

**2023-24 IST Community-wide Goal: Understanding and Promoting the Diversity of Knowledge (IBLP)**

Our community welcomes and values the multiplicity of interests, ideas, and beliefs and values that exist within our international community living here in Tianjin, and beyond, and we are committed to providing a safe, open-minded, and inclusive environment for all. In embracing physical and socio-cultural diversity, we also champion diversity of thought and the critical thinking and open-minded inquiry and learning across a range of topics and disciplines that deepens conceptual understanding and intellectual growth and independence. We listen carefully when considering alternative points of view, and we are willing to grow and change as a result of sincere intellectual inquiry and discourse. We will engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance, we challenge injustice, and we take personal and professional responsibility for our roles, responsibilities and actions, and their consequences.

Dear Parents

As you know we have had an incredibly busy week here at school with representatives from two of our accreditation agencies (CIS and WASC) visiting to validate our self-study report and the numerous standards that are used to rate the quality of international schools. We won't receive the full written report for another six weeks or so, but the team did share some general findings with our leadership team yesterday just prior to their departure. A few of the key findings included:

- Ours perhaps was the best prepared and organized visit and report that either of the visitors has seen!
- We are well ahead in our work towards the next stage of the new 'Pathway 2' accreditation protocol and process (visit in May 2025), much further than any other school so far;
- The school easily meets or exceeds all standards;
- We have a magnificent campus (and so clean and green!);
- Our programmes are very well developed and, in many instances, cutting edge;
- Both our staff and our parents are highly engaged and committed;
- We have amazing students who exude authentic pride in their school and the opportunities it affords them;
- AND, they asked the question: "Why are some heritage families leaving IST to go to the USA or England ... don't they realise IST is better (they really did say that, and I agree ... never too late to change one's mind!)"

I want to thank all the staff, students and parents who committed time this week to meet with our visitors and to share thoughts and feelings with them about our school. We really do have a school and community that we can feel justly proud of!

Our Grade 12 students continue to work their way through their final examinations (some even finished today) and I wanted to remind all parents that you are invited to attend the graduation ceremony at 4PM in the Han Theatre on Friday 24 May ... in just two weeks! Please do come along to celebrate the completion of their secondary studies, and please give them some final words of encouragement over the coming week as the later finishers complete their exams.

Every year as our school prepares to bid a fond farewell to our graduating Seniors, we like to recognise two individual students and to highlight their achievements in front of the entire school community by bestowing upon them the awards of Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Both honours share a special place of prominence in the school and are an integral part of our graduation traditions at IST and around the world.

**Upcoming World Celebration Dates...**

Sunday - May 12, 2024 Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a celebration honoring one's own mother, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. The modern American holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother in Grafton, West Virginia.



## BLAZE

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It is my great pleasure therefore to announce the award of the honour of **VALEDICTORIAN for the Class of 2024 to Annie Zhang!** Annie merited this prestigious academic honour by earning the highest cumulative GPA over the two-year course of the demanding IB Diploma.



I am also delighted to announce that **the honour of SALUTATORIAN has been awarded to Isaiah Conway** by a vote of his peers. It is the firm decision of the Class of 2024 that Isaiah best represents them as a group and has served as an inspiration to his peers over the two years of the Diploma Programme.

A reminder also to parents that the principals and guidance counsellor will host a **departing families transition meeting next Friday in the Han Teacher Center at 10:05AM**. If you are leaving us this year (I hope you'll change your mind if you can!), please do consider coming along to hear a little about ways in which you can act to help facilitate a smooth transition home or to a new school and country for your children. The principals will also share information about the process of withdrawing your children, so as to ensure that you have all the documentation you need ready before the last day of school.

To our Grade 12 students, you're almost there – stick with it! And to the rest of our community, have a wonderful weekend!

Steve Moody  
Director



## the Parent Partnership

Have you ever had a friend move away? Have you ever lost your pet? Have you lost someone close to you? Sad times are part of life, just as much as happy times, joyful times, surprising times and fearful times.

Managing emotions, especially those big emotions, can be especially hard for children if they can't express how they are feeling. In this week's Parent Partnership, we discuss some ways in which we can help them to work through their difficult feelings.

## WHEN TEACHING KIDS ABOUT SADNESS, SAY

"Sadness is a normal emotion, just like happiness."

"Feelings of sadness are trying to teach us about ourselves and our triggers!"

"This emotion can feel uncomfortable, but it is not here to hurt you."

"You are allowed to feel sad without feeling bad about that feeling."

"It's okay to feel sad and express your feelings."

"Let's name this feeling of sadness or draw what it feels like."

"Do you want to work together to learn coping skills when we feel sad?"



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## 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.

### Library End-of-Year Dates

As the end of the school year quickly approaches, please keep these library dates in mind:



If your family will be staying in China for all or some of the summer holiday, we encourage you to take advantage of our **summer book checkout**. Students who wish to check out books over the summer must return a signed permission slip; these will go home later this month. Students who return a signed permission slip will be allowed to check out up to 20 library books over the summer holiday.

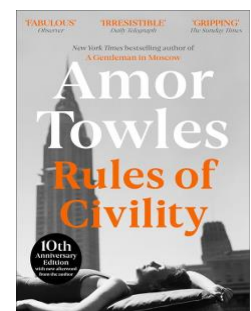
### Used Book Sale

The library will be selling used books at the PFO picnic on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Please stop by the PFO stall to check out our sale. All profits from book sales will support the library collection and programs.

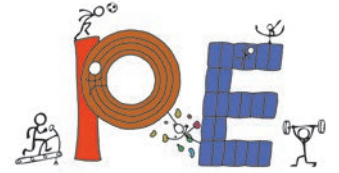
### Parent Book Club May 21<sup>st</sup> @ 8:30 a.m. in the library

Our next Parent Book Club selection is the novel *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles. We will meet to discuss this book on Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup>, in the library. The library has copies of the book in English, Chinese, 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. Contact one of our library staff to join our WeChat group.



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## IST Golf Day

Join us as we celebrate the first IST Golf Day, a delightful event that brought together students, parents and teachers, and a shared passion for the game of golf. This fun-filled day showcased the budding talent of our young golf enthusiasts. The children embarked on a memorable journey through nine captivating holes.

Mr. Wallace, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Silvis watched in awe as the kids displayed remarkable skill and dedication on the greens. In fact, their impressive performance left the trio of teachers feeling a tad embarrassed by their own limited prowess. It became evident that all three educators would need to practice more diligently to keep up with the prodigious talent of their students.



This extraordinary event not only fostered a love for golf but also provided an opportunity for students and teachers to bond over a shared interest. Laughter and friendly competition echoed across the course.

As we reflect on this day, we are reminded of the importance of nurturing young talent and encouraging a sense of sportsmanship. The success of the first Golf Day has laid the foundation for future golfing endeavours, inspiring both students and teachers alike to strive for excellence on and off the fairway.

Join us as we embark on a journey of improvement, honing our skills and spreading the joy of golf throughout our community. Together, we will practice, learn, and grow.

Mark your calendars as we are looking to organise an ISCOT Golf competition for our students on the **7th of September 2024**. Information will follow closer to the actual date of the event.

A massive thank you to Ms Kitty for organizing it and we are looking forward to the next IST Golf Day.



Kind greetings

Mr. Silvis



LEARNING OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM WITH G8- DEMOGRAPHICS OF TIANJIN SOI: HOW HUMANS INTERACT WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOP LIVING SPACES DIRECTLY INFLUENCES OUR CAPACITY TO SUSTAIN SYSTEMS.

#### GRADE 8 I&S



THE G8 STUDENTS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AN ENRICHING LEARNING EXPERIENCE DURING OUR RECENT FIELD TRIP, AS WE DELVED INTO THE INTRICACIES OF CITIES AND DEMOGRAPHICS. OUR STUDENTS WERE TASKED WITH GATHERING INFORMATION AT A MUSEUM FEATURING AN EXHIBITION ON MODERN CHINA THROUGH THE EYES OF TIANJIN.

ADDITIONALLY, THE STUDENTS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE WUDADAO AREA, OBSERVING VARIOUS BUILDINGS AND ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAKEUP OF A CITY.

INTENDED TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF A PECHA KUCHA PRESENTATION. THROUGH THIS PRESENTATION, THEY AIM TO ILLUSTRATE HOW THE DEMOGRAPHICS IN TIANJIN HAVE EVOLVED AND TO ARTICULATE THEIR COMPREHENSION OF THESE CHANGES



ESTABLISHING A LINK BETWEEN OUR CLASSROOM LEARNING AND OUR REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCES WILL AID STUDENTS IN CULTIVATING A MORE PROFOUND GRASP OF THE SUBJECT MATTER. EXPLORING THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE RESIDE AND THE CITY WE NAVIGATE WILL AFFORD STUDENTS A HEIGHTENED AWARENESS OF THEIR SURROUNDINGS. WE EAGERLY ANTICIPATE THE PRESENTATIONS FOCUSED ON TIANJIN.  
GRADE 8- I&S TEACHER-LORI ZHAI & WENDY BEKKENK

**T H E**

FRIDAY 10 MAY 2024

# **BLAZE**



**W E E K L Y**

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**1ST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESENTS**

# **THE JUNKBOX PARTY**



**WEDNESDAY 22 MAY, 2024, 6.30PM**



## PFO COOKING CLUB

Food theme: The CZECH & SLOVAKIA cooking Class

### Menu:

1. starter dish - home baked bread with egg spread
2. soup - farmer's bean soup
3. main dish ~ baked pork sirloin, red cabbage and potato pancakes
4. dessert - Yogurt cake with fruit



**When:** 15th May **Wednesday** 9:00am-2pm

**Where:** IST Elementary Kitchen

**Host:** Ivana

**Cost:** 100 RMB per person

Please join the WeChat group by scanning this QR code:  
Max 16 participants, first-come first-served.







# PFO PICNIC

Saturday, May 25th  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

BBQS ARE AVAILABLE  
FOR GRILLING

## ACTIVITIES:

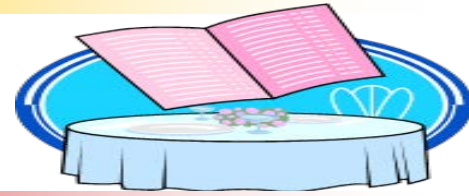
Face Painting, Hair Dye, Tattoos,  
Water Fun, Football Game, Bubble  
Machine, Bouncy Castle

## VENDORS:

Korean Chicken, Dmart, Trolley,  
LeCrobag Bakery, Clown & Cotton  
Candy, Man Pin Jian (MPJ),  
September, Business Tianjin, Mill café,  
Yummy Bakery

BRING A PICNIC BLANKET AND PACK YOUR LUNCH OR YOU  
CAN BUY FROM FOOD AND DRINK VENDORS AT THE EVENT!

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## MENU G2-G12

	Monday 2024-05-13	Tuesday 2024-05-14	Wednesday 2024-05-15	Thursday 2024-05-16	Friday 2024-05-17
Salad/Fruit	<b>Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar</b> <b>Fruit of the Day</b>	<b>Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar</b> <b>Fruit of the Day</b>	<b>Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar</b> <b>Fruit of the Day</b>	<b>Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar</b> <b>Fruit of the Day</b>	<b>Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar</b> <b>Fruit of the Day</b>
Western From The Grill Station	<b>Italian Baked Rice with Vegetables and Cheese</b> 意大利蔬菜芝士焗饭 <b>Stir fry Vegetable</b> 炒蔬菜  Allergy: milk, peas	<b>Chicken Schnitzel</b> 炸鸡排 <b>Stir fry Vegetable</b> 炒蔬菜 <b>Roasted Potatoes</b> 烤土豆 Allergy: chicken, breadcrumb	<b>Pan-fried beef balls with gravy</b> 牛肉丸配肉汁 <b>Stir fry Vegetable</b> 炒时蔬 <b>Mashed Potatoes</b> 土豆泥 Allergy: beef, pepper, onion	<b>Hot Dog</b> 热狗 <b>Stir fry Vegetable</b> 炒时蔬 <b>French Fries</b> 薯条 Allergy: pork, wheat, onion	<b>Beef Goulash</b> 红烩牛肉 <b>Stir fry Vegetable</b> 炒时蔬 <b>Steamed Rice</b> 米饭 Allergy: beef, soya sauce
Asian From The Wok/Noodle Station	<b>Stir Fried Noodle Egg Sauce</b> 西红柿鸡蛋面 <b>Stir Fried Potatoes with Green Pepper</b> 青椒土豆丝 Allergy: wheat, egg	<b>Noodle with Beef Soup</b> 牛肉面 <b>Boiled Vegetable</b> 煮蔬菜 Allergy: beef, flour	<b>Kimbab</b> 韩式饭卷 <b>Fried Rice Cake</b> 辣炒年糕 Allergy: seaweed, sesame, kimchi	<b>Pork Chop with Curry Sauce</b> 咖喱猪排饭 <b>Stir fry Vegetable</b> 炒时蔬 Allergy: soya sauce, curry paste	<b>Hainanese Chicken Rice</b> 海南鸡饭 <b>Stir Fried Cabbage</b> 素炒洋白菜 Allergy: soya sauce, chili
Vegetarian		<b>Noodles with Vegetable Soup</b> 蔬菜面	<b>Vegetable rice rolls</b> 蔬菜饭卷	<b>Vegetable Curry</b> 咖喱蔬菜	<b>Stir Fried Cabbage</b> 素炒洋白菜
Soup	<b>Tomato and Egg Soup</b> 西红柿鸡蛋汤	<b>Pumpkin Soup</b> 南瓜汤	<b>Minestrone</b> 通心粉汤	<b>Tomato and Egg Soup</b> 西红柿鸡蛋汤	<b>Pumpkin Soup</b> 南瓜汤
Dessert	<b>Banana Bread</b> 香蕉包	<b>Cookies</b> 饼干	<b>Swiss Roll</b> 瑞士卷	<b>Apple Pie</b> 苹果派	<b>Fruit Tart</b> 水果塔
<b>Nutritional reading over the week</b>		<b>Energy 热量 (Kcal)</b>	<b>Protein 蛋白质 (g)</b>	<b>Carbohydrate 碳水化合物 (g)</b>	<b>Fat 脂肪 (g)</b>
每周营养分析		731	26	104	23
<b>Nutritional recommendation 营养建议</b>		725	25	100	25

## MENU NURSERY-G1

	Monday 2024-05-13	Tuesday 2024-05-14	Wednesday 2024-05-15	Thursday 2024-05-16	Friday 2024-05-17
Snack	<b>Yoghurt</b> <b>Fruit Cut</b>	<b>Carrot Cake</b> <b>Fruit Cut</b>	<b>Cookies</b> <b>Fruit Cut</b>	<b>Banana Bread</b> <b>Fruit Cut</b>	<b>Vegetable Sandwich</b> <b>Fruit Cut</b>
Set Meal	<b>Margherita Pizza</b> 比萨 <b>Sweet Corn and Broccoli</b> 玉米粒西兰花 <b>Vegetable Sticks</b> 蔬菜条 Allergy: flour, tomato sauce, cheese, herb	<b>Grilled Sausage with Gravy</b> 烧汁香肠 <b>Vegetable Sticks</b> 蔬菜条 <b>Mashed Potato</b> 土豆泥 Allergy: soya sauce, milk	<b>Kimbab</b> 韩式饭卷 <b>Vegetable Sticks</b> 蔬菜条 Allergy: egg, soya sauce	<b>Pork Dumplings</b> 猪肉白菜水饺 <b>Sweet Corn and Vegetables</b> 玉米粒炒蔬菜 <b>Vegetable Sticks</b> 蔬菜条 Allergy: flour, pork, soya sauce, green garlic	<b>Baked Beef Macaroni</b> 小弯牛肉面 <b>Stir Fry Zucchini and Corn</b> 西葫玉米 <b>Vegetable Sticks</b> 蔬菜条 Allergy: flour, beef, tomato sauce, herb
Fruit	<b>Fruit of the Day</b>	<b>Fruit of the Day</b>	<b>Fruit of the Day</b>	<b>Fruit of the Day</b>	<b>Fruit of the Day</b>
Drinks	<b>Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult</b>	<b>Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult</b>	<b>Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult</b>	<b>Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult</b>	<b>Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult</b>
<b>Nutritional reading over the week</b>		<b>Energy 热量 (Kcal)</b>	<b>Protein 蛋白质 (g)</b>	<b>Carbohydrate 碳水化合物 (g)</b>	<b>Fat 脂肪 (g)</b>
每周营养分析		726	24	105	27
<b>Nutritional recommendation 营养建议</b>		725	25	100	25

Morning snack offer available at 6 rmb, Snack are only available for daily set lunch consumers.

**DIARY DATES**

Wednesday~Friday - April 24~May 17, 2024  
IB Diploma Exams

Friday - May 17, 2024  
Departing Families Session

Monday~Thursday - May 20~23, 2024  
Secondary Exams (G9-11)

Wednesday - May 22, 2024  
Spring Show (Evening)

Friday - May 24, 2024  
Secondary Sports Day & Awards Assembly  
Library Books Returned

**SPORTS DATES**

Saturday 11 May -  
ISAC MS Basketball Tournament (Boys @  
HBJ; Girls @ IST)

Friday 17 May -  
ES and SS Track and Field/Cross country  
(12:15 - 15:30)

**WELCOME TO THE IST SPORTS AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCA) PROGRAM FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR**

Please take note of the following dates:

**Season 3 Sport Schedule**

- ☺ Starts Monday, 11 Mar and ends Friday, 24 May
- ☺ The program will run for approximately 10 school weeks
- ☺ No CCAs during holidays and PTSCs (conferences)

Season three includes:

- ☺ HS Football - Mondays and Fridays - 15:30 - 17:00
- ☺ HS Badminton - Mondays and Fridays - 15:30 - 17:00
- ☺ MS Basketball - Tuesdays and Thursdays - 15:30 - 17:00

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.