



6th October 2017

Important Dates

October

7	SAT
8-10	ISSA Golf Tournament
9-13	International Week
11	PSAT (Grade 11)
12	International Flag Parade, 6:00 for 6:15pm
16-20	OCTOBER HOLIDAY WEEK
24	French Play “Mes chers Voisins”, 8:45am in the Black Box
25	PTO Hike & Brunch
27	HS/IB Art Trip
27	MS Halloween Dance, 7:00-9:00pm
28	ACT
28	Family Boo-k Quiz, 3:30-4:30pm in The Queen Elizabeth Theatre
28	“Trunk or Treat”, 4:30-6:00pm in the ISA Overflow Carpark
29	CLOCKS GO BACK 1 HOUR AT 2:00AM
31	Halloween Spirit Day

November

1-4	HS Boys & Girls Soccer Tournament
2	Inter-School Kids’ Lit Quiz
3-4	MS Boys Soccer Tournament
4	SAT

► From the Head of School

Dear Parents,

Test Text

On Saturday, 7th October 2017 at 11:00am, parents/guardians and staff will receive a “test text” to test our GroupCall System, which will be used for emergencies such as School or Snow Closures as described below. You do not need to take any action if you receive the text. If you do not receive a test text you should contact admissions@isa.aberdeen.sch.uk and we will ensure that we have the correct mobile number for you.

School Closure—Snow Closure

The following information is if the need arises to close school either before the school day or during the school day. Most likely a school closure would be needed because of snow, but there could be other unlikely reasons such as the loss of utilities to the school.

If school is closed because of snow **before** the school day: The closure will appear on our website, you will be sent a text message, Northsound 1 Radio (FM 96.9 MW 10.35) will read lists of school closures. We will not call each family individually, so when bad weather is predicted it is important to check these sources.

If school is closed **during** the school day: All families will be called. Children of families who can't be reached will be kept at school. It will take some time to recall the buses to ISA. Parents are welcome to pick up students.

The decision to close school due to snow is always a difficult decision, as we take this very seriously and want to make the best use of our school days with students present. The process I will use for making a decision includes: following forecasts through the night, monitoring the radar, and communicating with Ron Falconer, Transportation Co-ordinator, and our bus companies. We will make a sensible decision with the information we have at the time a decision needs to be made. To notify bus drivers and parents driving children to bus stops or to school, we need to make a decision as soon as possible after 6:00am. I hope that school closures can be avoided; however, it is far less dangerous than getting our students to school, having the weather deteriorate and not be able to get children home.

Thank you for your understanding about school closures. We will work diligently to make an educated and safe decision for all.

Parking for International Parade

I hope to see many of you for our International Flag Parade Evening, Thursday, 12th October at 6:15pm. It is one of our most popular events of the year and a great way to celebrate the diversity in our school and community. Since it is such a well attended event, parking can be a challenge. Please consider car-pooling and using one car per family. **The Marcliffe has given us permission to use its overspill car park for our event.** Airyhall Road behind the school is also a great option, using the gate on the pathway between The Marcliffe and School to enter campus.

Please Note: School Street Closed - The School "Street" will be closed after school for set up on this day. There will be no after-school activities.

Kind regards,

Sarah Bruce
Head of School

► **From the MS/HS Principal**

Dear Middle/High School Parents,

Someone recently remarked to me how *healthy* our community appeared, and I countered that I felt our students were *healthy* and, by association, *happy*. A balanced diet and regular exercise improves an individual's overall well-being which will have a positive impact on learning. These ideas can be further explored at brainrules.net.

Part of our task as parents and teachers is to help children make good decisions so that they are looking after themselves and able to take on new ideas and knowledge at school. Small things such as ensuring your child gets enough sleep or limiting late night screen-time can have positive effects academically. At the end of the school day there are numerous sports clubs to get involved with, and I hope students are not locking themselves in their rooms during the weekends.

It was important, therefore, for us to include some time outdoors at the recent Middle School team-building day despite the poor weather that was forecast. The proximity of beaches and hills make family walks an easy option and, for the more active, I can recommend either of the community Park Runs that take place at Hazlehead and the Beach Boulevard on Saturday mornings.

I am looking forward to International Week and, in particular, the gathering on Thursday. I hope you will be able to join us that evening in a celebration of international mindedness and cultural diversity at ISA.

Angus Carmichael

MS/HS Principal

► From the Elementary Principal

Dear Parents,

• International Festival & Assembly

The International Festival is nearly upon us. International Week begins with an Elementary assembly on Monday, where all students K-5 will give a short performance related to the country they are studying. **The 8:30am assembly takes place in The Queen Elizabeth Theatre.** Celebrity guests (who seem to spend a lot of their time following the hit TV show *'Strictly Come Dancing'*), will host the event.

The following is the order of the assembly:

PS... America: A video with the children featuring their work on the USA

3 ... South Africa: *'I Just Can't Wait to Be King'*

K ... Morocco: *"Camel Song"*

4 ... Italy: Italian National Anthem

1 ... India: Bollywood style Dance

2 ... Brazil: Samba dance

5 ... Trinidad & Tobago: Calypso dance

The International Festival evening event takes place on **Thursday, 12th October** for a **PROMPT 6:15pm** start in the gym. We would encourage everyone to get involved by wearing your national dress or colours of your country. After the parade, you will be invited to visit the street to enjoy **small samples (eat your dinner before you come)** of tasty treats from all over the world. In addition, various forms of scheduled entertainment will take place in **The Queen Elizabeth Theatre.** You can visit the Global Village and the Elementary classrooms, where students have set up international displays. We are looking forward to a magical evening where we can all appreciate the wonderful diversity of cultures represented at ISA.

Best regards,

Don Newbury

Elementary Principal

▶ From the Fine Arts Department

Please watch the digital display board outside The Queen Elizabeth Theatre for upcoming events, recitals and exhibits!

The Fine Arts Department

▶ From the School Nurse



Hi Everyone

Only one more week until the October break. Let's try and get there as healthily as possible. Therefore, I would ask once again that if your child is unwell, please keep them home.

On an important note, please can I ask that everyone takes care as we move into the Fall season. Leaves are falling, rain is falling, and surfaces will be slippery. The slippery surfaces will stay with us though winter, with ice, snow and rain. Therefore, appropriate clothing and footwear is essential.



**Karen
School Nurse**



SPIRIT WEAR - WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

We chatted with the hard working Spirit Wear Volunteers, Trude and Jacqueline who have had a busy year selling the brand new Spirit Wear range:

What is Spirit Wear at ISA?

Spirit Wear is run entirely through the PTO and the proceeds are a major contributor to the PTO budget assuring money for extra programmes, equipment and instruction.

How do you decide what to sell?

We base our choices of clothing on success of previous years' sales and through communication with parents, students and teachers to find out what future demand might be.

What are the students favorite items?

Our best seller is the ISA Tartan hoodie where the letters are made in our very own ISA Tartan fabric, unique to our school. We are proud to supply band and choir members with ISA Tartan ties and sashes to give them a distinguished look.

What has happened with new ISA Brand?

We have enjoyed incorporating the new school logo on to garments for this new educational year. The new black T-shirts, Performance Tops and Team Jackets look great with the new design and are proving popular with students and teachers alike.

Why should parents buy Spirit Wear?

Wearing these items will help create a unified look for our hosting and traveling sports teams, and in general it is our hope that by wearing our ISA Spirit Wear everyone will feel pride in the school and a sense of community.

"Spirit Wear is sold every Wednesday in The Street from 2.30pm - 4.30pm."



Photo - Spirit Wear Ladies
Trude & Jacqueline