Weekly Friday 24 October 2025

THE BLAZE

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Dear Parents and Students,

I'm pleased to share this week's BLAZE article during Mr. Steve's absence as he attends the EARCOS Leadership Conference in Bangkok. This week has been significant at IST, culminating today in our celebration of UN Day. It has been heartening to see our community come together to honor global citizenship and engage in meaningful activities that reflect our commitment to understanding and cooperation.

Earlier this week, we held our Parent Conferences on Wednesday and Thursday evenings until 6:30 PM. These conferences are vital for strengthening the partnership between parents and teachers, and we greatly appreciate everyone who participated in these important discussions. Additionally, our Secondary students received their quarter reports, providing a valuable snapshot of their progress during the first quarter.

A key highlight of this week is our transition into Quarter 2 of our Community Curriculum, which began with the start of this week. As we begin the new quarter, our focus will shift to "Learning for Engagement." This theme aims to emphasize deeper learning and collaborative projects that encourage students to connect with their studies in meaningful ways. We are excited to foster an environment where students can engage actively with their learning and work together on challenging projects and assessments.

We also proudly celebrate UN Day, a major focus at IST that underscores our dedication to global citizenship. This day serves not only as a celebration of international cooperation but also as a reminder of the work we undertook as a community during our recent reaccreditation process. Last year, we reflected on our mission to cultivate responsible global citizens who are aware of and engaged with the world around them. This commitment is embedded into our curriculum and daily practices, promoting understanding, respect, and collaboration among diverse cultures. As we engage in activities for UN Day, we encourage our students to think critically about global issues and their role in fostering positive change. It's a time for reflection on how we can contribute to a better world and support one another in this mission.

Looking ahead, next week will be Library Week, an excellent opportunity to highlight the importance of literacy and the valuable resources our library provides. Additionally, from October 29-31, our students will participate in the ACAMIS volleyball tournament at NIS, showcasing their athletic talents and teamwork.

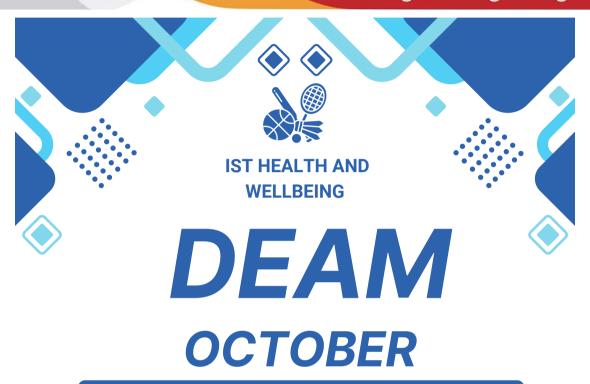
Finally, as we embrace the spirit of working, learning, and acting together, I hope that we will all remain committed to fostering an enriching environment for our students as we saw during UN Day and the parent conferences. Your active involvement and support are essential as we strive to shape a brighter future for all our students.

Warm Regards,

Michael Conway
Deputy Director / Secondary Principal



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Push-up Challenge

ARE YOU JOINING US IN
THE 30 DAY PUSH-UP
CHALLENGE!



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30 Day Push Up Challenge for Beginners

Day 1 - 2 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 2 - 2 Sets of 6 Push Ups

Day 3 - 3 Sets of 4 Push Ups

Day 4 - 3 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 5 - 2 Sets of 4 Push Ups Recovery

Day 6 - 3 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 7 - 3 Sets of 6 Push Ups

Day 8 - 3 Sets of 7 Push Ups

Day 9 - 4 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 10 - Rest Day

Day 11 - 4 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 12 - 4 Sets of 6 Push Ups

Day 13 - 4 Sets of 7 Push Ups

Day 14 - 5 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 15 - 3 Sets of 4 Push Ups Recovery

Day 16 - 5 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 17 - 5 Sets of 6 Push Ups

Day 18 - 5 Sets of 7 Push Ups

Day 19 -6 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 20 -4 Sets of 4 Push Ups Recovery

Day 21 -6 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 22 -6 Sets of 6 Push Ups

Day 23 - 6 Sets of 7 Push Ups

Day 24 - 7 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 25 - Rest Day

Day 26 - 7 Sets of 5 Push Ups

Day 27 - 7 Sets of 6 Push Ups

Day 28 - 7 Sets of 7 Push Ups

Day 29 -2 Sets of 5 Push Ups Recovery

Day 30 -5 Sets of 10 Push Ups Final Day Challenge

Fitness House







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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:

- Support for Current IST Students: We offer exceptional educational opportunities to talented students facing financial challenges.
- 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:
 - o Current IST students must have honors/high honors in at least 2 of the last 3 semesters.
 - o Non-IST candidates should be in the top 25% of their class.
- Community Contribution:
 - o Active involvement in CAS activities.
 - o Promotion of the IB Diploma Programme.
 - o 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

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 13,
 2026
- Scholarship Examinations: Saturday, February 28, 2026 (9:00am–2:30pm)
- Interviews: Around March 4, 2026
- Award Anouncement: Late March/early April 2026



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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)
 - o 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:

- 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 13, 2026. 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 28**, from **9:00am to 2:00pm**. Students will complete three papers:

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

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 4 unless otherwise notified.

Results

Candidates will receive their results by late March/early April. Good luck!





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Scholarship Application Form

Student Information							
Family Name		First Name		Gender (Male / Female)			
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)				Age at time of application			
Nationality & Citizenship Native Langu		age	Language at Home		Other Languages		
Email Addre	Email Address						
Schools At	tended (Begin v	vith current so	chool)				
Grade(s)	(s) School Name			ocation city/country)	Language(s Instruction) of	Dates Attended mm/yy – mm/yy

Please complete all parts of this application form



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	<u>i</u>				



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Being a parent means balancing safety and growth. While it's tempting to protect kids from tough times, facing challenges is important for learning. Instead of just shielding them, we should support them through struggles, helping them understand their feelings. This way, they can learn and grow stronger with a safe adult to rely on.

IST Counseling

PRO TIP

- Children don't need to be protected from life.
- It's important they learn about the consequences of reality and the pain that sometimes comes with it.
- I know this can be hard.
- Instead of protective parenting, we should do our best to hold space for our children when they fail so they can learn the lessons that life naturally provides.
- This is how they learn and grow.
- Children need a safe adult who can help them navigate their feelings and make sense of them.



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Explore Your Future with the University of Toronto!

Students and parents are invited to learn how UofT can open doors to global possibilities.







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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 Week: Oct. 27-Oct. 31

A big thank-you to our IST community for making this week's Book Fair a success! Your support helps the library grow our collection with exciting new books for students.

Now the adventure continues—**Library Week begins next week!** Students can look forward to Drop Everything and Read, the Panda Book Awards launch, book quizzes with prizes, and more opportunities to celebrate reading.

- Library Assembly & Book Character Dress-Up Day: Fri, Oct. 31, 8:30 a.m. in the IST Theater. Students are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite book character!
- Author Visit: Mon, Nov. 3 and Tue, Nov. 4. UK author Stephen Davies will present at assemblies
 and workshops for students in ELC through Grade 8. Please scan the QR code on the order form if
 you would like to order some of the author's books.







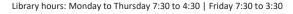




Parent Book Club Oct. 28th in the library

Our next Parent Book Club selection is the novel *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. We will meet in the library to discuss the book on October 28th, at 8:30 am in the library. The library has copies of the book in English, Chinese, and Korean. A digital copy in English is also available upon request.

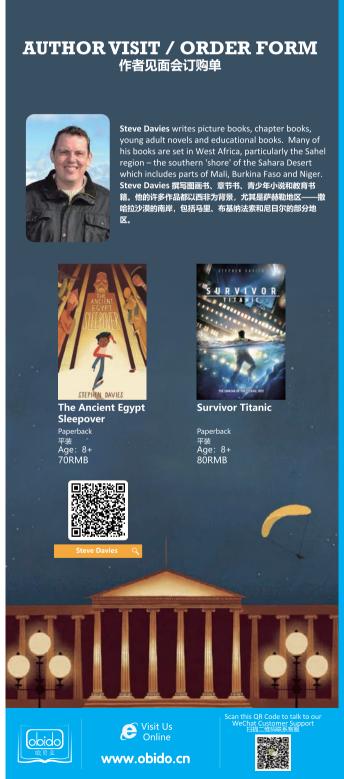
Please consider joining us in October for coffee, treats, and lively discussion—even if you didn't have a chance to read the book! Ask our library staff how to join our WeChat group, where we share information about the book club.







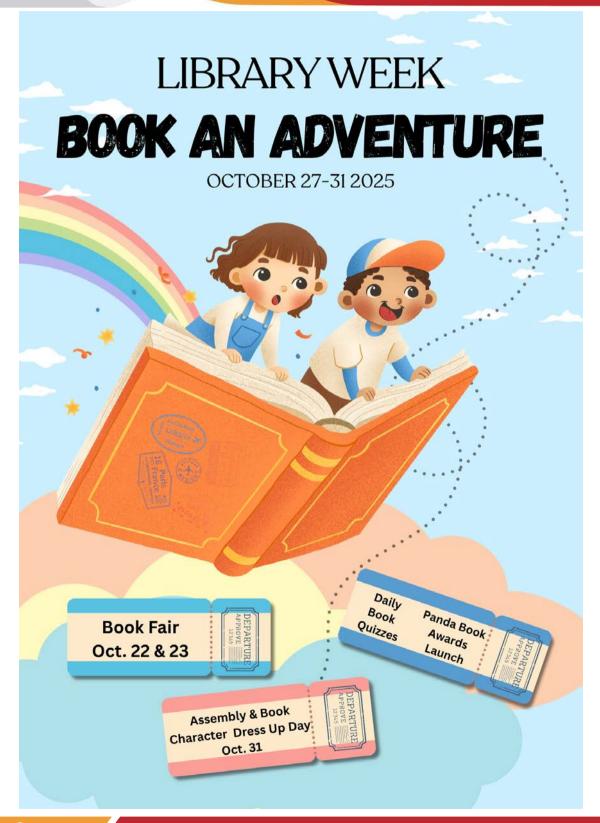
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Student Highlights



We are excited to introduce a new section in our school newsletter: Student Highlights! In this section, we will celebrate the achievements and successes of our students beyond the walls of IST. Whether it's in sports, music, academics, or other areas, we want to recognize and share these incredible accomplishments with our school community.

To kick off this section, we are thrilled to highlight Rory Zheng, who recently achieved an outstanding milestone by winning two championships in first-tier competitions at two mid-to-high-level association tournaments. This is a remarkable accomplishment, and we invite everyone to join us in celebrating Rory's success. Well done, Rory!

If your child or a student you know is excelling in any activity or competition outside of school, we would love to hear about it. Please share their achievements with us by sending an email to ben_silvis@istianjin.org.cn.

Let's continue to celebrate the amazing talents and hard work of our IST students!





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This page delivers weekly card news that explores economic concepts through real-world news stories and creative ideas. Each week, a different team member will take the lead, offering fresh perspectives and ensuring a wide range of topics are covered.

Our goal is to make economics accessible and relevant-even for those with no background in the subject-by breaking down complex ideas into clear, engaging summaries.

By connecting current events with economic thinking, we aim to spark curiosity and ongoing interest in how the world works.

The £40bn Opportunity Cost: UK Child Poverty vs. Budget Constraints

The UK government has delayed its child poverty strategy, postponing a significant decision on government spending and the social policy. The reason is to align its own publication with the Budget, ensuring all new measures are "fully-funded." This delay especially highlights the immense pressure on the government's fiscal policy*, as it struggle with significant budget constraints following its election.

The central debate surrounds the "two-child benefit cap," a restrictive social welfare benefit that critically argue, which is a direct cause of rising absolute poverty* and income inequality among households. Proponents of eliminating the cap, including many MPs and charities, argue the opportunity cost* of inaction is far higher. Hence, one analysis suggests removing the cap (£2bn) would be significantly cheaper than managing the long-term social impacts of child poverty (£40bn).

This situation illustrates a classic economic trade-off. The government must balance the urgent macroeconomic objective of reducing poverty against the need for fiscal sustainability. While the delay is controversial, some stakeholders suggest that a well-funded, effective strategy later is preferable to a rushed, inadequate government intervention now, which further highlight the difficult choices involved in policy-making.

Fiscal Policy:

Fiscal policy refers to the use of government spending and taxation to influence aggregate demand (AD) and achieve macroeconomic objectives, such as economic growth, low unemployment, and equity in income distribution.

Absolute Poverty:

Absolute poverty is a condition where a household or individual lacks the income necessary to meet basic human necessities such as food, water, shelter, and healthcare.

Opportunity Cost:

Opportunity cost is defined as the value of the next best alternative foregone when an economic decision is made.



Citation

FISCAL TO

Nathoo, Leila, and Kate Whannel. "Government delays publication of child poverty strategy." BBC News, 23 May 2025, www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c62vn453ejjo.



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Meet Dou Dou the Chinese Dragon, IST's spirited uearbook mascot. which has been busy joining Grade 3 in their daily lives!

Follow DouDou's journey as it captures unforgettable memories and spreads school pride throughout Grade 3!

Created by G11 IST's Dounation Group (Na Ye, Serim, Da Hyeon, Tiana)



Oct. 10th

Dou Dou Meets his new buddy Jeff (the 3P mascot). They are creating a daily quick write together. Best Buddies!



Dou Dou and Jeff are playing one of Mr. Pearce's online spelling games because they finished their spelling mastery in record time!

Oct. 10th

Dou Dou ist ein talentierter kleiner Drache. Sie spricht nicht nur Chinesisch und Englisch, sondern lernt auch Deutsch!

Dou Dou is a talented little dragon. She not only speaks Chinese and English, but also learns German!







		ents ties	BABY	
Class	Day	Time	Place	
Yoga	Monday Wednesday	8:15-9:15	Theater or Black box	
English Corner	Monday	10: 00-11: 30	Elementary meeting room	
Korean Class	Monday	1:30-3:00	Elementary meeting room	
Spanish Class	Tuesday	1:00-2:00	Elementary meeting room	
Zumba	Thursday	10:00-10:45	Theater or Black box	
Chinese Corner	Friday	9:00-10:00	Elementary meeting room	
Baby Drago Playgroup	luesday	9:00-11:00	Nursery Classroom	
Parents Workshop	Once a mon	th Flexible	Elementary meeting room	
		0		





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AIRBUS TOUR

6TH NOVEMBER, 2025



Discover Airbus with Us

An Exclusive Parents Experience!





Time: 9:30AM Departure from IST

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Community-wide Goal:

At IST we share a collective commitment to cultivate a vibrant community that embodies the spirit of open-mindedness as defined by the International Baccalaureate (IB). Within the unique context of our school and host city of Tianjin, our commitment is to further nurture and enhance an inclusive environment where we all critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We will seek and evaluate a range of points of view, listening with a genuine desire to understand, and with a willingness to grow from the experience.





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Weekly Menu (N-G2) 27~31 Oct
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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Mini Pizza Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Cheese Sandwich Fruit Cut		
Kimbab 韩式饭卷 <u>Allergy: egg, seaweed</u>	Pork Dumplings 精肉水袋 Stir fry Vegetable 炒叶蔬 <u>Allergy: wheat</u>	Beef Lasagna 牛肉干层面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒叶蔬 <u>Allergy: beef, milk, wheat</u>	Fried Chicken 炸鳴 Egg Fried Rice with Vegetables 鸣季蔬菜炒来饭 <i>Allergy: wheat. egg</i>	Spaghetti Bolognese 意大利 由酱面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒 財 . <u>Allergy: wheat, beef</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 冬用普系分析	Energy 燕 景 (Kcal) 719	Protein 委台质(g) 26	Carbohydrate 碳水(g) 115	Fat 脂肪(g) 22		

3~7 Nov

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Yoghurt	Cookies	Banana Bread	Carrot Cake	Ham Sandwich
Fruit Cut	Fruit Cut	Fruit Cut	Fruit Cut	Fruit Cut
Pizza Margherita 芝士比萨 Stir fry Vegetables 炒射鏡	Beef and Tomato Curry 番茄咖喱牛肉 Stir fry Corn 炒玉米粒 Allergy: soy sauce, coconut	Steamed Pork Dumplings 小笼包 Stir fry Vegetable 炒叶蔬	Fried Rice with Ham and Egg 火艇鸟蚤炒袋 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬	Grilled Chicken in Pita Bread 烧饼夹鸡向 Stir fry Shredded Potatoes 清炒土豆丝
Allergy: wheat, cheese	milk, beef	Allergy: wheat	Allergy: egg	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 各周营养分析	Energy 热量 (Kcal) 722	Protein 委台 质(g) 29	Carbohydrate 碳水(g) 108	Fat 脂肪(g) 20

Weekly Menu (G3-G12) 27-31 Oct

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
Cajun Tofu and Mixed Bean Tacos 卡真豆腐杂豆玉米卷 Potato Wedges 土豆角 Allergy: Tofu, bean, soy sauce	Slow-cooked pulled Pork Carnitas 墨西哥猪肉卷 Stir fry Vegetable 妙时競 Roasted Pumpkin 烤南瓜 Allergy: wheat	Beef Lasagna 牛肉干层面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Potatoes 場土豆 <u>Allergy: beef, milk, wheat</u>	Chicken Burger 鳴肉汉堡 French Fries 著条 <u>Allergy: wheat</u>	Chicken Schnitzel 炸鳴排 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Sweet Potatoes 地瓜条 <u>Allergy: breadcrumb</u>
Kimbab 韩式被基 Japchae 韩式炒杂菜 <i>Allergy: egg, seaweed</i>	Stir Fried Chicken with Black Pepper Sauce 黑椒鳴片 Stir Fried Chinese Cabbage 每葉塊面筋 Allergy: soy sauce, milk	Hainanese Chicken Thigh 海南鳴艇板 Stir Fried Chinese Cabbage with Vermicelli 藤篆蛙蛙祭粉丝 <i>Allergy: chili</i>	Spicy Ground Pork Thai Style 泰式婚內板 Stir fry Vegetables 泰式蔬菜 Allergy: fish sauce, chili	Pork Stewed with Pickled Chinese Cabbage 酸菜白肉 Stir fry Mushroom 干滴杏螅菇 Allergy: mushroom
Oil-Splashed Noodles 油波面 Cucumber Salad 拌黄瓜 Fried Eggs 煎鸡蛋 <i>Allergy: wheat, egg</i>	Rice Noodles / Rice with Fish in Pickled Mustard Greens Soup 酸集鱼粉/板 Green Vegetables 煮蔬菜 <u>Allergy: fish</u>	Noodles with Seafood Broth 三峰打卤面 boiled Vegetable 煮蔬菜 Allergy: shrimp, wheat	Noodles with Beef Soup 牛肉板面 boiled Vegetables 煮蔬菜 Allergy: wheat, beef	Spaghetti Bolognese 电管面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 <u>Allergy: wheat, beef</u>
	Stir Fried Vegetables with Black Pepper Sauce 黑朝椒炒时蔬 <u>Allergy: milk, chili, soy sauce</u>	Noodles in Vegetable Sauce 打鹵素面 <u>Allergy: wheat</u>	Happy Cow Burger (spicy bean-based patty) 豆子蔬菜汉堡 <i>Allergy: wheat, chickpea</i>	Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce 卷為意面 <u>Allergy: wheat</u>
Tomato and Egg Soup 西红柿鸡蛋汤	Pumpkin Soup あ瓜汤	Millet Congee 小米粥	Vegetable and Egg Soup 蔬菜鸡蛋汤	White Fungus Sweet Soup 銀耳紅豆羹
Banana Bread 香蕉包	Cookies 併干	Doughnuts 紛紛图	Carrot Cake 胡萝卜蛋糕	Mochi 麻田
Nutritional reading over the week 秦風誉养分析	Energy 热量 (Kcal) 789	Protein 委台 质(g) 30	Carbohydrate 碳水(g) 108	Fat 脂肪(g) 25



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DIARY DATES

Monday~Friday - October 27~31, 2025 Library Week

Wednesday - November 5, 2025 Musical Rehearsal (All Day)

Friday~Sunday - November 7~9, 2025 TIANMUN

Monday - November 17, 2025 Musical Rehearsal (All Day)

Thursday~Friday - November 20~21, 2025 Musical Production (Night Time)

Friday - November 28, 2025 Christmas Tree Lighting@RITZ

SPORTS DATES

25 October – ISAC MS Badminton- Boys @ KWA; Girls @ ISB ISCOT HSVB Tournament: Boys @ IST; Girls @ TEDA

> 27 October – HSVB Practice 12

28 October -MSFB Practice 12

30 October – ACAMIS Volleyball @ NIS MSFB Practice 13

31 October – ACAMIS Volleyball @ NIS

Welcome to the IST Sports and Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) Program for the 2025-2026 school year

Please take note of the following dates:

Season 1 Sport Schedule

- Starts Thursday, 4 September and ends Friday, 14November
- $^{\odot}$ The program will run for approximately 10 school weeks $^{\odot}$
- No CCAs during holidays and PTSCs (conferences)

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

- Mr. Silvis Athletics & 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.