



THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



Dear Parents

What a busy week! **On Tuesday we celebrated Earth Day**, one of our Community Curriculum's most important annual legacy events, and a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our responsibility to safeguard the well-being of our planet, while also encouraging our community to maintain a positive outlook towards a greener future. It can be overwhelming for young people as they look towards a future that seems to be dominated by the awful specter of global warming and endless conflict, yet it is my firm belief that as adults and teachers we must remain optimistic and encouraging about the prospects for change and a better, more peaceful world. I was especially pleased therefore to note how some of the Earth Day presentations focused not just on the negative impacts of human behaviour on our planet, but also on the many sustainability successes that result from the concerted efforts – often small on an individual basis – of committed communities, 'working, learning and acting together for our common future'.

On Thursday, elementary students enjoyed the opportunity to engage in a range of sporting and physical challenges as part of **Elementary Sports Day** (another Community Curriculum legacy event, this one tied to well-being). It is always terrific to see our students engaged in activities and learning beyond the classroom that promote physical and emotional health, and a deeper respect for the importance of maintaining balance in our lives. I will play the proud parent for a moment here, quoting the experience of my youngest daughter, Taylor, who graduated as Valedictorian of IST's Class of 2019. In her valedictory speech, Taylor highlighted the importance that active participation in school sports played in supporting her academic successes, including right through her IB Diploma studies and examinations. She stressed to our community her conviction that without the physical release of sports, she could never have maintained the intensity of her academic studies; athletics and academics really do complement one another!

Last night the IST Board of Governors met with two of the main items on the agenda including approval of school fees and the draft budget for the upcoming school year. The Board released its decision on the school fee structure for next year in a community announcement earlier today, along with the annual '**Intent to Return**' survey, which asks parents to provide an early indication about whether or not they intend to have their children return to IST next year, or not. Please note that the survey is 'non-binding' so of course you are welcome to change your minds, without consequence, and knowing that regardless of your initial intentions, a place will remain secure for your children until such time that you have made your final decision. Oh, and the good news: **I am also delighted to celebrate the news that IST will not increase tuition and bus fees for the new school year.** That's right, IST school and bus fees will remain at the same level for the fourth year in a row!

CONTENTS

- [Health & Wellbeing](#)
- [Parent Partnership](#)
- [Library](#)
- [PE News](#)
- [Secondary](#)
- [PFO](#)
- [CCA](#)
- [2025-26 Community-wide Goal](#)
- [Menu](#)
- [Diary Dates](#)





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A thought for our graduating seniors (and their parents!) who commence their final IB Diploma examinations on Monday. **We are incredibly proud of the Grade 12 students in this wonderful cohort** and wish them every success in these incredibly demanding examinations. And, as mentioned above, I highly recommend that the parents of our graduating class encourage their hard-working children to take time to exercise as well as study, and to eat and sleep well!

Finally, I thought that you might like to check out an IST promotional video created by Ms. Islen Craig, our elementary literacy coach. I believe Ms. Craig first wrote the lyrics for the song with one of her former Grade 2 classes, a song that focuses on the spirit of being an IST student and community member through the letters of our school name (IST), our motto (working, learning and acting together), our learner profile (friendly, inquirer, etc.), and our athletics mascot (Blaze, and our students, themselves blazing dragons). Great stuff Ms. Craig, and IST! https://youtu.be/KjzsLou_E00?-feature=shared

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

Steve Moody
Director





THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



IST HEALTH AND WELLBEING

DEAM

DROP EVERYTING AND MOVE

APRIL

BURPEE 30-DAY CHALLENGE
@ darebee.com

COUNTDOWN

30 burpees	29 burpees	28 burpees	27 burpees	26 burpees
25 burpees	24 burpees	23 burpees	22 burpees	21 burpees
20 burpees	19 burpees	18 burpees	17 burpees	16 burpees
15 burpees	14 burpees	13 burpees	12 burpees	11 burpees
10 burpees	9 burpees	8 burpees	7 burpees	6 burpees
5 burpees	4 burpees	3 burpees	2 burpees	1 burpee



As parents, we naturally protect and advocate for our children. From their earliest years, we make almost all the decisions concerning their safety and surroundings. As they grow older and become more independent, they gradually begin making more choices for themselves. Our role is to guide them in developing the confidence and social skills they need to navigate life responsibly.

Most children don't become assertive simply because we tell them to "speak up." They need to hear examples, practise useful phrases, and try out scripts in low-stakes situations before they can use them confidently when it really matters.

This week's Parent Partnership provides some simple, child-friendly phrases that can help empower your children to find their voice.

IST Counseling

PHRASES TO HELP KIDS STAND UP FOR THEMSELVES

"People will say negative things, but you get to choose if you want to believe them or not."

"You are allowed to say NO."

"Let's practice what you would say to someone bothering you."

"Setting boundaries means telling the person what you ARE okay with and NOT okay with."





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.

Birthday Book Club

Thank you to Jun Hee, grade 7, for his birthday book donation to the library. Jun Hee donated the book *Space Case: the graphic novel* by Stuart Gibbs. *Space Case* is a new mystery and science fiction graphic novel set on the moon. Since Jun Hee enjoys science fiction and graphic novels, we hope he will enjoy this birthday book. Happy birthday, Jun Hee!

If you would like to celebrate a special birthday with the IST Library Birthday Book Club, please contact library staff at Linnea_Simon@istianjin.org.cn or lisa_fang@istianjin.org.cn (Chinese) for more information.



Book Fair

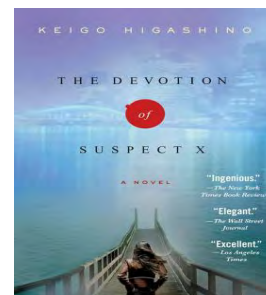
Thank you for supporting the Book Fair this week! The students were excited about the wide range of books available, and it was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm for reading across the school. Book fairs also directly support the growth of our library collection. Through your purchases and participation, we are able to bring in new, high-quality titles that benefit all students.



Parent Book Club: May 19 in the Library

Our last Parent Book Club selection of this school year is *The Devotion of Suspect X* by Keigo Higashino. We will meet in the library to discuss the book on Tuesday, May 19th at 8:30 am. The library has copies of the book in English, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean. A digital copy in English or Chinese is also available upon request.

Please consider joining us 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.



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



BLAZING DRAGONS



Dear all,

What could be better than waking up tomorrow morning, grabbing a cup of coffee and tea if you are a student, turning on the livestream, and watching our high school girls' football team play in their last tournament of the year?

Even better would be waking up, getting your coffee or tea, and heading to IST to watch our girls play in person!

The tournament will start around 9:00 a.m. Here is the link to the livestream:

[HS Football Girls Live stream](#)

Tournament schedule

Field 1 Field 2

8:30-9:00 Arrival & Warmups

9:00-9:55 IST vs. Wellington Live stream TIS vs. TEDA

9:55 - 10:05 Break Break

10:30-11:05 IST vs. TEDA Live Stream TIS vs. Wellington

11:05 - 11:15 Break Break

11:15-12:10 TIS vs. IST Live Stream TEDA vs. Wellington

Go Blazing Dragons!!!!

[LIVE STREAM LINK](#)



BLAZING DRAGONS



IST Badminton – ACAMIS Tournament Wrap-Up

Three days. Thirteen opponents. One proud team of Dragons.

Our badminton squad represented IST with heart and determination across the entire ACAMIS Tournament. From a strong Day 1 with four pool wins, through the Shield and Bowl competitions, every player left everything on the court.

A huge shoutout to our Boys Doubles pair Yuntse and Thomas, who were the standout performers of the tournament, winning an impressive 9 out of their 13 matches. Their consistency, chemistry, and fight made them a force to be reckoned with all week long. What a tournament, boys.

And a special moment to recognize Han Ho, who played in his final ACAMIS tournament before graduating this year. Han Ho competed with skill, pride, and class throughout – earning a 2nd place pool ranking and battling his way through the individual elimination rounds. Thank you for everything you've given to IST badminton, Han Ho. You'll be missed.

Win or lose, this team showed what it means to be a Dragon – grit, sportsmanship, and a never-give-up attitude. The experience and lessons from this tournament will carry these players forward for years to come. A big thank you to Coach Lily and Coach Gu who prepared our students for this fierce competition.

Once a Dragon, always a Dragon.



BLAZING DRAGONS



Girls Basketball vs Wellington (Away)

The IST Girls traveled to Wellington for a hard-fought away fixture, narrowly falling 16-21 in a game that could have gone either way.

Despite the final score, the girls led for much of the match and delivered one of their strongest all-around performances of the season.

The team is clearly beginning to click – communication was stronger, movement was purposeful, and our strategies are starting to take shape in real game situations. Offensively, the attack looked far more organized, with better spacing and decision-making. Shooting accuracy has improved significantly, creating more scoring opportunities, though we will continue working to build consistency and confidence under pressure.

While the result didn't fall our way, this performance showed real growth and progress. The girls should be proud of how they competed and represented IST – we are moving in the right direction

Go Blazing Dragons!





BLAZING DRAGONS



MS Boys Basketball IST vs Wellington

The IST Boys secured a strong 24-12 victory over Wellington in a game they controlled from start to finish. The team dominated possession, created numerous scoring opportunities, and showed clear progress in their overall organization and teamwork.

While the result was convincing, the performance also highlighted important areas for growth. We missed several open chances that could have extended our lead further – capitalizing on those opportunities will be a key focus moving forward. Maintaining composure with the ball and staying calm under pressure is another area we will continue to develop.

Overall, it was a solid and well-deserved win, with plenty of positives to celebrate and clear goals to work on in upcoming practices. Great effort from the boys!

Go Blazing Dragons!





BLAZING DRAGONS



Sports Update

Important dates

Badminton ACAMIS

Wednesday 15 - Saturday 18 April @ Key



Basketball

Saturday 18 April MS ISAC Girls@DSP Boys@CISB
Saturday 9 May MS ISCOT Girls@TIS Boys@TEDA



Football

Friday 17th April Boys and Girls IST vs TEDA@ IST
Saturday 18 April HS ISAC Girls and Boys both@DCB
Friday 27 March HS IST vs WEL @ WEL
Friday 24 April EL ISCOT (G1-G5) @ WEL
Saturday 25 April HS Girls @ IST Boys @ TIS



Go Blazing Dragons!





INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly



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SUMMER THEATRE

May 7, 2026 • 2pm–3pm

Behind HAN Building





The Things She Held

By Martha Epstein
Grade 9 Drama

A simple speech spirals into chaos—Big Bang theories, awkward love, childhood memories, and thoughts that won't stay in order. It's fast, funny, and beautifully confusing—like your brain at 2am.

This is a story about the one thing we're all bad at: letting go

Mengchun Fu
Hanano Kato
Farida Li
William Song
Victoria Zhang



You Chose the Cage (Happily)

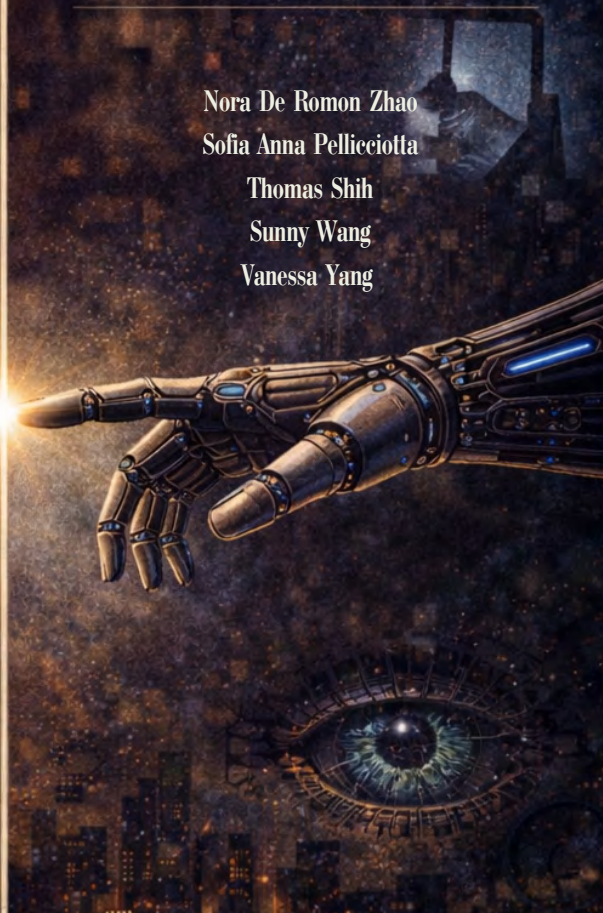
An Original Play
Grade 10 Drama

Picture this: It's Christmas, you're stressed—so you ask AI: "What do I buy mum?" Easy, right?

Suddenly everyone's hooked: essays, recipes, even therapy. It's funny. Familiar. Comforting. Until it isn't.

Because the more we rely on it... the stranger—and darker—things start to feel.

Nora De Romon Zhao
Sofia Anna Pellicciotta
Thomas Shih
Sunny Wang
Vanessa Yang





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IST parents activities

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 Dragon Playgroup	Tuesday	9:00-11:00	Nursery Classroom
Parents Workshop	Once a month	Flexible	Elementary meeting room



INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

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JOIN PFO VOLUNTEER TEAM WE NEED YOU

Come volunteer, stay connected!

SIGN UP NOW

PFO

IST_PFO@istianjin.org.cn




PARENT FACULTY ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF TIANJIN

AI Translation
Glasses will be
provided!

**Wednesday
20th May**

- 8.15 - COFFEE AND SNACK
- 9.00 - WELCOME AND PFO UPDATE
- 9.10 - DIRECTOR & PRINCIPAL INTRODUCTION
- 9.30 - UPCOMING EVENTS WITH PFO

TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY



Meeting held in the Teacher's centre on 2nd floor in Han building.
Take the big black staircase to the left of the library.



WEEKLY CCA SPOTLIGHT

Elementary Football

From Coach: The football CCA focuses on building basic skills and teamwork through fun, fast-paced drills. Players work on dribbling, passing, and first touch, as well as basic defending and scoring techniques. Tactical vocabulary and positioning are also introduced to support player development. Every session includes small-sided games so students can apply what they learn right away—helping them grow as players and as sportsmen.

From students: We play lots of fun games at our football CCA and at the end we get to play a game of football. My favourite is when I get to be an alien and I need to attack all the humans.





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.





Weekly Menu (N-G1) 20-24 Apr

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Mini Pizza Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Cheese Sandwich Fruit Cut
Omelette 煎蛋卷 Scallion Pancake 葱油饼 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 <i>Allergy: egg</i>	Baked Fusilli w/Meat Sauce 螺旋面配牛肉酱 Stir Fry Zucchini and Corn 西葫玉米 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 <i>Allergy: wheat</i>	Pork and Chinese Cabbage Dumplings 猪肉白菜水饺 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 <i>Allergy: wheat</i>	Fried Chicken, Curry Omelette Rice 日式炸鸡咖喱蛋包饭 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 <i>Allergy: egg</i>	Fish and Chips 鱼条薯条 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 <i>Allergy: fish, wheat</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) 712	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 33	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 112	Fat 脂肪 (g) 22

Weekly Menu (N-G1) 27-30 Apr

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Steamed Dumplings Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	
Teriyaki Rice with Cheese 照烧芝士饭 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 <i>Allergy: cheese, seaweed, sesame</i>	Beef Goulash 红烩牛肉 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 Plain Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: beef, soy sauce</i>	Beef Lasagna 牛肉千层面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 <i>Allergy: milk, wheat</i>	Chicken Burger 鸡肉汉堡 Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 <i>Allergy: wheat</i>	
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) 35	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 118	Fat 脂肪 (g) 23

Weekly Menu (G2-G12) 27-30 Apr

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	
Penne with Pesto/Cream/Tomato Sauce 意大利面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Egg with Herb 香草烤鸡蛋 <i>Allergy: cheese, egg (served on the side)</i>	Beef Goulash 红烩牛肉 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Plain Rice 米饭 <i>Allergy: beef, soy sauce</i>	Beef Lasagna 牛肉千层面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Potatoes 烤土豆 <i>Allergy: beef, milk, wheat</i>	Chicken Burger 鸡肉汉堡 French Fries 薯条 <i>Allergy: wheat</i>	
Bibimbap 韩式拌饭 Boiled Egg 煮鸡蛋 <i>Allergy: egg (served on the side)</i>	Fried Chicken, Curry Omelette Rice 炸鸡块咖喱蛋包饭 Stir Fried Vegetables 清炒时蔬 <i>Allergy: egg</i>	Deep Fried Chicken Leg 香酥鸡腿 Steamed Chinese Cabbage 蒜蓉娃娃菜 <i>Allergy: soy sauce</i>	BBQ Pork Wrap 小饼卷烤猪肉 Grilled Vegetables 煎时蔬/麻酱面筋 <i>Allergy: sesame, wheat</i>	
Noodles with Tomato and Egg Sauce 番茄鸡蛋面 Stir Fried Potato with Green Pepper 青椒土豆丝 <i>Allergy: wheat, egg</i>	Spicy Hot Pot 麻辣拌 Noodle 面条 <i>Allergy: sesame, wheat</i>	Biangbiang Noodles with Ground Pork Biangbiang 面 Stir Fried Tomato with Egg 西红柿炒鸡蛋 <i>Allergy: egg, sesame, wheat</i>	Stir Fried Rice Noodle with Shrimps 星河虾仁炒米粉 Stir Fried Vegetables with Sambal 泰巴蔬菜 <i>Allergy: shrimp</i>	
Laver and Egg Soup 紫菜鸡蛋汤	Ratatouille 意大利炖蔬菜	Biangbiang Noodles with Tomato and Egg Sauce Biangbiang 面	Stir Fried Rice Noodles with Vegetables 素炒米粉	
	Pumpkin Soup 南瓜汤	Red Bean Soup 红豆汤	Vegetable and Egg Soup 蔬菜鸡蛋汤	
Rice balls 糯米糍	Cookies 饼干	Chocolate Cake 巧克力蛋糕	Mango Mousse 芒果慕斯	
Nutritional reading over the week 每周营养分析	Energy 热量 (Kcal) 779	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 32	Carbohydrate 碳水 (g) 120	Fat 脂肪 (g) 25



DIARY DATES

Monday~Friday - April 27~May 22, 2026
IB Diploma Exams

Friday - May 1, 2026
May Day Break

Wednesday - May 6, 2026
ELA Entrance Testing

Thursday - May 7, 2026
Summer Theatre

Monday~Friday - May 18~22, 2026
Secondary Exams (G9-11)

Wednesday - May 20, 2026
Departing Families Session
Teacher Appreciation Day

SPORTS DATES

25 April –
ISCOT HSFB Boys @ TIS; Girls @ IST

28 April –
MSBB Practice 12

30 April –
MSBB Practice 13

5 May –
ISAC AD's AGM @ DSP
MSBB Practice 14

6 May –
ISAC AD's AGM @ DSP

7 May –
MSBB Practice 15

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 3 Sport Schedule

- ☺ Starts Monday, 9 March and ends Friday, 22 May
- ☺ 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. 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.