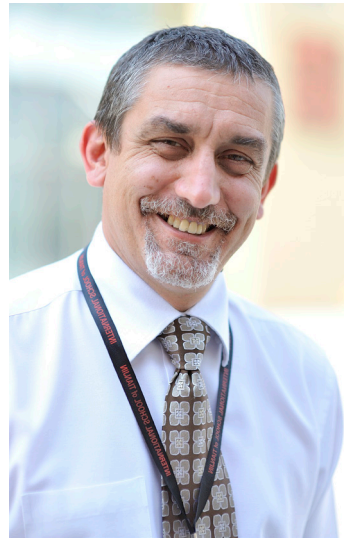




THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



Dear Parents and Students

Apart from our very busy seniors who are intensely engaged in their IB Diploma final examinations, we have had an unusually quiet week here in school, although yesterday's 'Summer Theatre' was certainly one highlight! Do be sure to read the article from Ms. Alosi in next week's edition of Blaze.

I am pleased to share the news that we have completed the survey on each IST family's 'Intent to Return' to IST next year, with early surveying indicating a higher-than-normal anticipated return to school rate of 88% (not including the departing graduates). This strong anticipated retention, combined with an early surge in applications from new students, certainly bodes well for 2026-27 enrolment!

As I have met with new families over the past several weeks, it has become clear that the same core priorities continue to reign over parental decision-making when it comes to selecting the right school for their children. There are numerous factors that influence parental perceptions and decisions, and although these sometimes vary across demographics, there are definitely some common trends. Based on my personal experience and judgement, I would suggest the following prioritized list of factors would align closely with the views of many parents, and I therefore feel quite confident when I tell new parents that although we may not be perfect in all regards, all the time, our school is nevertheless deeply committed to delivering on these promises.

1. Commitment to meeting the unique interests, abilities, and needs of individual students;
2. High quality teaching (and teachers) and learning;
3. Internationally recognized and rigorous curriculum framework that prepares students for the future (including repatriation to home country systems, university matriculation, and lifelong learning);
4. World-class facilities and resources, and tuition that provides real value for money;
5. A diverse and inclusive community that prioritizes wellbeing; and
6. A wealth of opportunities beyond the classroom.

One of the most obvious and easily judged factors, while ultimately not as important as quality teachers, is the provision of high-quality facilities and resources to support learning. I was therefore especially proud to be able to lead the first parent tour of our magnificent new athletics center and gymnasium on Wednesday. I think it is fair to say every single parent in attendance was genuinely impressed ('wow'ed even!) by this wonderful new facility that will further support our programmes (both curricular and co-curricular) and the physical wellbeing of our students and community. Check out some photos <https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/EWoNc1NVTtQnRAoCrETOiw>, or even better still, come in and look for yourself because the doors are now open!

Wishing you all a wonderfully relaxing weekend.

Steve Moody
Director

CONTENTS

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





THE BLAZE

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IST HEALTH AND
WELLBEING

DEAM

DROP EVERYTHING AND MOVE

MAY

WELL, THAT HAPPENED

DAREBEE WORKOUT

© darebee.com

LEVEL I 3 sets

LEVEL II 5 sets

LEVEL III 7 sets

REST up to 2 minutes



10 reverse lunges



10 slow butt kicks



10 butt kicks



2 plank walk-outs



2 plank jump-ins



2 heel clicks



10-count hold



Self-regulation isn't just a coping skill for hard times—it's a life-long resource that supports learning, creativity, healthy relationships, and overall well-being. When your kids are feeling anxious, scared, worried, or upset, their body gets flooded with stress hormones that signal their brain they are in danger. Once this occurs, it becomes difficult for them to manage their behavior or communicate what they are feeling because their physiology is on high alert and they are essentially being run by their stress hormones. By using these affirmation phrases, you can help their body reduce stress, allowing them to return to a calm state more quickly and easily.

IST Counseling

PHRASES TO TAKE KIDS FROM ANXIOUS TO CALM

"Use your imagination to go somewhere that makes you feel happy. Where will you go?"

"You're strong and safe. Take a deep breath with me."

"It's okay to feel anxious. I'm here for you."

"Let's focus on what we can control right now."





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 note the dates below for returning library books and borrowing books for the summer. Permission slips for summer checkout will be sent home soon (permission slips are not required for secondary students).

* End of Year Library Dates *

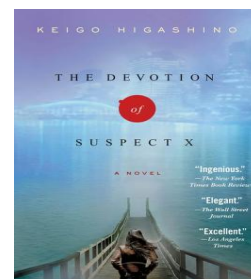
- May 22:** Last day to borrow library books
- May 25-29:** All library books & bags returned
- May 25-June 2:** Library summer checkout

Permission slips for summer checkout will be sent home soon. Students must clear their library accounts before borrowing books for the summer. If you are unsure if your child has overdue books, please contact library staff.

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



From Story to Future: Our G10 University Visit

As our Grade 10 students prepare to transition into the Diploma Programme, we took a meaningful step back before looking forward. This trip marked the close of a journey that began with a simple but powerful question: what is our story? Students reflected on everything they have built since primary school – inside and outside the classroom – and learned to take pride in it. They discovered how to shape that story into a CV, chose their DP subjects with greater confidence, and then stepped onto a university campus to see, for the very first time, where that story could lead.



A CAMPUS THAT BRINGS LEARNING TO LIFE



From the moment we arrived, it was clear that this university understood something important – that education is about far more than sitting in a classroom. A technology showcase centre greeted us with striking visuals of real research being developed by students, and a project lab showed how academic work connects directly to the professional world, with companies visiting campus to collaborate with students. The final year even brings different disciplines together to build robots, a vivid reminder of why learning to think across subjects matters so much. The Extended Essay-CAS and TOK came to life.

The library told its own story, vast and full of surprises, from rare historical texts showing how knowledge has always travelled across borders, to a cultural centre with Chinese heritage materials and a French literary exhibition. And woven through all of it was a thriving community, UN Day celebrations open to all, student clubs protecting campus wildlife, rowing teams, dormitories, green open spaces. A little world of its own, well within reach. This is what we prepare them for.

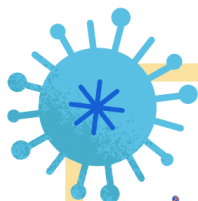


INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



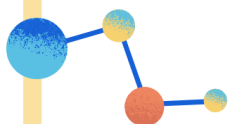
IST

WEDNESDAY MAY 22ND / 11:30AM - 12:50 PM



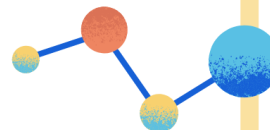
LET'S HAVE FUN!

SCIENCE FAIR



GRADE
8

Parents and community
members are warmly
welcome to attend – come
out and celebrate our
young scientists!



To be held on the second
floor of the Han building



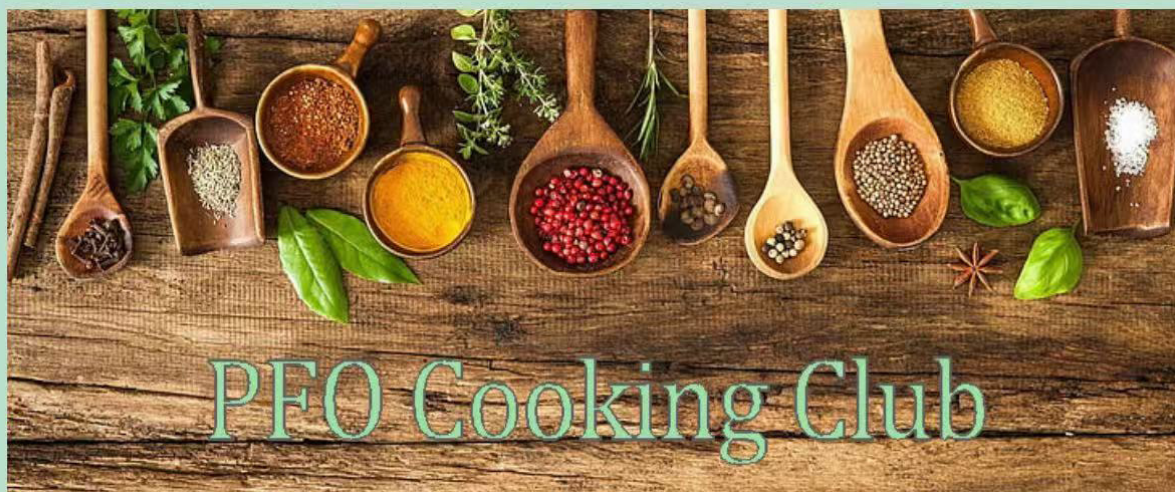
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IST parents activities

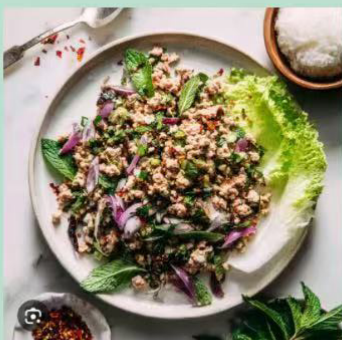
Class	Day	Time	Place
Yoga	Monday Wednesday	8:15-9:15	Theater or Black box
English Corner	Monday	10: 00-11: 30	Elementary meeting room
Korean Class	Monday	1:30-3:00	Elementary meeting room
Spanish Class	Tuesday	1:00-2:00	Elementary meeting room
Zumba	Thursday	10:00-10:45	Theater or Black box
Chinese Corner	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



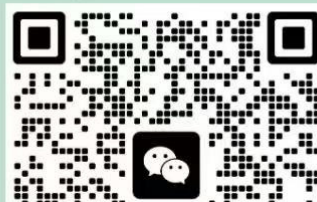
Food theme: Laos Asian Fusion cooking class

Menu :

1. Chicken Larb - Roasted minced chicken salad
2. Mee Ka Tee - Noodle pork curry *Halal options available
3. Mango sticky rice



- When : Wednesday, May 13th, 09:00am-2pm
- Where : IST Elementary Kitchen
- Host : Aksone
- Cost : 100 RMB per person







PFO Hiking to JiXian

Date: May 16 Saturday

 Meeting Time: 6:30 AM — IST

 Departure: 7:00 AM — North Gate of AoCheng

 End of Hike: 3:30 PM

 Arrival in Tianjin: 6:30 PM

Open to IST community

Children: Ages 6 and above

Normal Price: ¥140/person

PFO Subsidy: ¥100/person

Your Cost: Only ¥40/person



Organizer IST PFO

Please scan the code to join






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

POTTERY

During the first few weeks of our Pottery CCA, students have been learning the fundamentals of hand building and wheel throwing. They have made pinch pots, crafted coil pots, and worked with slabs to create a wide variety of items. Some students have bravely attempted throwing on the wheel as well. It has been wonderful to watch them approach new challenges with a growth mindset while having fun and experience success along the way! The students have also shown their creative side. Some have created more functional pieces like vases and bowls, while others have made different animals, like birds and sting rays. One student even crafted an entire McDonald's meal! It is great to see students getting their hands dirty and creating interesting art.





THE BLAZE

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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.





Weekly Menu (N-G1)

4-8 May

Table with 5 columns (Monday-Friday) and 5 rows (Dessert, Main Dish, Fruit of the Day, Allergy, Nutritional reading over the week) for the 4-8 May period.

11-15 May

Table with 5 columns (Monday-Friday) and 5 rows (Dessert, Main Dish, Fruit of the Day, Allergy, Nutritional reading over the week) for the 11-15 May period.

Weekly Menu (G2-G12) 11-15 May

Table with 5 columns (Monday-Friday) and 12 rows (Dessert, Main Dish, Fruit of the Day, Allergy, Nutritional reading over the week) for the 11-15 May period.



DIARY DATES

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

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

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

Saturday - May 23, 2026
European Chamber Soccer Tournament & Family Day

Wednesday - May 27, 2026
N-G2 Spring Show

Thursday - May 28, 2026
Secondary Sports Day & Sports Awards

Friday - May 29, 2026
G12 Graduation Ceremony

Friday~Thursday - May 29~June 4, 2026
Middle Years University

SPORTS DATES

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.