

Weekly Thursday 7 November 2024

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



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Dear Parents

As you are aware, we have a staff workday calendared tomorrow, which means a nice long weekend for you and your children! Each school year we calendar eight full non-student workdays to enable the entire staff to come together to collaborate and attend to a variety of school-wide goals, something that isn't possible for extended periods when students are present on campus. Tomorrow we will focus on a variety of topics related to both improved teaching and learning and general improvement across all aspects of school programmes and operations, including leveraging XR technology to support teaching and learning (secondary), inquiry-based pedagogy (elementary), and our upcoming CIS/WASC/IB accreditation evaluation in May (all staff).

Later on in Blaze you will read a report from our Athletics Directors about last weekend's ACAMIS Volleyball Tournament in Hong Kong; however, I would like to take the opportunity to highlight just how well the students represented our school. IST is one of the eight founding members of ACA-MIS (now there are nearly 100 members), and although we are not a large school we continue to 'punch above our weight' with regard to participation, engagement, performance and leadership in the association. IST was the smallest school in our division at last weekend's tournament with several of the schools boasting over 1000 students, and yet our teams were first placed following the round robin. In the end the boys placed second and the girls fourth, and while they may have been disappointed not to achieve the highest accolade by winning, they certainly won from my perspective. I am so proud of the way in which our students continue to rise to the challenge, be it in academics, arts, or athletics. Congratulations to all of the athletes who participated last weekend; you did yourselves and our school proud!

The IST Board of Governors will meet next week, and of the many items on the agenda, a couple will likely be of considerable interest to the IST community: teacher retention for next year and the commencement of construction work on our new gymnasium. Although the final deadline has not yet arrived, it appears that perhaps as few as three IST teachers will leave our school this year, meaning a 95% retention rate, which really is terrific! We anticipate ground breaking for the new gym in the next 3-4 weeks, during which time the Board will also make some final decisions about the interior decoration of the new gym, but just to give you a sneak preview, here are some of the initial renderings!





www.istianjin.org

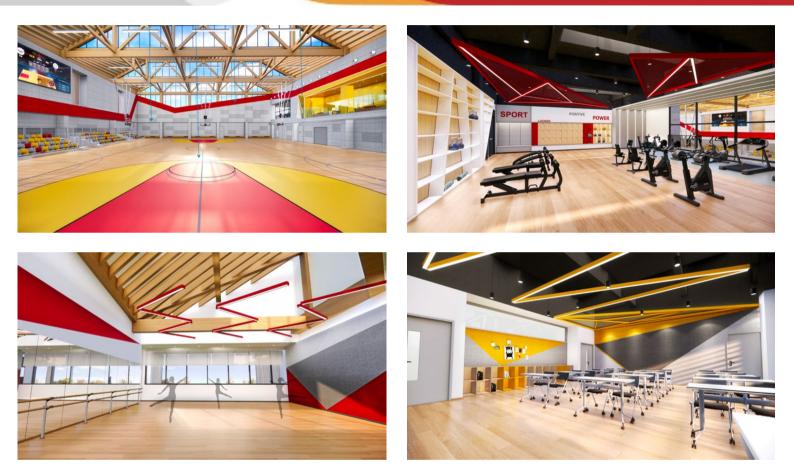


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When meeting with parents at Wednesday's PFO Committee meeting, a concern was raised by some parents about the conduct of some children on the school buses, and in particular elementary students who are apparently being very disrespectful of the bus ayi. We will be discussing this concern with the students and the ayis, but I kindly request that all parents of children who use the bus service please discuss the importance of appropriate and respectful behaviour when riding the school buses. Thank you for your active support!

Wishing you all a most enjoyable long weekend!

Mordy

Steve Moody Director



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International School of Tianjin Scholarship Program

The International School of Tianjin (IST) is excited to announce its scholarship program for students in their final two years of school. This initiative serves two key purposes:

- 1. **Support for Current IST Students**: We offer exceptional educational opportunities to talented students facing financial challenges.
- 2. Enrichment for Non-IST Students: We welcome talented non-IST students to enhance our diverse community and the quality of our IB Diploma Programme.

Scholarship Details

Types of Scholarships

Scholarships are available for students entering Grade 11, with awards lasting up to two years:

- **Full Scholarships**: Cover all tuition and capital fees for Grades 11 and 12.
- **Tuition Scholarships**: Cover tuition fees only for Grades 11 and 12.
- **Bursaries**: Cover half the tuition fees for Grades 11 and 12.

Benefits

Students in the scholarship program will receive an excellent education, culminating in the IST High School Diploma. As an IB World School, students also have the chance to earn a full IB Diploma, *recognized by top universities worldwide*.

Selection Process

Each year, up to three scholarships or bursaries may be awarded to current IST students, with an equal number available for non-IST applicants. The selection includes:

- Examinations
- Formal Interviews
- Final Decision by the IST Scholarship Committee

Criteria for Selection:

- Academic Excellence:
 - Current IST students must have honors/high honors in at least 2 of the last 3 semesters.
 - \circ $\,$ Non-IST candidates should be in the top 25% of their class.
- Community Contribution:
 - $\circ \quad \mbox{Active involvement in CAS activities.}$
 - $\circ \quad \mbox{Promotion of the IB Diploma Programme.}$
 - $\circ\quad$ Leadership within the school community.
- **Financial Need**: Consideration for current IST students needing financial assistance. (Non-IST students **DO NOT** need to demonstrate financial need.)

Eligibility

Students of *all nationalities* are encouraged to apply. Current IST students with financial difficulties can apply, but families may receive only one full scholarship at a time. A strong command of English is essential.

Application Process

To apply, candidates should request an application package from the school.

Key dates:

- Application Deadline: 3:30pm, Friday, February 7, 2025
- Scholarship Examinations: Saturday, February 22, 2025 (9:00am–2:30pm)
- Interviews: Around March 5, 2025
- Award Anouncement: Late
 March 2025





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Required Documents

From the Student:

- Personal statement covering your interests and reasons for applying.
- Previous two years' report cards from your school. (Including IST students)
 Certificates for any honors or awards received.
- At least two character reference letters (non-family).
 - IST students do not need a character reference but should give the names of two teachers who agree to support the application.
- Any other relevant details.

From the IST Parent (if applicable):

- A formal letter explaining financial circumstances.
- A letter from an employer stating that tuition is not covered by the company.
- Non-IST students **DO NOT** need to demonstrate financial need.

Application Fee

A **2,000 RMB** application fee is required, with the following conditions:

- 1. **Refunds**: Full scholarship recipients or those not awarded a scholarship will receive a complete refund.
- 2. Tuition Scholarships/Bursaries: The fee will be credited towards the standard application fee.
- 3. Declined Offers: Candidates who decline a scholarship offer forfeit the fee.

Scholarship Selection Process

Application

To apply for a scholarship, students must submit the **Scholarship Application Form** and **Fee** by **3:30pm on Friday, February 7, 2025**. This form collects personal details and educational history.

Important:

- Attach all required documents (see 'Required Documents' section).
- Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Examinations

Exams will take place at the school on **Saturday**, **February 22**, from **9:00am to 2:00pm**. Students will complete three papers:

- 1. **Mathematics** (9:00am–10:30am) Focus: Mathematical skills and problemsolving.
- English (10:45am–12:15pm) Focus: Reading comprehension and essay writing.

3. **Science** (12:30pm–1:45pm) Focus: General problem-solving, logic skills, and scientific writing (not based on specific course content).

Interview

After the exams, selected candidates will be invited for an interview with the selection panel, which includes the Director, Secondary Principal, Diploma Coordinator, and IST Board of Governors members. Discussion topics will include the student's potential contributions to the school and their shortand long-term goals. Feel free to bring supporting materials to the interview.

Interviews will be scheduled for March 5 unless otherwise notified.

Results

Candidates will receive their results by **late March**. Good luck!





Scholarship Application Form

Student In	formation						
Family Name		First Name			Gender (Male / Female)		
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)		Age at time of application					
Nationality & Citizenship Native Langua		lage	Language at Home		Other Languages		
Email Addro	ess			A			
Schools At	tended (Begin v	with current s	chool)				
Grade(s)	School Name			cation ty/country)	Language(s Instruction		Dates Attended mm/yy – mm/yy
							:

Please complete all parts of this application form



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Parent Information		
MOTHER		
Family Name	First Name	Nationality & Citizenship
Company Name		Position
Mother Signature	Cell Number	Email
FATHER		
Family Name	First Name	Nationality & Citizenship
Company Name		Position
Father Signature	Cell Number	Email

GUARDIAN (If Applicable)			
Family Name	First Name		Nationality & Citizenship
Guardian Signature	Cell Number	Email	
Address in Tianjin			



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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 Assembly & Book Character Dress-Up Day

The library assembly last Friday highlighted the theme "Reading is My Superpower," inspiring students to discover new books and celebrate their favorite stories. Thank you for your support in making Library Week a fun and memorable experience for our young readers. The Book Character parade and costumes were a highlight of the assembly. It is always so fun to see students and teachers dressed up as their favorite book characters! Please enjoy some photo highlights from last Friday.

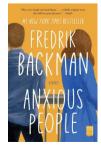




Parent Book Club

Our next Parent Book Club selection is the novel *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman. We will meet in the library to discuss the book in December (date TBD). 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.



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



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Yesterday, our Grade 5 students had an unforgettable experience diving into the world of the musical *CATS*!

The day began with a warm welcome to our special guest -DJ Muchen from Tianjin Radio Station, who captivated the students by sharing the rich history of this iconic show, setting the stage for the excitement to come.

The room buzzed with energy when a surprise virtual guest, Lucy, a performer from the cast of *CATS*, joined us!







Lucy engaged with our students, answering their eager questions and providing a fascinating glimpse into her world as a stage actor. As a memorable highlight, she performed "Memory" in Mandarin, enchanting everyone with her powerful voice and adding a local touch to this classic song. Her virtual presence left the students inspired and curious about life on stage.



After the interview, DJ Muchen kept the energy high by leading our students in a fun sing-along session, lighting up the entire class with music and laughter. To cap off this exciting event, a professional dance teacher joined in and taught the students how to strike the iconic cat poses, turning our classroom into a



lively scene of playful "cats." It was a magical day filled with music, dance, and hands-on learning that brought *CATS* to life in a way our students will never forget!







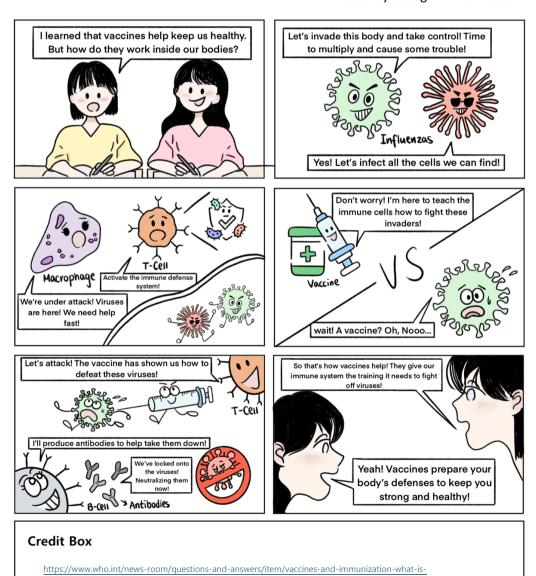
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The student cartoon by Jiyun Lee, Jiyoon Jung, Jeong Min Park, Yeseo Choi, and Eunsung Cho, is part of a CAS project for the IB Diploma Programme. This cartoon, "The Battle of Viruses and Vaccines," explains how vaccines work in the body. When viruses invade, immune cells like T-cells and B-cells are alerted to fight them. Vaccines train these immune cells to recognize and effectively combat viruses by producing antibodies. As a result, vaccines help keep the body strong and healthy by preparing it to fend off infections.





vaccination

https://vaccination-info.europa.eu/en/about-vaccines/how-vaccines-work

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Action Group READY, SET, GO!

By Vanessa Grade 9

Last week, our action group, Ready, Set, Go!, held a session with Grade 5 students, focusing on building their presentation skills using the PVLEGS model: Poise, Voice, Life, Eye contact, Gesture, and Speed. We chose this activity because the students are preparing for a presentation to parents later this month, and we wanted to support them in becoming more confident presenters.

Two leaders from our group began with a brief introduction to PVLEGS, explaining the importance of each skill. Then, we divided both our secondary group members and the Grade 5 students into six small groups. Each secondary group was assigned one skill to teach, while Grade 5 students rotated through each station to practice a specific skill for 4-5 minutes. To keep it engaging, each secondary group prepared interactive activities that related to their assigned skill.





Although we ran out of time and couldn't have every Grade 5 student rotate through all six skills, the session was productive, and each student left with new insights on effective presentation techniques.

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ACAMIS Recap:

The ACAMIS Orange Division Volleyball Tournament in early November highlighted the skill, resilience, and sportsmanship of our IST teams, showcasing the strength of our athletics program. Both boys' and girls' teams delivered impressive performances, with the boys just missing out on defending their championship title and the girls leading the tournament after the round-robin stages.

The boys started strong, defeating HKA and SIS, and remained undefeated on day one. The girls rebounded from an initial loss, ending the day 2-1 and carrying their momentum into day two. At the end of day 2, both teams finished pool play at the top of their groups with 4-1 records, advancing confidently to the semifinals.

In the semifinals, the boys earned a decisive win over SIS, securing a spot in the final, while the girls narrowly missed victory in a hard-fought match against Harrow Beijing. They then succumbed to NIS in their final game, finishing fourth overall. In the boys' final, despite an illness in the lineup, they earned a close second-place finish that displayed some outstanding volleyball. Manaka,Karin Jeremy and Brandon received the team all-star awards.

Though the outcomes were not as hoped, our players represented IST with excellence and dedication. It is important to note that we are the smallest school in our division with some schools having more than tripple the amount of students that IST has. Our students represented us in an exceptional manner and should be extremelt proud of their performance. Special appreciation goes to our eleven senior players, whose contributions have been the foundation of our teams. Their legacy and sportsmanship inspire the entire IST community.





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SAVE THE DATE:

	SEASON 2	
25-Nov	HS Basketball v TIS	Boys and Girls @ IST
28-Nov	MS Volleyball v TIS	Boys @ TIS; Girls @ IST
29-Nov	HS Basketball v TEDA	Boys & Girls @ IST
30-Nov	ISAC MS Table Tennis	Boys & Girls @ KEY
30-Nov	ISAC HS Table Tennis	Boys & Girls @ KEY
30-Nov	ISAC Table Tennis 11 & under	Boys & Girls @ WAB
2-Dec	HS Basketball v WEL	Boys @ IST; Girls @ WEL
3-Dec	MS Volleyball v TEDA	Boys @ Girls @ TEDA
7-Dec	ISAC MS Volleyball Exchange	Boys @ KEY; Girls @ BWYA
7-Dec	ISCOT HS Basketball Tournament	Boys @ IST; Girls @ TEDA
10-Dec	MS Volleyball v Wel	Boys & Girls @ IST

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11-Jan	ISCOT MS Volleyball Tournament	Boys @ TEDA; Girls @
		WEL
11-Jan	ISAC HS Basketball Tournament	Boys @ IST; Girls @ HBJ
15 Jan - 18 Jan	ACAMIS HS Basketball Tournament	SIS (Shenzhen)
19. Jan	IS AC MS Valley the II Tourne ment	Boys @ CISB; Girls @
18-Jan	ISAC MS Volleyball Tournament	HBJ

REMEMBER:

Season 2 sports have begun.

In season 2 we have:

HS Basketball with practices on Mondays and Fridays from 15:30 - 17:00. MS Volleyball with practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 15:30 - 17:00We also have Wednesday Conditioning to help support our athletes to develop their athletic abilities.

If you want to sign up for a sport for season 2, please scan the below QR code.



CCA Season 2:

CCA season 2 signups have been sent out. Season 1 is still underway and will only conclude on Friday 15 November. Season 2 will begin on Monday 25 November.

Go BLAZE



Dear Parents,

We are pleased to invite you to **two important sessions on Friday, November 15 at 8:15am** in the Han Teacher Center. Your participation is highly valued as we seek to enhance our programs and share our progress with you.

Session 1: IB Programs Feedback

- Date: November 15
- Time: 8:15 AM 9:00 AM (tea, coffee & snacks @9:00)
- Location: Han Teacher Center

We welcome parents from across the school to join us for a one-hour session where we will gather feedback on various aspects of our International Baccalaureate (IB) programs. Your insights and suggestions are crucial in helping us improve our programs to better serve our students.

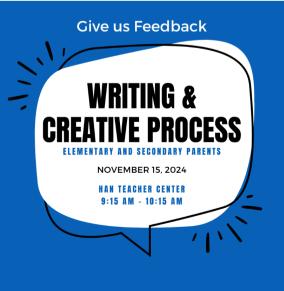


Session 2: Elementary Writing Process and Secondary Creative Process Models

- Date: November 15
- Time: 9:15 AM 10:15 AM
- Location: Han Teacher Center

Immediately following the first session, we will delve into the elementary writing process and the secondary creative process models. We aim to gather your feedback on strategies for the planning and exploring stages of the creative process, as well as the planning and drafting stages of the writing process. Your input will help us refine these processes to enhance student learning and creativity.

We hope you will join us for these informative and collaborative sessions. Your involvement makes a significant difference in our continuous improvement efforts.





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Food theme: The Japanese cooking class

Menu:

- 1. Sushi roll.
- 2.Takoyaki
- 3. Miso soup
- 4. Chestnut yokan



When: 13th Nov Wednesday 9:00am-2pm

- Where: IST Elementary Kitchen
- Host: Masayo
- Cost: 100 RMB per person

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





Weekly Menu 11 Nov~15 Nov					
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 Vegetables 炒时蔬	Steamed Pork Dumplings 小笼包 Stir fry Vegetable 妙时義	Beef Lasagna 牛肉千层面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬	Kimbab 韩式极卷 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬	Spaghetti Bolognese 意大利肉酱面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬	
Allergy: wheat, cheese	Allergy: wheat, soya sauce	Allergy: beef, cheese	Allergy: soya sauce	Allergy: wheat	
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 奪周誉养分析	Energy 熱量 (Kcal) 719	Protein 蛋白质(g) 25	Carbohydrate 碳水(g) 115	Fat 脂肪(g) 22	

Weekly Menu 18 Nov~22 Nov

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Steamed Dumplings Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Ham Sandwich Fruit Cut
Stir Fried Tomato with Egg 西红柿炒鸡蛋 Plain Rice 米板 <u>Allergy: soya sauce, egg</u>	Beef and Tomato Curry 番茄咖喱牛肉 Stir fry Corn 炒玉米粒 <u>Allergy: soya sauce</u>	Pork Dumplings 猪肉水绞 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 <u>Allergy: soy sauce, wheat</u>	Fried Rice with Sausage and Egg 香肠鸡蛋炒板 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 <u>Allergy: egg</u>	Fried Chicken 库鸡 Roasted Potatoes 烤土豆 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 <u>Allergy: wheat</u>
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 參周誉养分析	Energy 热量(Kcal) 722	Protein 蛋白质(g) 29	Carbohydrate 碳水(g) 102	Fat 脂肪 (g) 19



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MENU

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Mandau		11 Nov~15 Nov	Thursday	End day
Monday Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar	Tuesday Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar	Wednesday Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar	Thursday Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar	Friday Seasonal Fresh Salad B
Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day
Pizza Margherita 芝士比萨 Stir fry Vegetable 妙蔬菜 Roasted Potatoes 土豆角 Allergy: wheat, cheese	Chicken Stewed 法式红烩鸡 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 Mashed Potatoes 土豆泥 Allergy: milk	Beef Lasagna 牛肉千层面 Stir fry Vegetable 妙蔬菜 Roasted Potatoes 烤土豆 Allergy: beef, cheese, milk	Chicken Burger 鸟肉汉堡 French Fries <i>著条</i> Allergy: wheat, mayonnaise	Chicken Schnitzel 炸鸡排 Stir fry Vegetable 妙蔬 Roasted Potatoes 烤土豆 Allergy: breadcrumb
Vegetables Curry 咖喱蔬菜 Steamed Egg and Tofu 蒸鸡蛋豆腐 <u>Allergy: egg, soya sauce</u>	Sweet and Sour Pork 糖醋里脊 Fried Zucchini with Chili Sauce 辣炒西萄 <u>Allergy: soya sauce, chili</u>	Hainanese Chicken Rice	Kimbab 韩式极卷 Japchae 韩式妙杂菜 <u>Allergy: soya sauce, chili</u>	Pork Balls with Egg 虎眼丸子 Stir fry Green Beans 干病豆角 <u>Allergy: egg, soya sauc</u>
Spicy Noodle 油波面 Cucumber Salad 拌黄瓜 Fried Eggs <u>魚</u> 鸡蛋 <u>Allergy: wheat, egg</u>	Mixed Vegetables with Beef Balls in Seasame and Chili Sauce 麻辣拌 Noodles <u>雨条</u> <u>Allergy: wheat, soya sauce</u>	Pork Dumplings 猪肉水绞 Mixed Vegetables 素什錦 <u>Allergy: wheat, soy sauce</u>	Noodles with Beef Soup 牛肉板面 boiled Vegetables 煮蔬菜 <u>Allergy: wheat, chili</u>	Spaghetti Bolognese 肉番面 Stir fry Vegetable 妙義 <u>Allergy: wheat, soy sat</u>
	Mixed Vegetables in Seasame and Chili Sauce 蔬菜麻辣样	Vegetable Dumplings 蔬菜水依	Vegetable Kimbab 蔬菜级巻	Spaghetti with Tomat Sauce 番茄意面
Tomato and Egg Soup 西红柿鸡蛋汤	Pumpkin Soup 南瓜汤	Green Pea Soup 绿豆汤	Vegetable and Egg Soup 蔬菜鸡蛋汤	White Fungus Sweet Sc 銀耳紅豆羹
Banana Bread 香蕉包	Cookies 併 千	Swiss Roll 瑞士卷	Apple Pie 苹果派	Fruit Tart 水果塔
Nutritional reading over the week 奪周营养分析	Energy 热	Protein 蛋白质(g) 27	Carbohydrate 碳水(g) 105	Fat 脂肪(g) 23



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DIARY DATES

Thursday~Saturday - November 7~9, 2024 TIANMUN

Friday - November 8, 2024 Staff Work/PD Day

Wednesday - November 13, 2024 Musical Rehearsal (All Day)

Monday - November 18, 2024 Musical Rehearsal (All Day)

Thursday~Friday - November 21~22, 2024 Musical Production (Night Time)

Friday - November 29, 2024 Christmas Tree Lighting @Ritz

Sports Dates

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.