INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly Friday 20 November 2026

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



CONTENTS

- Scholarship Announcement 2027-29
- Library
- PE News
- CCA
- Secondary
- PFO
- 2026-27 Community-wide Goal
- Menu
- Diary Dates

Dear Parents

Each November we carry out a **community-wide climate survey** to solicit your feedback about various aspects of the school's performance. The survey link was first sent out by the school office last Friday, with reminders on Tuesday and then again yesterday, and a third reminder via the PFO liaisons. Unfortunately, however, we have still only received around 38% of the anticipated number of responses. It really is very important to get a strong response rate so that we can feel confident that the feedback is valid and truly representative of community sentiment. I therefore kindly ask that you **please check your emails** and take just a few minutes to complete the survey to help ensure that we are better informed about where the school is performing well, and perhaps, where we need to improve.

I don't normally share individual comments from the surveys, but I will draw attention to one that indicated that the parent was feeling rather frustrated about the school's response to the recent identification of a **head lice** outbreak. The parent appeared very angry that the school did not make students stay at home longer than one day, once an infestation was identified and the child sent home. While I appreciate that keeping children at home longer definitely reduces the likelihood that they will receive treatment and thus be less likely to return to school with an ongoing infestation, I would also point out that all returning children are first screened by the school nurse (with some sent home again!) and then monitored again over the following 7-10 days until we are sure they are lice free. Additionally, many students returned to school with doctor's notes stating that they had been treated and were lice free. Under such circumstances, it really is very difficult to tell a parent that their child cannot return to school! Please rest assured, nevertheless, that we really are taking this seriously as a school: we have hired additional nurses, carried out two school-wide checks, and we continue to monitor all identified students and their siblings. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

On Wednesday evening the **IST Board of Governors** met, making several important decisions, focusing, as always, on efforts to continuously improve our school programs, staffing, and infrastructure and facilities. I am particularly excited to report the Board's approval for the school to move forward with a new cutting-edge **School Intelligence Platform** which will employ an air-gapped, and school owned, trained and controlled AI system that will allow us to oversee and regulate the legal, appropriate and controlled use of a dedicated AI to support learning and teaching, not to mention school operational systems. We are adopting the 'Diamond Formation' structure described by 9ine, a firm that advises schools on data governance and compliance, and we will assign a lead staff member to oversee each of its four key domains: Academic, Technology, Privacy and Legal, and Student Safety.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

I am also pleased to be able to release an overview of the **2027-28 school calendar**, also approved on Wednesday, so that you can begin to plan your holidays! Please see the new calendar at the following link: https://www.istianjin.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/11/2027-28-Calendar-Approved-version.pdf

Finally, students and supporting staff have dedicated endless hours over the past several months in preparation for **this year's musical, 'Fairytale High'**. Having heard the students practicing and seeing just a little of yesterday's matinee performance, I am pretty confident that we are all in for a real treat tonight, and I do encourage any members of our community who have not yet purchased tickets (just RMB 20) to come along this evening (before 7 PM) where I believe you will still be able to grab one of the last remaining seats! To the cast and crew, congratulations, and as they say in showbiz, break a leg!

I wish you all the very best for a relaxing weekend.

Steve Moody
Director





Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



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:

- All applicants **MUST** have a parent or legal guardian residing with them during their studies in Tianjin. **IST DOES NOT provide boarding facilities of any kind to students.**
- **Academic Excellence**:
  - Current IST students must have honors/high honors in at least 2 of the last 3 semesters.
  - Non-IST candidates should be in the top 25% of their class.
- **Community Contribution**:
  - Active involvement in CAS activities.
  - Promotion of the IB Diploma Programme.
  - Leadership within the school community.

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 5, 2027
- **Scholarship Examinations**: Saturday, February 20, 2027 (9:00am–2:30pm)
- **Interviews**: Around March 3, 2027
- **Award Anouncement**: Late March/early April 2027



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



- **Financial Need**: Consideration for current IST students needing financial assistance. (Non-IST students **DO NOT** need to demonstrate financial need.)

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 5, 2027**. 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 20**, from **9:00am to 2:00pm**. Students will complete three papers:

1. **Mathematics** (9:00am–10:30am)
   Focus: Mathematical skills and problem-solving.
2. **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 short- and long-term goals. Feel free to bring supporting materials to the interview.

Interviews will be scheduled for March 3 unless otherwise notified.

Results

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

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN
Weekly
THE BLAZE
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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 Language	Language at Home		Other Languages
Email Address				
Schools Attended (Begin with current school)				
Grade(s)	School Name	Location (city/country)	Language(s) of Instruction	Dates Attended mm/yy – mm/yy

Please complete all parts of this application form

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



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		

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN
Weekly
THE BLAZE
Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

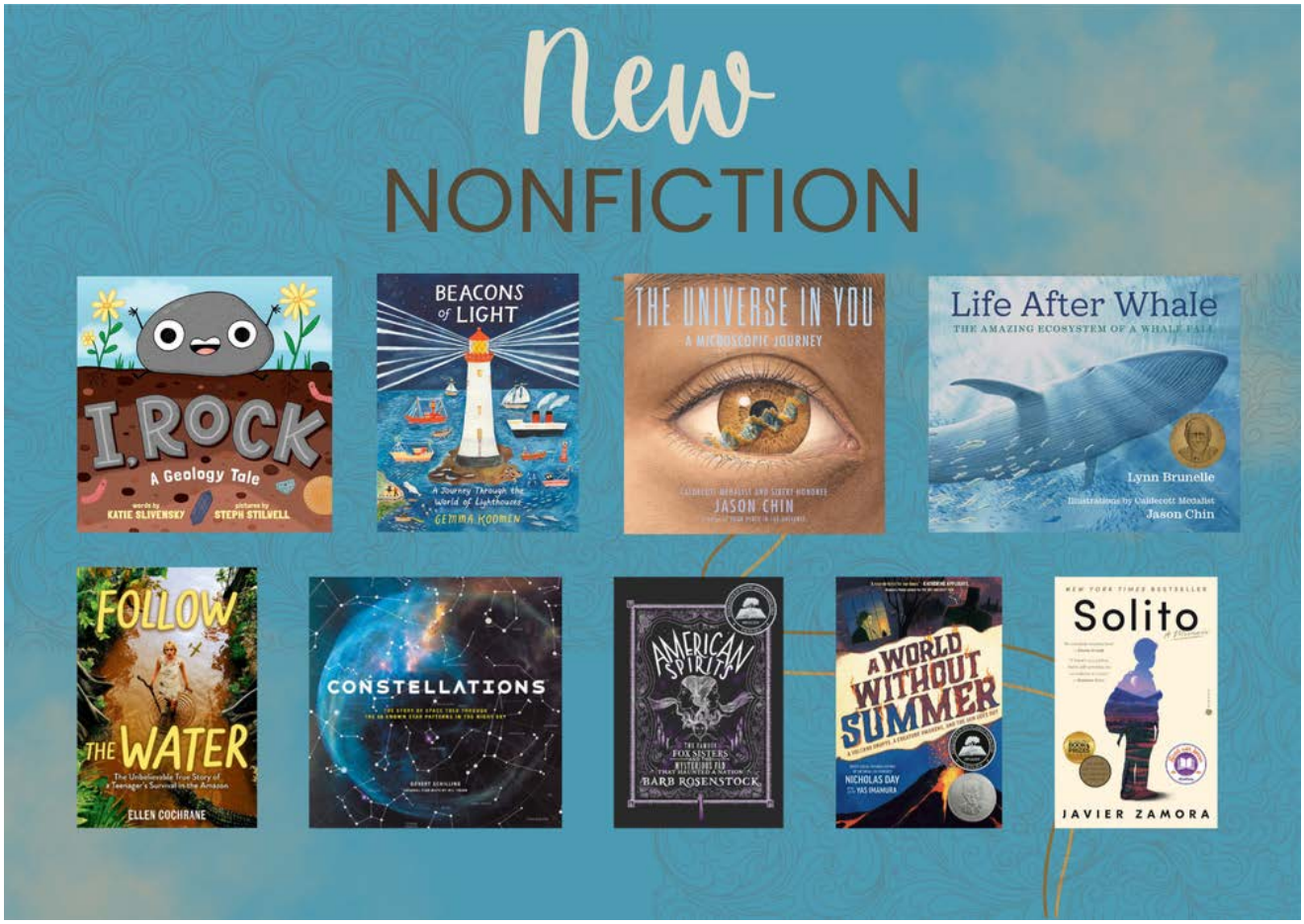
IST Library & Information Literacy Center

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.

Nonfiction November

This November, explore the real world through our diverse nonfiction collection at the library. With books for all age levels, there's something for everyone. Whether you're interested in history, science, or personal stories, find books that inform and engage. Celebrate learning and discovery with us this month during Nonfiction November. Stop by and pick up something new to read!



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

Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

Library Week Character Photos

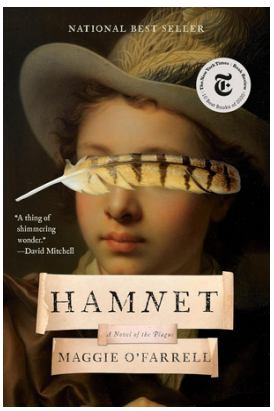








Parent Book Club: Nov. 26th



Our next book selection is the novel ***Hamnet*** by Maggie O'Farrell. We will meet to discuss the book on Thursday, November 26th 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 join 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

Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



Honoring Our Athletic Legacy

The gym has a new centerpiece! Our newly installed Athletic Excellence Wall recognizes the many student-athletes who have demonstrated exceptional commitment, character, and achievement through our athletic programs. Featuring past recipients from both Middle School and High School, the display celebrates our rich athletic tradition and the values that define our community.

More than a record of athletic accomplishment, the wall honors students who have pursued excellence within themselves through dedication and perseverance, inspired excellence among others through leadership and teamwork, and made an impact beyond themselvesthrough service and sportsmanship. It stands as both a celebration of past achievements and an inspiration for current and future Blaze athletes to pursue excellence in sport, character, and community.

July 17

Upcoming

November 2026

Nov 23 (Mon): HSBB Wellington @ IST **LIVE STREAM**

Nov 30 (Mon): HSBB TEDA @ IST **LIVE STREAM**

December 2026

Dec 5 (Sat): ISAC MS Volleyball Exchange — Boys @ IST; Girls @ IST

Dec 5 (Sat): U12 Volleyball Boys @ Keystone; Girls @ Keystone

Dec 7 (Mon): HS Basketball TIS @ IST

Dec 10 (Thu): MS Volleyball IST @ TIS

Blaze Basketball Set to Host ACAMIS Orange Division Tournament

From **January 21-23, 2027**, our school will proudly host the ACAMIS U19 Orange Division Basketball Championships, welcoming some of the region's top student-athletes for three days of competition, sportsmanship, and school spirit.

Participating schools include Harrow International School Shanghai, The International School of Macao (TIS), Shekou International School (SIS Shenzhen), Nanjing International School (NIS), Hong Kong Academy (HKA), and, of course, our own Blaze Boys and Girls Basketball Teams.

This exciting event will showcase outstanding basketball, foster connections among student-athletes from across Asia, and provide our community with an opportunity to demonstrate the hospitality, pride, and energy that define Blaze Athletics. We look forward to cheering on all participating teams and creating a memorable championship experience for our athletes and visitors.

DRAGONS

D – Dedication R – Respect A – Achievement G - Growth O – Openness N – Nurturing S – Spirit

Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



CCA S2 STARTS MONDAY 23 NOV

Still available:

Monday:
Mindful Kid (PYP 1-3)

Tuesday:
Cross Stitching (PYP 4-6)
Elementary Basketball (PYP 4-6)
Crochet (MYP1-DP2)
Dunggeons and Dragons(MYP1-DP2)

Wednesday:
Cooking (PYP1-3)
Elementary Fitness (PYP3-5)
Art & Design Lab (MYP 1-3)

Thursday:
Ballet (PYP 1-3)
Rock Climbing (PYP 4-6)
Fashion Design (PYP 4-6)

Most Popular:

Chess
Elementary Badminton
MS Volleyball
MUN

Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Donate Toys,
Donate Happiness



*Please donate new or little used toys only

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2026

LOCATION: IST 2ND FLOOR
IHO BOOTH

iho@istianjin.org.cn

Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

PARENT FACULTY ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF TIANJIN

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

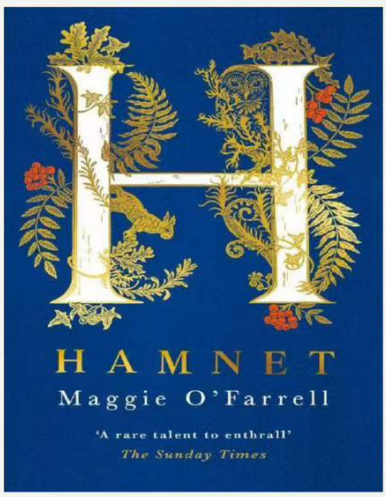


Welcome to IST Parent Book Club

Come along to our monthly meet up to discuss books and enjoy coffee & treats!

This month's book is historical fiction novel Hamlet by Maggie O'Farrell. The library has copies in English, Chinese and Korean. A digital copy in English is also available upon request.

Our next meeting is November 26th at 8.30am in the Library.



Please scan the QR code to join!

Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

PARENT FACULTY ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF TIANJIN

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

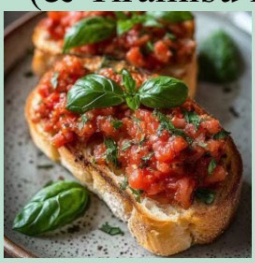


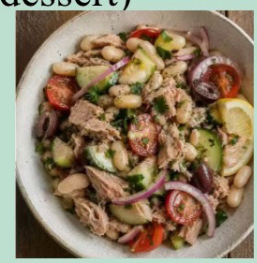
Food theme： PIZZA BIANCA Cooking Class

Menu :

1. Bruschetta alla Marinara
2. Bruschetta alla Ricotta with Honey
3. Sardinia Tuna with white Bean and Tomato Salad
4. Spaghetti Puttanesca

(& Tiramisu is provided for dessert)






When : Wednesday, December 2nd, 10am-2pm
(The class starts at 10:00 am this time.)

Where : IST Elementary Kitchen

Host : The chef of PIZZA BIANCA

Cost : 100 RMB per person

Please join the WeChat group by scanning this QR code ☞

Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

Community-wide Goal:

In a world shaped by rapid technological change, including the continued rise of social media and Al, as well as growing geopolitical tensions and a lack of empathy for the needs of others, at IST, our community shares collective commitment to nurture internationally minded learners who embody the IB learner profile disposition of **Thinker**.

Within our school and host city of Tianjin, we will ask thoughtful questions, evaluate information critically and ethically, and use reasoned evidence to understand complex challenges and choose actions that reduce harm. Together, we will think deeply about others' perspectives and work to help make our world a better place.



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

MENU

Weekly Menu (N-G2)

16-20 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
Scallion Pancake 葱油饼 Stir fry Cauliflower and Egg 番茄鸡蛋菜花 *Allergy: wheat, egg*	Beef Macaroni 番茄肉酱面 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 *Allergy: wheat, dairy*	Chicken Teriyaki 照烧鸡排 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 *Allergy: breadcrumb*	Steamed Pork Dumplings 小笼包 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 *Allergy: wheat*	Chicken Curry 咖喱鸡 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 *Allergy: coconut milk*
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) 729	Protein 蛋白质（g) 29	Carbohydrate 碳水（g) 115	Fat 脂肪（g) 29

23-27 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
Egg and cheese in Tomato Sauce Toast 番茄鸡蛋吐司 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 *Allergy: wheat, egg, dairy*	Popcorn Chicken Wrap 鸡米花卷饼 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 *Allergy: wheat, cheese*	Bolognese Pizza 肉酱披萨 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 *Allergy: wheat, cheese*	Chicken Burger 鸡肉汉堡 French Fries 薯条 *Allergy: wheat*	Bacon Fried Rice with Cabbage, Carrot and Corn 火腿鸡蛋炒饭 Stir fry Cauliflower 炒时蔬 *Allergy: egg*
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) 727	Protein 蛋白质（g) 28	Carbohydrate 碳水（g) 110	Fat 脂肪（g) 25

Weekly Menu (G3-G12) 23-27 Nov

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
Spaghetti with Pesto/Tomato/Cream Mushroom Sauce 意面配罗勒/番茄/奶油蘑菇汁 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Egg with Herb 烤鸡蛋 *Allergy: cheese, mushroom, egg (served on the side)*	Chicken Quesadilla 芝士鸡肉饼 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 Roasted Potatoes 烤土豆 *Allergy: wheat, cheese*	Bolognese Pizza 肉酱披萨 Potato Wedges 土豆角 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 *Allergy: soy sauce, milk*	Beef Burger 牛肉汉堡 French Fries 薯条 *Allergy: wheat*	Grilled Fish with Black Pepper Sauce 黑椒煎鱼排 Mashed Potatoes 土豆泥 Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜 *Allergy: fish, wheat, egg*
Yuxiang Eggplant 鱼香茄子 Stir Fried Tofu with Cabbage 白菜爆豆腐 Fried Egg 虎皮鸡蛋 *Allergy: soy sauce, tofu, egg (served on the side)*	Fish Fillet Curry 咖喱鱼排 Stir Fried Green Vegetables 清炒蔬菜 Steamed Rice 米饭 *Allergy: fish*	Deep Fried Chicken Leg 香酥鸡腿 Steamed Chinese Cabbage 蒜蓉娃娃菜 Winter-Melon Stewed 烩冬瓜 *Allergy: wheat*	Stir Fried Chicken Slices with Lemongrass 香茅炒鸡肉 Stir fry Sliced Potato 风味土豆片 Stir Fried Mixed Vegetables 泰式蔬菜 *Allergy: soy sauce*	Bacon Fried Rice with Cabbage, carrot and corn 培根蔬菜炒饭 Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬 *Allergy: soy sauce*
Noodles with Vegetables in Soybean paste Korean Style 韩式炸酱面 Boiled Egg 煮鸡蛋 *Allergy: wheat, egg (served on the side)*	Pork Dumplings 猪肉水饺 Stir Fried Cabbage 酸辣蕨根粉/洋白菜 *Allergy: wheat*	Rice Noodles with Fish in Tomato Soup 番茄鱼米粉 Boiled Vegetables 煮蔬菜 *Allergy: fish*	Tteokbokki with Pork and Cheese 芝士猪肉炒年糕 Cabbage Salad Korean Style 韩式拌洋白菜 *Allergy: cheese*	Potato Noodles with Chicken and mushroom Broth 鸡汤菌菇土豆粉 Green Vegetables 煮蔬菜 *Allergy: mushroom*
	Zucchini and Egg Dumplings 西葫鸡蛋水饺	Rice Noodles with Vegetables 蔬菜米粉	Tteokbokki with Cheese 芝士炒年糕	Fried Rice with Mixed Vegetables 蔬菜炒饭
Kelp Soup 海带汤	Pumpkin Soup 南瓜汤	Vegetable and Egg Soup 蔬菜鸡蛋汤	Red Bean Soup 红豆汤	Tomato and Egg Soup 西红柿鸡蛋汤
Mochi 糯米糍	Mini Muffins 小麦芬	Chocolate Cake 巧克力蛋糕	Banana Bread 香蕉包	Cookies 卡通饼干
Nutritional reading over the week **每周营养分析**	Energy 热量(Kcal) 798	Protein 蛋白质(g) 34	Carbohydrate 碳水(g) 130	Fat 脂肪(g) 29

Back to Contents

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL of TIANJIN

Weekly

THE BLAZE

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

Diary Dates

Friday - November 27, 2026
Christmas Tree Lighting@RITZ

Wednesday - December 2, 2026
Christmas Tree Lighting@Shangri-La

Friday - December 4, 2026
N-Grade 5 Winter Show (Day Time)

Monday~Friday - December 7~11, 2026
G9-11 Secondary Exams

Monday~Monday - December 14, 2026~January 4, 2027
Winter Holiday

Wednesday - January 6, 2027
ELA Entrance Testing

Tuesday - January 12, 2027
End of Q2 / Semester 1 Ends (45/90 Days)

Sports Dates

Nov 21 (Sat):
ISAC ES (U11) Table Tennis Exchange @ WAB

Nov 23 (Mon):
HSBB Wellington @ IST

Nov 30 (Mon):
HSBB TEDA @ IST

Dec 5 (Sat):
ISAC MSVB Exchange — Boys @ IST;
Girls @ IST

Dec 7 (Mon):
HSBB TIS @ IST

Dec 10 (Thu):
MSVB IST @ TIS

Welcome to the IST Sports and Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) Program for the 2026-2027 School Year

Please take note of the following dates:

Season 2 Sport Schedule

- ☺ Starts Monday, 23 Nov and ends Friday, 26 Feb
- ☺ 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.

Back to Contents