateful for is....
9. Something **interesting** that I'm grateful for is...
10. Something **beautiful** I'm grateful for is...

IST Counseling Office



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BALANCED

We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, (spiritual) and emotional—to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

DP Coordinator: ellie_chuah@istianjin.org.cn
College Counsellor: ambika_GB@istianjin.org.cn

DP OPTION afternoon

Date and Venue

26 February 2025

2:30 - 4:15 pm

Han Teacher Centre

Event

Information on subject selection conditions and the opportunity to speak with subject teachers, the DP Coordinator, and the College Counsellor.

Bus Info

13:30 pick-up from Olympic Tower

13:50 pick-up from Aocheng

16:15 return from IST



INTERNATIONAL
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OFFICIAL EVENT:
MARCH 28, 2025



AUDITIONS IN
LATE FEBRUARY





Calling All IST Alumni in Singapore!

Mark your calendars for 21st March because we have an exciting opportunity to reconnect with the IST family!

Mr Moody, Mr Conway, Ms Chuah, Ms McCord, and Ms Suarez from the International School of Tianjin are coming to Singapore and would love to meet YOU!

This is your chance to catch up with old friends, share your post-IST adventures, and celebrate the amazing network of our alumni community. Details on the time and location will be announced soon – stay tuned!

If you are interested in joining, let us know by filling out this quick survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/vWDrRsqqcU> or contacting us via IST's official WeChat account.

Let's relive the IST spirit and create more wonderful memories together. We cannot wait to see you there!



Gui Zhou Trip

MARCH 29 TO APRIL 3

ESTIMATED COST RANGING FROM ¥3,600 TO ¥4,700,
DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS.

EDUCATION

Enhance awareness and education on gender equality, menstrual health, and mental and physical wellness through engaging workshops.

hosted by Redefining Pink x Chromatics:
Bernie & Min Hee

READING INTEREST

Engaging with children in rural areas through reading activities that promote creative expression and cultural learning.

hosted by Inspire Beyond Books:
You Yang & Molly

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

Exciting outdoor games and activities that foster teamwork and coordination, offering a refreshing break from academic sessions through a series of enjoyable outdoor experiences.

hosted by Brown & Lucas

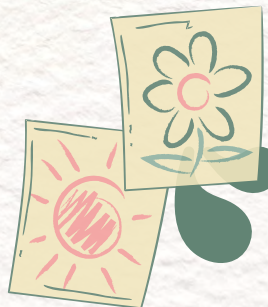
Through hands-on service projects, you'll directly contribute to the local community while experiencing personal growth and the joy of giving back. It's a unique blend of travel, purpose, and connection—an experience that will leave a lasting impact on both you and those you serve.

Scan the QR code if you are interested in joining this trip!

Students' interest in participating the Guizhou Trip



If you're interested in joining us, please scan the QR code and fill in the survey! Spots are limited to 10 students, so don't miss this chance to make a meaningful impact! 💡🌍





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.

Panda Book Awards

Voting is now open for the Panda Book Awards! All parents, students, and teachers are invited to vote for their favorite Panda Books (*students in kindergarten to grade 5 will vote during their library classes*). Please scan the QR code to cast your vote for your favorite!

The Panda Book Awards is a reading initiative which invites students and teachers from participating international schools in China and beyond to vote for their favorite book published in the previous school year.



February is Love of Reading Month

We are celebrating our love of books and reading for “Love of Reading” month in February. Stop by the library for a “Blind Date with a Book” or to check out IST Elementary’s favorite books!



Parent Book Club

Our next Parent Book Club selection is the novel *The Memory Police* by Yoko Ogawa. We will meet in the library to discuss the book on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 8:30 am. The library has copies of the book in English, Chinese, Korean, and German. 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



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**CCA REGISTRATION OPEN
17 - 24 FEB**

Sign-up on
SchoolsBuddy
Scan to
register



**Not sure which
to choose?**

Don't worry you have a whole week to sign up.
We don't follow first come first serve protocol.
Here are the most popular activities that
received 100% satisfaction in our survey:

**BADMINTON
FLAG FOOTBALL
JUDO**



Help needed?
Contact Activity
email through this
code.



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Dear Community,

I am happy to invite you to the Art Exhibition which concludes the CCA session of Art Through Time that your children participated in during CCA Session 2!

During the CCA they all learned about 4 distinct art movements and worked hard to create their own artwork based on one of these themes. Join us in the exhibition to find out more information about Art History and appreciate the creativity and newly gained skills that these students will tell you all about!

When?: Wednesday, 26th of February, 14:30

Where?: Elementary Foyer

ART THROUGH TIME

ART EXHIBITION

POP ART

FAUVISM

IMPRESSIONISM

MANDALA

2025
26
2
Wed
14:30-15:30

@ELEMENTARY FOYER

GRADE 4
JIA CHOI
SI YEONG (SERENA) NI

GRADE 5
HA JUNG KIM
JI MIN KIM
GRACE LIN
HAYEON (RUBY) PARK



Join Us For Our Next ...

Parent Teacher Forum

Working Together For Our
Common Future

TOPIC TO DISCUSS

10:05-10:40
What is Action, Service & Learning - Ms. Bekken
Creative & Writing Processes - Mr. Schaaf

10:40-11:20
Time Management - Ms. Jiang

11:20-12:00
How to Get Your Child to Love Reading - Ms. Simon
How Physical Health Fuels Academic Achievement
- Mr. Silvis

**FEB
19TH
Han TC**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



PFO Meeting
Please come and
join in!

Wednesday
19th February

8:15 - Coffee and Korean snacks

9:00 - Elementary student council present

9:10 - Director & principal introduction

9:30 - Grade 4 students perform recorder

9:45 - Upcoming events with PFO

10:00 - Parent education forum





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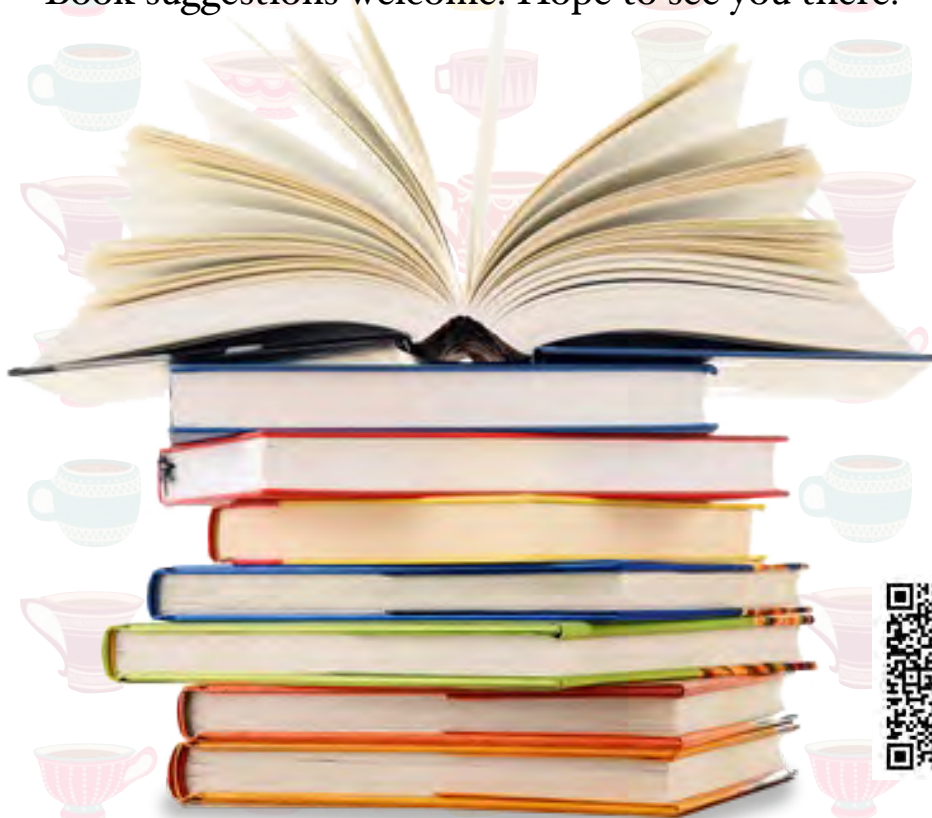
Come along to our monthly meet ups to discuss books and enjoy coffee & cakes!

This month's book is *The Memory Police* by Yoko Ogawa. The library has copies in English, Chinese, and Korean.

Our next meeting is Thursday February 27th at 8.30am in the Library.

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

Book suggestions welcome. Hope to see you there!





INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

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All items will be 5
RMB each

PFO Bake Sale

Wednesday February 26th
9:00am - 12:00pm

One stand in Atomic Cafe
One stand in kindergarten entrance

All proceeds go towards the PFO



INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL of TIANJIN






Weekly

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PFO FLOWER CLASS

-  27th Feb 2025
-  START AT 10:00
-  ACTIVITY COST: 120 RMB
-  NON-REFUNDABLE POLICY
-  ELEMENTARY MEETING ROOM

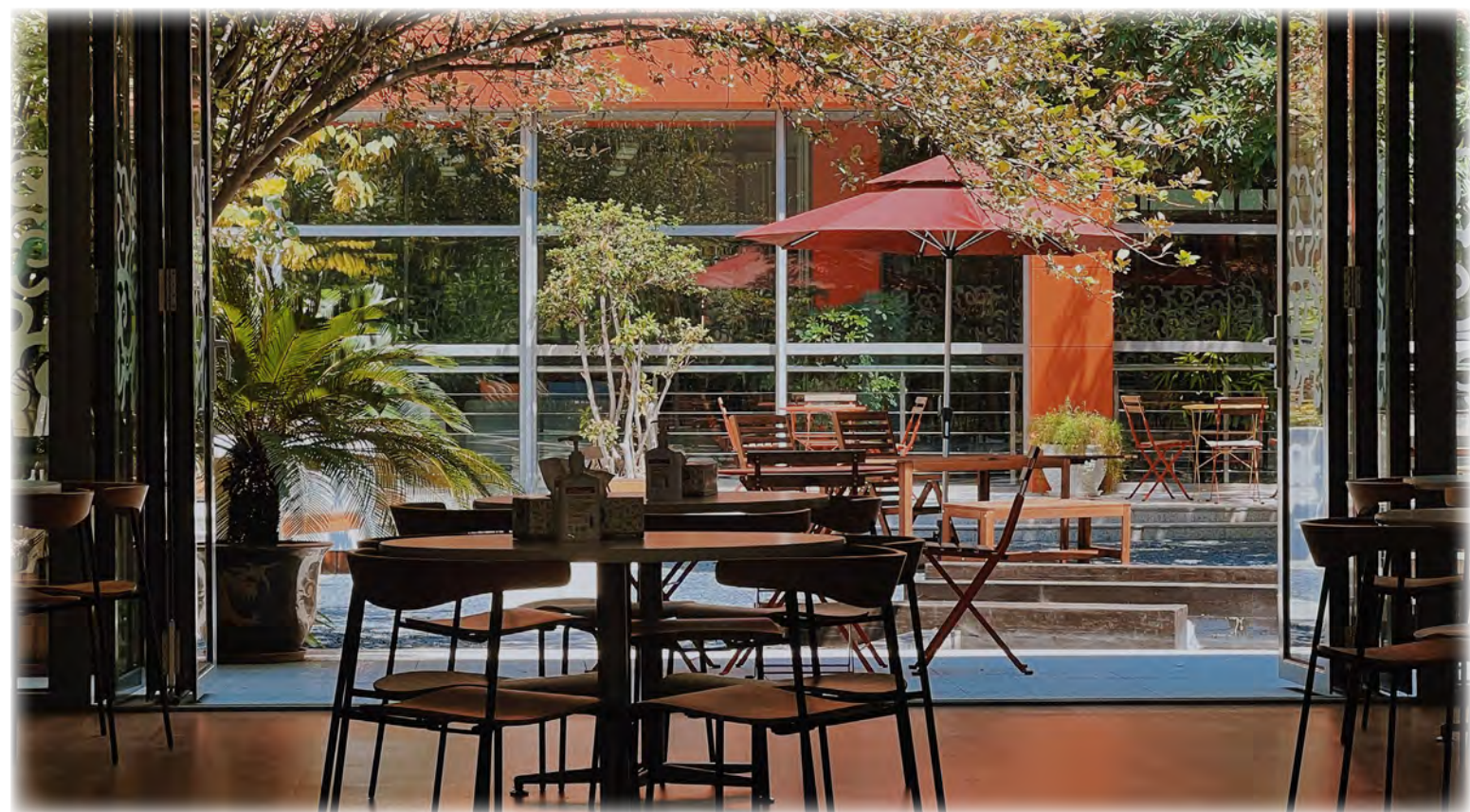




Community-wide Goal: Cultivating a Climate of Reflective Inquiry (IBLP)

As an internationally minded school community, we will strive to develop learners who thoughtfully consider the world and their own ideas and experiences. We will work together to cultivate a culture of reflective inquiry where all members of our community:

- Carefully consider their own learning and growth.
- Analyze issues from multiple viewpoints, seeking to understand diverse experiences and consider alternative solutions.
- Learn from mistakes and failures, using setbacks as opportunities for deeper learning and development.
- Pause to think critically about assumptions, biases, and the reasons behind one's beliefs and decisions.
- Engage in ongoing self-assessment, setting goals for continued intellectual, social, and personal development.





Weekly Menu (N-G2) 17 ~21 Feb

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Mini Pizza Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Cheese Sandwich Fruit Cut
Pizza Margherita 芝士比萨 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, cheese</i>	Steamed Pork Dumplings 小笼包 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>	Spaghetti Bolognese 番茄肉酱面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: beef, cheese</i>	Hamburger 牛肉汉堡 French Fries 薯条 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>	Chicken Finger 炸鸡条 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Potatoes 烤土豆 <i>Allergy: breadcrumb</i>
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) 716	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 25	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 106	Fat 脂肪 (g) 22

24 ~ 28 Feb

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Steamed Dumplings Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Ham Sandwich Fruit Cut
Macaroni and Cheese 芝士小弯面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: soya sauce, wheat</i>	Pork Dumplings 猪肉水饺 Stir fry Corn 炒玉米粒 <i>Allergy: soya sauce, wheat</i>	Chicken Teriyaki 照烧鸡排 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: soy sauce, breadcrumb</i>	Hot Dog 热狗 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat</i>	Chicken Quesadilla 鸡肉芝士饼 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, cheese</i>
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) 720	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 26	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 102	Fat 脂肪 (g) 23

Weekly Menu (G3-G12) 17~21 Feb

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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
Pizza Margherita 芝士比萨 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Sweet Potatoes 烤地瓜 <i>Allergy: wheat, cheese</i>	Chicken Stewed French Style 芥末奶油鸡 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 Mashed Potatoes 土豆泥 <i>Allergy: milk, mustard</i>	Spaghetti Bolognese 肉酱面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <i>Allergy: beef, cheese, milk</i>	Hamburger 牛肉汉堡 French Fries 薯条 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>	Sausage and Potato Stew 西班牙风味香肠炖土豆 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 Pasta 意大利面 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>
Stir Fried Eggplant 红烧茄子 Cabbage and Tofu Stew 白菜炖冻豆腐 Fried Egg 虎皮鸡蛋 <i>Allergy: egg, soya sauce</i>	Stir Fried Shrimp with Gluten 虾仁独面筋 Deep Fried Green beans 干煸豆角 <i>Allergy: soya sauce, shrimp</i>	Chicken Teriyaki 日式照烧鸡排 Stir Fried Vegetables 炒时蔬 <i>Allergy: soya sauce, breadcrumb</i>	Korean Soybean paste Soup 大酱汤 Plain Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: soya sauce, chili</i>	Sweet and Sour Chicken 糖醋鸡柳 Stir fry Potatoes with Green Pepper 青椒土豆丝 Green Vegetables 炒青菜 <i>Allergy: garlic, soya sauce</i>
Noodles with Tomato and Egg Sauce 番茄鸡蛋面 Dried Tofu with Green Pepper 青椒土豆丝 <i>Allergy: wheat, egg</i>	Stir Fried Pork in Pita Bread 京酱肉丝配荷叶饼 Mixed Vegetables 素什锦/蕨根粉 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>	Steamed Pork and Chinese Cabbage Dumplings 猪肉白菜包子 Cabbage Salad 麻酱拌牛筋面/拌洋白菜 <i>Allergy: sesame, wheat</i>	Noodles with Spicy Chicken 大盘鸡配宽面 Stir Fry Green Vegetables 炒青菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, soy sauce</i>	Noodles in Beef Soup 番茄牛肉面 Boiled Vegetable 煮蔬菜 <i>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</i>
	Stir Fried Vegetables in Pita Bread 荷叶饼夹蔬菜	Vegetable Dumplings 蔬菜包	Vegetable Soybean Soup 蔬菜大酱汤	Noodles in Tomato Soup 番茄汤面
Tomato and Egg Soup 西红柿鸡蛋汤	Pumpkin Soup 南瓜汤	Red Bean and Job's Tears Soup 红豆薏米水	Vegetable and Egg Soup 蔬菜鸡蛋汤	Millet Congee 小米粥
Banana Bread 香蕉包	Cookies 饼干	Swiss Roll 瑞士卷	Apple Pie 苹果派	Rice Balls 糯米糍
Nutritional reading over the week 每周营养分析	Energy 热量 (Kcal) 782	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 29	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 107	Fat 脂肪 (g) 23



DIARY DATES

Saturday - Feb 22, 2025
Scholarship Exams

Wednesday - Feb 26, 2025
DP Option

Wednesday - Mar 5, 2025
Scholarship Interviews

Wednesday - Mar 12, 2025
PYP Exhibition

Friday~Sunday - Mar 14~16, 2025
DIMUN

Wednesday~Thursday - Mar 26~27, 2025
Parent-Teacher Conferences (Afternoon)

Thursday - Mar 27, 2025
DP Arts Exhibition

SPORTS DATES

19-Feb (Wed)
ISCOT Chess (G4-12)
(12:00-15:30) WEL

24-Feb (Mon)
HS Football v WEL Boys & Girls @ WEL

3-Mar (Mon)
HS Football v TEDA Boys & Girls @ IST

4-Mar (Tues)
MS Basketball v TEDA
Boys & Girls @ TEDA

7-Mar (Fri)
ISCOT ES Badminton (12:00-15:30)
TIS (WELL Backup)

8-Mar (Sat)
ISAC HS Badminton
Boys @ WAB; Girls @ ISB

10-Mar (Mon)
HS 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 2 Sport Schedule

- ☺ Starts Monday, 25 Nov and ends Friday, 28 Feb
- ☺ 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.