



7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

## Important Dates

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### December

- 10-11 **IB Mock Exams**
- 10 **ES Band & Choir Concert, 8:30am in The QET**
- 10 **Cairngorm Reindeer Visit**
- 13 **MS House Challenge, 12:00-3:00pm**
- 13 **Pre-School Winter Concert, 1:30pm in the Black Box**
- 14 **MS/HS Assembly, 10:15am in The QET**
- 14 **EARLY DISMISSAL AT 11:00AM**
- 14 **Start of Winter Holiday**

### January 2019

- 7 **Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

## ► From the Head of School

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**Dear Parents,**

My university was about 100 miles from where I grew up; just far enough for me not to return during term time, and for my parents to consider visits a little too inconvenient. My main contact with my family was through a pay phone about a ten minute walk from my room. If my parents wanted to contact me, they would have to have phoned reception to leave a note in my pigeon hole for me to phone them back. I am not sure they ever tried. Soon after I graduated, I spent a year in China; phone calls were prohibitively expensive, so I had to resort to weekly handwritten letters.

That was not only a different century, but a different millennia. It feels like it. My eldest daughter now lives in China: she contacts my wife and me every other day through a smart phone app that not only allows us to hear from her, but see her at the same time. There are no additional charges, and we don't have to walk anywhere to receive the call. That very same device allows her to take photos and videos to show us what she is up to, to check up on the latest dire news from the UK, to download the songs she is missing, and catch up with her favourite TV.

The first globalisation began in 1492 enabled by advances in naval technology. Chips and fibre optics make our latest form far more intimate and far more immediate. We can capture any moment and at a moment fling it thousands of miles to family far away, or store it for future years. Time and distance no longer stop us from sharing.

But, not everything technology enables is good. After 1492, ships took potatoes back to Europe that caused population increase; diseases went the other way, causing population collapse. Europe gained both tobacco and silver. At ISA, we don't just teach students new technologies but how to

use them responsibly as well. It's not an easy task, technology is changing fast, and often we are playing catch up.

Those of us who grew up without these wonders can be even less aware. There are many wonderful moments to capture at ISA, especially if we are thousands of miles from home, or just want to hold them for the future. Children here are involved in so much. Our smart phones make it so easy to take images and send them. Please remember, though, that if your child is involved in a group event and others are in their photo you should get their consent (if they are 12 or over) or their legal guardian's consent (if 11 or younger) before you publish anything on your social media site.

The twentieth century may not have been as convenient; it was simpler though.

Kind regards,

**Nicholas Little**  
Head of School

## ► **From the MS/HS Principal**

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**Dear Middle/High School Parents,**

The run-in to the end of the year brings with it several unique events that have a big role in building our ISA community. The Around the Fireplace performance was well attended, and I am grateful to the PTO for their continued support – it was great to be able to listen to the music with a warm mince pie and the added excitement of the draw for the generously-filled raffle baskets. The MS Band and Choir Concert was similarly successful, and I am looking forward to a few more informal musical performances in the upcoming week.

The teachers are now writing final comments, and you will also find a new reflection form included with the progress report when it is posted home. If your child was absent when this was completed, the blank template will be included, and it would be a valuable exercise for them to go through it. As a reminder, on the report itself you will see a letter relating to the Learning Habits and a number to indicate academic achievement. At Middle School, this is a standards based 1-4 scale tied to the reporting standards that were covered this semester. At High School, a 1-7 scale is used, representing a weighted average of scores in summative assessments taken over the last few months.

The weather can turn quickly in Aberdeen and it makes driving conditions difficult. Each year, we send all our Grade 11 students to the thought-provoking Safe Drive Stay Alive presentation. I wanted to share a website that builds on the ideas from there; <https://www.driveiq.co.uk/>. You may wish to make use of this with young or newly-qualified drivers in your family. There are also pointers for more experienced road users. I hope all our students and their families are looking forward to a safe and enjoyable break.

**Angus Carmichael**  
MS/HS Principal

## EXAM SCHEDULE G9-11 December 2018

Thursday, Dec 6			Friday, Dec 7			Monday, Dec 10			Tuesday, Dec 11			Wednesday, Dec 12		
BLOCK H/G @ 8:30-10:30a.m			BLOCK A/B @ 8:30-10:30a.m			BLOCK A/B @ 8:30-10:30a.m			BLOCK E/F @ 8:30-10:30a.m			BLOCK D/C @ 8:30-10:30a.m		
IB1 Eng	MPR 2	CO	IB1 Econ	MPR 2	CR	IB1 Chem	Rm 215	AC	Maths 9C	MPR 1	BC	Chem 10	MPR 2	JW
Fre U-Int	Rm 114	LD	GP 10	MPR 1	LK	Eng 10	MPR 1	CO	Maths 9E	MPR 1	BC	IB1 Phys	Rm 213	GT
Spa U-Int	Rm 115	JU	Computing 9	Rm 211	GV				IB1 Hist	Rm 101	VG			
Fre L-Int	Rm 116	CB												
Spa L-Int	Rm 117	CG												
						IB2 Mocks	MPR2		IB2 Mocks	MPR2				
LS Room	JP/GT		LS Room	NR/CS		LS Room	JU/CS		LS Room	NR/MDe		LS Room	KF/JP	
Room 211	-		Room 211	-		Room 211	IB2 Mocks		Room 211	IB2 Mocks				
						IB2 History – Physics/Bio			IB2 English - Chem					
Thursday, Dec 6			Friday, Dec 7			Monday, Dec 10			Tuesday, Dec 11			Wednesday, Dec 12		
BLOCK F/E @ 12:00-2:00p.m.			BLOCK C/D @ 12:00-2:00p.m.			BLOCK C/D @ 12:00-2:00p.m.			BLOCK G/H @ 12:00-2:00p.m.			BLOCK B/A @ 12:00-2:00p.m.		
Computing 10	Rm 215	GV	IB1 ESS	Rm 217	JW	GP 9	MPR 1	JW	IB1 Sp ab	Rm 117	CG			
IB1 Bio	MPR 1	JF	Eng 9	MPR 2	VG	IB1 Maths HL	Rm 216	TG	IB1 Fr ab	Rm 114	LD			
Int Sci 9	MPR 2	GT	Maths 10C	Rm 218	JP	IB1 Maths SL	Rm 218	JP	IB1 Fr	Rm 114	LD			
			Maths 10E	MPR 1	BC	IB1 Maths St	Rm 214	BC	IB1 Sp	Rm 115	JU			
						Phys 10	Rm 212	GT	Bio 10	MPR 1	JF			
						IB2 Mocks	MPR 2		IB2 Mocks	MPR 2				
LS Room	VG/JCh		LS Room	TG/KF		LS Room	LD/CG		LS Room	CR/AF		LS Room		
Room 211	NC/JW		Room 211	LD/CB		Room 215	AC		Room 211	IB2 Mocks				
						Room 211	IB2 Mocks							

### ► From the Elementary Principal

Dear Parents,

#### Nearly There!

There is more rushing in the hallways. The lunchroom and playground volume has picked up, and the chatter amongst students first thing in the morning has become more animated. Indeed, we are close to a holiday! In the Elementary School, the excitement before a holiday is noticeable. The teachers continue to do a commendable job of maintaining an academic focus while taking advantage of the 'holiday' season in their classwork. The third grade are taking on a real life math task and collecting data about the school's use of plastic on a day-to-day basis. They will be having a panel discussion about their findings next week with the Administration.

There was great excitement all week building up to the winter concert on Friday. (Kindergarten, first, and second grade had the opportunity to go to a pantomime in Aberdeen.) The audience was treated to some wonderful music and entertained by the narrators as they linked songs from the West End Musicals. Congratulations to the children for their delightful performances, and to Margaret Dickson, Javier Chiaraluce and Kent Walter for preparing the children so well for their concert.

Next week, there will be a continued festive feeling about the School as the Music Department has organised mini concerts in The Street from Tuesday each day. Don't forget the reindeer arrive on Monday! The Elementary Band and Choir will also be performing at the Monday assembly, and there will be a student led Elementary sing-a-long in The Queen Elizabeth Theatre at 8:30am Friday morning. I hope parents will be able to join us for some of the festive fun next week.

Best regards,

**Don Newbury,**  
Elementary Principal

## ► From the Fine Arts Department

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OUTSTANDING work by the ISA HS Jazz Band, MS Vocal Trio and the ISA HS Actors in 'Around The Fireplace' last Friday evening!! Well done! Thank you to those who attended. We hope you enjoyed yourself and started your holiday season with good cheer!

WELL DONE to the MS Band and Vocal Trio on an awesome concert! Bravo!!

### **Elementary Winter Band & Choir Concert**

**Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> December**

**8:30am**

The Queen Elizabeth Theatre

Our Elementary School Band & Choir are excited to perform for you!

### **Holiday Morning Music....**

Be sure to enjoy the music each morning, starting at 7:45am in the ISA Foyer!!!

Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December – Grade 3 Musicians

Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December – ISA MS Student Council, Ukulele Club and the MS Vocal Trio

Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> December – ISA MS Band

Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> December – ISA Staff

### **ISA Fine Arts Department**

## ► From the School Nurse

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Hi All,

Well, we are well into December - only one week left of term. WOW, it has flown in! And, isn't the weather weird this week? Just don't know how to dress appropriately – that's Scotland for ya!! So, just a wee reminder to all to dress warmly and wear appropriate footwear, as the sidewalks and play areas can be very slippery. It is best to layer up your clothes rather than wearing one thick item.

Again, we have the “usual suspect bugs” in school. Remember, hand hygiene is one of the best forms of protection. And, with that comes the usual advice: “if your child is unwell, i.e. fever, cold/flu, vomiting etc., then please do not send them to school. This is for your child's sake as well as others around them.” If you are concerned about anyone in the family outside of normal GP hours and over the festive season, remember there is the NHS24 line - the number is 111.

See you next week.

**Karen**

School Nurse



## **RECYCLING FOR A GOOD CAUSE ...**

### **USED POSTAGE STAMPS**

Please collect all your used postage stamps and hand them in to Mary Rayne, Elementary School Secretary.

They will be sent off to The Oldies Club which is a charity for old dogs. They rescue and try to find forever homes for older dogs ... <http://www.oldies.org.uk/>

Thank you  
Mary

# It's the YEARBOOK!!

## Order Form for 2018-19 Book

The price of this year's book is **£25**. The book will be distributed in the spring.  
(Please make cheques payable to 'International School of Aberdeen' or 'ISA'.)

Students' names, grade levels (and in case of elementary students please also include teacher's name):

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment of £\_\_\_\_ made by:

Cash                       Cheque                       Card                       IPayImpact  
cheque # \_\_\_\_\_

Yearbooks may be paid for in the business office. No money to be accepted at Reception. Books will be distributed in the spring by the Yearbook staff.

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### Customer Receipt

The price for yearbooks is £25 **per** book.

Number of books ordered and paid for: \_\_\_\_\_

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment of £\_\_\_\_\_ made by:

Cash                       Cheque                       Card                       IPayImpact  
cheque # \_\_\_\_\_

Yearbooks may be paid for in the business office. No money to be accepted at Reception. Books will be distributed in the spring by the Yearbook staff.

In case of cash payment: Signature of salesperson/Business Office stamp: \_\_\_\_\_

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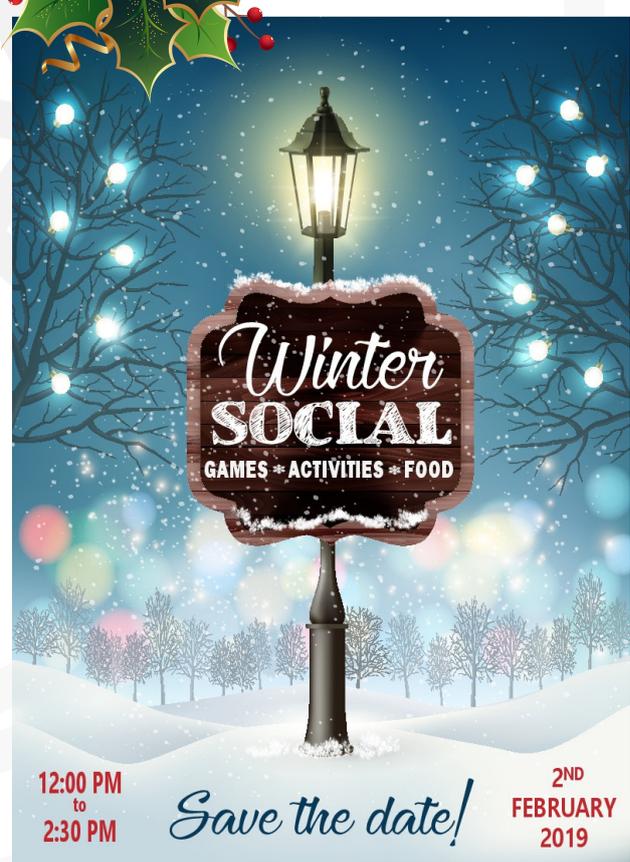
# News From Your PTO

Friday 7th December 2018

Book Your Tickets Now!

For information contact [pto@isa.aberdeen.sch.uk](mailto:pto@isa.aberdeen.sch.uk)  
Payment can be made by cash, cheque, bank transfer or card.

Skibo basket and more prizes to be raffled on the night!



12:00 PM to 2:30 PM *Save the date!* 2ND FEBRUARY 2019

ISA PTO cordially invites you to join us



## Burns Supper & Ceilidh

Enjoy an evening of Burns Night traditions including: Bagpipes, 2 course buffet dinner, 'Ode to a Haggis', and instruction led Scottish Ceilidh dancing.

Tickets £25 per person or book a table of 10 for £250 and get a free bottle of wine!

Dress code semi-formal & Kilts welcomed.

Bring your own beverage!

**BOOKINGS ACCEPTED NOW!**

Tickets & Information to [pto@isa.aberdeen.sch.uk](mailto:pto@isa.aberdeen.sch.uk)

JANUARY **26th 2019**

ISA Gym Hall - 6:30 to 11 pm

Skibo basket & more prizes to be raffled on the night!



## WELCOME COFFEE MORNING

JOIN US FOR A  
January 11, 2019 | 8:30 AM  
Venue TBC

Join us to welcome the new year with old friends and new!

*Save the Date!*



**PTO have an exciting new initiative:**

Local businesses can opt into the Bronze, Silver or Gold tier Advertising Programme. We will be advertising the Gold tier businesses on our Facebook page!

If you know of any companies who would like to opt into this programme, or if you would like more details, please contact Jen Sword our PTO advertising member via email [pto.advertising@gmail.com](mailto:pto.advertising@gmail.com)



**RoCPrivate**  
clinic

Westhill Business Park,  
Westhill, Aberdeenshire, AB32 6JL  
Tel: 01224 515 254  
Email: [aberdeen@rochealthservices.com](mailto:aberdeen@rochealthservices.com)

[www.rocprivateclinic.com](http://www.rocprivateclinic.com)



North Deeside Road, Pitfodells,  
Aberdeen, AB15 9YA,  
Scotland, United Kingdom.  
Tel: 01224 861000  
Email: [info@marcliffe.com](mailto:info@marcliffe.com)

[www.marcliffe.com](http://www.marcliffe.com)



Aberdeen Petroleum Club at Kippie Lodge  
North Deeside Road  
Milltimber  
Aberdeen  
AB13 0AB

Tel: 01224 734747  
E: [apc@kippielodge.co.uk](mailto:apc@kippielodge.co.uk)  
[www.kippielodge.co.uk](http://www.kippielodge.co.uk)



51 Holburn Road  
Aberdeen  
AB10 6EY  
Tel: 01224 212888  
Email: [info@beautyfountain.co.uk](mailto:info@beautyfountain.co.uk)

[www.beautyfountain.co.uk](http://www.beautyfountain.co.uk)

*Boutique Beauty*



Boutique Beauty  
373 North Deeside Road  
Cults  
Aberdeen AB15 9SX  
T: 01224 869500  
E: [hello@boutiquebeautyaberdeen.com](mailto:hello@boutiquebeautyaberdeen.com)

[www.boutiquebeautyaberdeen.com](http://www.boutiquebeautyaberdeen.com)

innocent  
AESTHETICS

Innocent Aesthetics Ltd  
481 Great Western Road  
Aberdeen  
AB10 6NN  
Tel: 01224 325354  
E: [info@innocentaesthetics.co.uk](mailto:info@innocentaesthetics.co.uk)

[www.innocentaesthetics.co.uk](http://www.innocentaesthetics.co.uk)

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