



International School Yangon

Newsletter

April 9 (Friday), 2010

Our Mission for the school year of 2009-2010 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 the Director

Dear ISY Community,

Today is the last day before our students, parents, staff, teachers, and administrators begin enjoying a well deserved Thingyan holiday. Thank you to everyone for all of your hard work in making this year a very successful year at ISY. We are all excited about our upcoming holiday and we can all enjoy next week confident that we have accomplished a great deal this year. We have just a very short period of time left this year and I would encourage students to keep the momentum going so that you finish the year in the best manner possible.



This past Tuesday, the School Board met and had a very full agenda. The agenda is posted on our website for your review as are the minutes from previous meetings. I would like to pay a compliment to our ISY School Board members. Our board meeting on Tuesday began at 5:00 PM and did not end until 9:00 PM. We should remember that the ISY Board Members do not get paid to serve on the Board but volunteer their own personal time and energy to serve the ISY community. Over the years I have worked with several school boards and was an elected board member myself in the USA for a term. I can tell you from experience that being a board member is a lot of very hard work and it is also a thankless job for the most part. Often times there are difficult situations to work through and many issues require a good deal of problem solving and effective communication skills. Month after month our ISY Board Members not only participate in meetings, but also serve on committees, attend school functions and are involved in other school related activities as a part of their commitment. Many school boards do not get along with each other and have many conflicts with the administration and faculty. We are very fortunate at ISY to have School Board Members who have positive relationships with each other, with the administration, with the teachers, and with the ISY community. They give of themselves and expect nothing in return.

The next time you see one of our Board Members you may want to say thank you for all of the hard work they do day after day to help make ISY a great place to be.

Enjoy your well deserved holiday.

Sincerely,

Tim Travers

Meet with Mr. M&M!

Today at 2:15 we will celebrate our ISY Water Festival. Special thanks are due to the Myanmar parents who are bringing special Thingyan treats for us and who continuously share their wonderful culture with the rest of us. You are a special treasure to the school the whole ISY family appreciates you. We will have a lot of fun and enjoy plenty of water this afternoon! I don't have to tell you that the days have been very hot lately. I am amazed that the students don't slow down at all when it comes to recess. We have plenty of water available and we encourage children to drink lots of it. One thing I ask you to do is to make sure your child comes to school with a cap or hat. We are routinely reminding students to wear their caps in order to help keep them cool. In this heat, with heavy activity, it actually becomes a health and safety issue.



School will be closed next week, April 12, for Thingyan Break with school resuming on Monday, April 19. The year has flown by. When we return we only have six short weeks of school left! I'd like to remind you that the annual PTA Dinner Auction and Dance is being held May 8 at the Ballroom of the Park Royal Hotel. It promises to be a lot of fun. This year it will be a casual dress event with a fabulous menu, great music, dancing, prizes and drawings, and of course the big auction. Tickets are only \$25 and include dinner, and a free flow of beer and soft drinks. When I say a "fabulous menu" I really mean it too!

2009-2010 has been a wonderful year and this event is not only a chance to commemorate the year, it is also a last chance to wish a farewell to teachers and families who will be moving to other communities. To those who are moving on, we are grateful. Tickets are available in the ISY Elementary school office. Reserve your table as soon as possible. Come join in the fun!

I wish you a wonderful Thingyan vacation whether you are staying here or traveling. Please be safe and enjoy the break.

Mr. Martin-Muth, Elementary Principal

Middle School / High School

Greetings Parents and Community,

Welcome to Thingyan Break ! Judging by the pace of our activities it is easy to feel as though we deserve a break.

Last night was our **Band Concert** with ISM at the Inya Lake Hotel. The sounds of music were inspirational and entertaining and the students did a great job in collaboration with the ISM band. I was impressed with the sound of our band, the student's response to our Band director, Mr. Glenn Carr and of course, the participation of so many parents who were there to offer support and encouragement to their children, We thank you for coming out!



Today we have our own **ISY water festival** at school. Our students have reflected on the importance of this tradition in Myanmar and the meaning of Thingyan to the Burmese people. We also talked about it at our all-school Town Hall meeting. It was great to hear our students tell each other and new students about this event. U Win, our Myanmar specialist, teacher and activities leader was proud to hear how much our Myanmar students appreciate their own cultures and traditions. He has taught them well and we know how involved our families are in passing on their strong values and beliefs to their children. We got an opportunity to appreciate that this week. I learned a lot from the students also. We have a very special population of Burmese students and I thank them for helping the other cultures and students in the school appreciate their own festival and culture.

It's HOT! Try to make sure your child is bringing a water bottle and hat to school for when they are participating in PE classes, after school sports or activities, and mini-league soccer, which is happening these weeks in the high school. It is important that our students stay safe and healthy and a hat and water bottle are necessities for these hot and sunny days. Thanks for speaking with them.

Enjoy a great holiday week with your children and family. Please be safe.

Visit us at www.internationalschoolyangon.org

Jim Gerhard
MS/HS Principal

ISY Annual General Meeting Announcement

ISY will be holding our Annual General Meeting of the membership on Tuesday, 18 May 2010 at 18:00 hrs on the school campus. The AGM will feature reports from both the school director Tim Travers and the Board of Management. Election of new school board members to fill vacancies in the US Diplomatic seats, an International Diplomatic seat and At-Large seats will also take place. Parents and guardians of children attending ISY are members of the ISY Association and may serve as members of the Board. Prof.

Aung Tun Thet, Vice Chairman of the Board, heads the nominating committee this year. The deadline for nominations is 27 April 2010. Parents interested in serving on the Board should contact Prof. Thet, Amy Sebes, Board Secretary or Tim Travers, ISY Director. Over the past 54 years, ISY Boards have held the school in trust, ensuring the school continues to grow, excel and meets the needs of our community.

AGM
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Counselor's Corner

Congratulations Class of 2010. Our seniors have worked hard since they joined ISY and I am happy to say that all their hard work has paid off. I also want to thank parents for being there to encourage their children to be the best that they can be. Please find below a list of some of the universities this year's class has been accepted to.

Adelphi University
Bentley College*
Boston College
Boston University
Brandies University*
Buckingham University*
California Lutheran University
California State Polytechnic-
Carleton University
Coe College
Claremont McKenna College
Clark University
Dalhousie University
Drexel University*
Elizabethtown College*
Elmira College
Emory University
Fashion Institute of Technology-NY*
Franklin and Marshall College
Georgetown University*
George Washington University
Grinnell College*
Hamilton College
Illinois Wesleyan University*
Johnson and Wales College*
Loyola Marymount University
Macalester College*
New York University*
Northeastern University**
Parsons School of Design
Pepperdine College
Pitzer College

Pratt Institute of Design
Rhode Island School of Design*
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Simmons College
Syracuse University
State University of NY- Buffalo
Swarthmore College*
University of California –Davis, Irvine,
Merced, Riverside, San Diego**
University of Illinois-Urbana Champlain
University of Massachusetts- Amherst
University of Miami
University of Notre Dame*
University of the Ontario Institute
University of the Pacific
University of Virginia
University of Washington
Villanova University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute***

Brown University-waitlisted

*denotes where they have decided to attend so far

Several of our seniors have been awarded grants and academic scholarships for the upcoming academic year that total over half a million dollars.



ISY Community Coffee and Tea!

All parents are invited Tuesday morning for an informal and relaxed conversation
April 20 at 8:00 a.m. in the MPR.



Light food and drinks will kindly be sponsored by the school administration and the PTA.

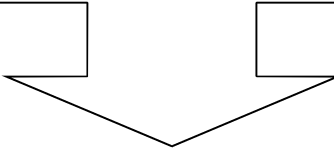


We would like to share some of our plans for school improvement and hear your suggestions as ISY prepares for a new school year! We would like to share some information about the PTA too!



ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Mezler, the elementary Saturday soccer coach, is out of town for the next few weeks. **There will be no elementary Saturday soccer until further notice.**



April - May 2010

April - May 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
THINGYAN HOLIDAY						
18	19 Day 6 EHFG	20 Day 1 ABCD	21 Day 2 EFGH	22 Day 3 ACDB	23 Day 4 EGHF	24
25	26 Day 5 ADBC	27 Day 6 EHFG	28 Day 1 ABCD	29 Day 2 EFGH <i>Noises Off</i> - IB Theater students directed play 6:00 in Black Box Theatre	30 Day 3 ACDB <i>Noises Off</i> - IB Theater students directed play 6:00 in Black Box Theatre	1 SAT Exam
2	3 Day4 EGHF	4 Day5 ADBC	5 Day6 EHFG	6 Day1 ABCD	7 Day2 EFGH	8 TOEFL PTA Fund Raising Dinner
AP Exam						