



International School Yangon

Newsletter

3 September(Friday), 2010

Our Mission for the school year of 2010-2011 is the International School of Yangon is a community that is committed to excellence. We inspire students with a challenging, international education, based on an American curriculum, in a nurturing learning environment that promotes responsibility and respect. We aim to develop socially engaged, self-motivated, creative, compassionate individuals who will be a force for positive change in their communities and the world.

From the Desk of Director

Dear ISY Community,

Thank you to the PTA for arranging the ISY parent “Breakfast with the ISY Administration” that occurred today. In the past few weeks we have held meetings with the ISY faculty, the high school students, the middle school students, and today the ISY parents to share the DRAFT plan for the new land project. We have contracted Spine Architects to work with our ISY School Board and administration to develop the plan. We are really excited to share this plan with all of our ISY community and receive your comments and suggestions. You may recall that last year we met with the many ISY groups to ask what type of facilities would best enhance our overall school program. The community had many great ideas and we have tried to incorporate those ideas in the draft plan. The DRAFT plan includes a new cafeteria/study area and kitchen, gymnasium/stage/auditorium, locker rooms, a competitive five lane swimming pool, a small pool for children, a playing field similar in size to our existing playing field, a new drop off area, and an additional generator plant. Please note that we continue to use the term DRAFT PLAN as we are still in the developmental stages as we receive comments and suggestions from our community and as we examine each phase of the plan more closely.



If you were unable to attend today’s parent meeting we will be holding another opportunity for parents to hear about the Draft plan next Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. in the Black Box Theater on campus. All parents are welcome to attend this event.

If you have any questions or comments that you would like to make, please feel free to contact me by phone, email, or just drop by my office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jim Travers
Director

Meet with Mr. M&M

Children in the elementary years are developing the necessary skills to become confident and engaged students. Of course we always strive to teach reading, math, science and social studies at a high academic level. Our students also require physical education, art, music, computer instruction, and foreign languages to develop into well rounded, healthy and effective adults. At ISY we have some shared beliefs that drive instruction in all subjects:



Become Global Citizens who . . .

- are environmentally aware and active
- contribute to the welfare of the world community
- respect the dignity and worth of others
- manifest the virtues of honesty and integrity

Be Successful Communicators who . . .

- demonstrate the skills of effective collaboration
- use technology as a tool to convey ideas
- write, speak, read and listen with purpose
- are multi-lingual

Demonstrate Complex Thinking and Creativity by . . .

- gathering analyzing and processing information from various sources
- being effective and creative problem-solvers
- being effective decision-makers

Become Lifelong Learners who . . .

- take responsibility for their own learning
- value all types of learning; academic, social, athletic, aesthetic and emotional
- have the confidence to take on new challenges

At ISY we use these important goals to unite the community and provide all of the subject areas with a common purpose. If you have concerns or questions about the school curriculum or need to talk about any other issues, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely

Bill Martin-Muth
Elementary Principal

Middle School / High School

Dear Parents and community members,

We have a couple information notes for you during this busy week!

Progress reports: Progress reports can be sent home at any time. If your child receives a progress report it usually indicates that there is a concern about some aspect of their work. Please be sure to review the information and speak to your child about their plan of improvement. Progress reports are a great reminder and do help most students get back on track. In some cases progress reports are also a note to let you know your son or daughter is doing well and to *keep up the good work*. Be sure to pass this message on.



Please take notice: Next week we have **TWO HALF-DAYS**. Both Thursday and Friday are 11:30 early dismissal days. There will be no after school activities on these dates. Please make plans to have your child picked up promptly after school.

After School Activities (ASA) start next week. If you are a middle school parent you should have seen and signed the ASA sheet brought home on Wednesday. We have a fantastic selection of after school activities. Please have your child join in the FUN. Make sure they sign and return the form to the school office.

High School activities have been ongoing with sports and clubs meeting since the first week of school. You should have already seen a notice from a sponsor or coach indicating the meeting times and the fact that your child is involved. Additionally, if the activity is traveling for a tournament or conference, you will receive notice about these activities.

At ISY we have what are known as **Expected School-Wide Learning Results (ESLRs)**. These outcomes are a part of our WASC plan of improvement. You will see indications of these around campus and your child will be able to tell you about class activities that address learning in these areas.

Expected School-Wide Learning Results ESLR's

ISY Students will -

Become Global Citizens who . . .

Are environmentally aware and active.....Contribute to the welfare of the world community.....Respect the dignity and worth of others.....Manifest the virtues of honesty and integrity

Be Successful Communicators who . . .

Demonstrate the skills of effective collaboration.....Use appropriate technology as a tool to convey ideas.....Write, speak, read and listen with purpose.....Are multi-lingual

Demonstrate Complex Thinking and Creativity by . . .

Gathering analyzing and processing information from a variety of sources.....Being effective and creative problem-solvers.....Being effective decision-makers

Become Lifelong Learners who . . .

Take responsibility for their own learning.....Value all types of learning; academic, social, athletic, aesthetic and emotional.....Have the confidence to take on new challenges

Please contact us if you have a business or professional connection that might make a difference in the lives and learning of our staff or students. We are always anxious to have more people involved in our programs.

As always, visit us at www.internationalschoolyangon.org

Sincerely,

Jim Gerhard

MS & HS Principal

The String Ensemble Is Coming!!!

Dear ISY Parents:

Toward the end of last year, students asked if there could be a string ensemble for **good intermediate and advanced players**. We were able to find music and now...we need musicians.

This is not a string class but a string ensemble whose goal will be to present at least one public performance. We would like any parents who are violinists, violists or cellists to come and help coach. Excellence will happen when parents are involved.

We will meet in the **ISY Band Room, Wednesdays from 2:45-4:15 PM.**

We need Violinists, Violists, and Cellists of intermediate to advanced skills. If you and your students are interested, please have your student check in with Mr. Carr next Monday or Tuesday. I need to prepare folders of music ahead so that we can begin playing on Wednesday.

Please encourage your string player to come and be part of the rebirth of the string ensemble here, at ISY.

Glenn Carr, ISY Music

Greetings from the ISY athletic department,

The ISY sports year is off and running with more and more activities being available for our ISY students for this 2010/11 school year.

Middle school basketball is already in session and will run for the whole first quarter. On Wednesday our MS "A" team traveled to ILBC for their second match of the season and continue to show improvement with each tip off. This Saturday September 4 from 0900-1100 we will be having at ISY some games against the other schools in which only those students that haven't broken into the "A" team will be able to gain some valuable playing experience for the future. If you want to see the complete ISY sports schedule for the first semester please go to the ISY website sign in (community is the log in and community is also the password) find tom just in either MS or HS and you can review the schedules so you can plan your times you should be cheering on your child!

High school soccer and volleyball are under way now with their eyes set on their SEASAC trips scheduled for November 4-7. Soccer will be traveling to Kuala Lumpur and volleyball will be traveling to Singapore. More information on these trips will be coming home with your children soon. In the mean time check that schedule to see when matches have been set up with the other members of the Yangon Athletic Conference (YAC) between now and our departure for SEASAC.

This year we are hoping to send our first ever golf team to a SEASAC invitational in Bangkok hosted by NIST. This trip will be on the weekend of November 25-28.

UWC in Singapore is offering a SEASAC Road Race (cross country running) invitational that same weekend and we hope to find a few runners that might want to show off their talents.

Parents and friends of the ISY community if you or anyone you know has had previous coaching experience and would like to get back into it. Please come visit me at school or send me an email to talk about your interest. Also, through out the school year our ISY athletes have the opportunity to travel for various SEASAC events. While I try to find us the best and most economical way to get to and from our SEASAC events I am more than willing to accept any helpful advice on which airline carriers in Yangon might be able to provide our ISY athletes with a better priced ticket. Your help with any travel arrangements will never be ignored.

If you have the time, come and watch any of the sports teams during the school year, I know you will be thrilled at the ability of YOUR ISY athletes.

Please do not hesitate to contact me either here at school or by email at: tomjust@isy.net.mm if you ever have any concerns, comments or suggestions for the physical education program or the after school sports activities for both the middle and high school.

GO Chinthas!

Band News !!

Dear Band Parents:

The bands are in full swing, so what should you expect to hear. Grades 6-10 bands all have tests to be practicing for, soon all will have either solo music or small ensemble music to practice as well as band music. **Ensembles will be meeting outside school hours as students need to rehearse their projects.**

Why practice? Research shows that those instrumentalists who have a regular practice schedules have better overall academic test scores than non practitioners. There is also evidence to support that there is increased brain growth in practitioners as well. If you are interested in this research please contact me for the loan of a DVD and resource references.

Practice time should be a minimum of 40 minutes per day and can be done in two 20 minute segments and still be beneficial.

Here is my schedule for afterschool coaching:

Monday Staff Meeting

Tuesday Woodwind Day

Wednesday String Ensemble

Thursday Brass Day

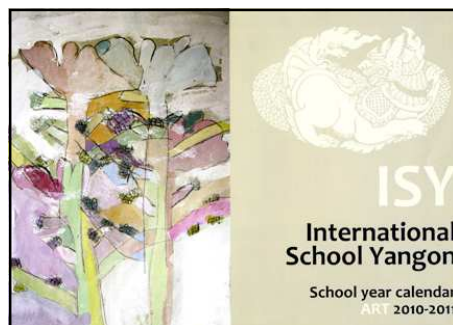
Friday Percussion Day



Please encourage your student to take advantage of after school coaching days. For those in athletics, I am available to them during our lunch break.

Thank you

Glenn Carr, ISY music



The ISY Art Calendar (2010-2011)

is here!

Featuring up to 100 student's work.

Get your copy now!

5\$ or 5,000 Kyats

In the Elementary office & in the Main office (B Building)



Flu & You



Do you think flu is preventable????

You can answer after reading the facts below.

Influenza is an acute viral infection that spreads easily from person to person. It is characterized by a sudden onset of high fever, cough (usually dry), headache, muscle and joint pain, severe malaise (feeling unwell), sore throat and runny nose. You may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day **before** symptoms develop and up to 5-7 days **after** becoming sick. Some people, especially children and people with weakened immune systems, might be able to infect others for an even longer time.

Seasonal influenza spreads easily and can sweep through schools, nursing homes or businesses and towns and result in high levels of absenteeism. When an infected person coughs, infected droplets get into the air and another person can breathe them in and be exposed. The virus can also be spread by hands infected with the virus. To prevent transmission, people should cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing, and wash their hands regularly.

Good Health Habits Can Help Stop flu

Good health habits like covering your cough and washing your hands often can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu.

1. Avoid close contact.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.

2. Stay home when you are sick.

If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.

3. Cover your mouth and nose.

Cover your mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and sneezing. Dispose of tissues and wash your hands immediately. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

4. Clean your hands.

Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. **Wash your hands frequently** using warm water and soap, scrubbing all surfaces for about 15-20 seconds. Some flu viruses can live up to two hours on surfaces such as desks, phones and door knobs. When soap and water are not available, hand sanitizers containing 60-90% ethyl alcohol or isopropanol may be used.

5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth. The eyes, nose and mouth are entry ports for flu viruses.

6. Avoid sharing objects (cups, utensils, etc.). Wipe down shared equipment such as phones and keyboards.

7. Practice other good health habits.

Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

Correct answer now????

