



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,

A big thanks to everyone that was involved in orchestrating the author David Schwartz's visit this week. I attended several of the sessions and could see how well David Schwartz related to the students and how much they seemed to enjoy the week. But as odd as it seems to say, I think the most impressive event didn't really even include David Schwartz's performances. The event that was so impressive was the good-bye elementary assembly that took place in the MPR on Thursday. At this event the elementary kids applied what they had learned this week by performing skits and producing a video. The event was spectacular and you could tell by the quality and creativity of the performances that the students (and the teachers) got a lot out of this week. I am sure that it was very gratifying to Mr. Schwartz to see his principles applied in such a creative way. A special thanks goes to Ms. Rinker for all of her work in organizing this week. I know she put in hours and hours in planning and orchestrating this visit. Thank you to the PTA for helping to fund the visit. Nice job to all of the faculty and staff who were involved in making this week a special event for our school.



On another note, we are happy to say that we have another new vendor on campus; Sai's Tacos. Sai's Tacos is a non profit NGO (non government organization) that employs young people to work in their stores. They sell chicken and beef burrito's each day for 1200 Kyats. Having this additional vendor not only provides more delicious food options for our students and faculty, it also provides much needed jobs to those in need.

We are having some trouble that I need to mention and could use everyone's help in solving a problem on campus. As responsible individuals we want to be good to the environment and teach and practice these principles. This is why we asked our food vendors not to use disposable plates and cups and change to the new reusable metal cups and plates in the cafeterias. The vendors all agreed to do this at their own expense. The problem is that in recent weeks there are many, many, metal cups and plates that have not been returned to the vendors and are now missing. These plates and cups cost money and have to be replaced and then more resources are used in replacing these items. We don't want to go back to disposable plates and cups so we have asked the vendors to begin Monday charging a deposit of 500 kyats per plate and 500 kyat per cup when students and faculty purchase their food and/or drink. When we finish eating or drinking, we will simply turn in our cups and/or plates and the deposit will be given back to us. This may be a bit inconvenient but we hope that we can encourage everyone to help with this conservation effort.

Don't forget about Fun Fair coming up March 13.

Thanks for your continued support.

Tim Travers

Director

Middle School / High School

Dear Parents and community,

Music Festival - I hope you will be able to enjoy our Yangon Choir Festival tonight (Friday) at six o'clock at the Inya Lake Hotel. ISY will join other schools in the city for a festival of music to please the ears and senses. Glenn Carr will be directing the choir and we encourage you to attend.



Kudos to the ISY Varsity Chinthes Basketball teams - Both ISY boys and girls teams took home the Yangon City Tournament Championship trophies on Wednesday evening on our own home court. A long season came to a wonderful and successful end and players, coaches, fans and our support staff at ISY all played a part in this season's successes.

HS and MS students enjoyed the company of **Mr. David Schwartz** this week. The award winning author and publisher of children's books, who has also been featured on the cover of Smithsonian magazine (twice) regaled our students with his exploits and knowledge of numbers. Mr. Schwartz got all the kids 'Thinking Big' and spent time with our professional staff of teachers with a topic of "How to add math to any lesson." We thank David for his visit and wisdom and appreciate the talents of ISY Librarian Michelle Rinker in bringing him to Yangon.

Middle School parents please don't forget that Student-led conferences will be occurring at the end of the third quarter. Taking the place of the typical parent teacher conference, Student - led conferences let students do the talking. You will get to spend around an hour learning about the goals, classes and growth your child has experienced over the last quarter, and indeed, all year. Student portfolios help to showcase particular assignments and learning and you will see how your child understand their strengths in academic areas and also how they work to address their areas of growth. We will continue to give more information about these exciting conferences in the next few weeks. MS teachers are already helping students to prepare.

As always, please find out more about us at

www.internationalschoolyangon.org

Jim Gerhard

Jim Gerhard
MS/HS Principal

Meet with Mr. M&M!

Hello Everyone.

David Schwartz, the acclaimed author of 52 young people's books has been working with ISY students and teachers all week long. Our kids have really had an exciting time exploring math and science in their classrooms. I am always impressed with the marvelous, creative teachers we have at ISY. Students have been reading, weighing, measuring, predicting, estimating, computing, singing and making beautiful art projects, all in relation to Mr. Schwartz and his books.



We enjoyed many parents coming in to experience the presentations along with us this week. It was a great time! Special thanks are due to our fantastic librarian, Mrs. Rinker. Without her hard work and planning this one of a kind educational event would not have happened. Thank you Michelle! Your dedication makes our school a wonderful place to learn.

Let me make you aware of a few upcoming events. The end of the third quarter is coming soon! Next week is the last week of third quarter after school activities. We will send home sign-up sheets for 4th quarter activities soon. Student-led parent/teacher conferences will take place on March 18. Students will come to school at scheduled times to conference with their parents on that day. We will send home schedules and information about the special value of these conferences next week. It is very important that everyone attend the conferences with your child.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend and a great week. Please remember that my office is always open and that we are here to assist you if you ever need anything.

Mr. Martin-Muth, Elementary Principal

IB NOTES....

from the IB Coordinator, Mr. Clark Stroupe

Last Wednesday, ISY hosted an IB information meeting for grade 10 students and parents. The meeting went very well. Due to the wide range of student and staff contributors, we were able to present a broad sense of the program and the changes it has brought to ISY. It was wonderful to see almost every grade 10 family represented at the meeting and hear some great questions and discussions following.

As the IB Coordinator, I was particularly inspired to see two students model the IB Learner Profiles. 11th grader William Aung showed us what it means to be "Reflective" as he spoke to the younger students on the topic: "Is the IB only for the best students?" and answered with a very convincing: "Absolutely not!" William talked of his own sense of himself as a "less committed student" in the past who has used the IB to become more inspired and capable in his academic work. William's honesty and courage was very helpful to some nervous families and helped demonstrate that the IB can benefit many different kinds of students in many ways.

We were also excited to see 11th grader Yan Aung talk about the Learner Profile "Thinker"--an ideal Yan pursues with nonpareil zeal. On the question "Does the IB Take Over Your Life?" Yan cleverly argued that his identity has become that of a "critical thinker" and he brings this spirit to all aspects of his life--his academic work and his commitments to sports, music, friends, service, and family.

Message from the ISY Library

Pre-Order David Schwartz Books at the Myanmar Book Centre

Due to the huge success of visiting author David Schwartz' books at the book sale, The Myanmar Book Centre is offering to ship in additional copies for those students that were unable to buy them at the book sale. Order forms will go home with students on Friday however completed order forms and money should to be **taken directly to the Myanmar Book Centre** (address is provided on the order form). For more information, please contact Dr. Thant Zaw Kaung at 221-271/ 212-409.

Announcement from MS/HS Counselor

Senior parents are invited to the MPR on Thursday March 4th at 2pm. There will be representatives from the US Consulate there to talk about the student visa process.

Message from Business Office

Outstanding Fees

Fees not paid within one month of the first day of attendance are overdue. Late payment fees are subject to a penalty of \$ 500 per calendar month. Board Policy states that any student whose school bill is in arrears more than one month will be suspended until payment is made. In the event of a student's withdrawal from ISY, school records are released only after all fees are settled. (ISY Student/Parent Handbook 2009-2010, p-3)

PTA Meeting

**There will be a PTA general meeting
Wednesday, March 3rd in the PTA room
at 3:00.
Everyone is invited to attend!**



Please note a reminder for the change of schedule and dates on the school calendar. No longer are the days of March 25 & 26 scheduled as school holidays, school will be in session on those days. Earlier in the year a decision was made to change those days to full days for students and teachers. Monday the 29th of March is still a school holiday. This information was communicated with a new calendar in the October 30th, 2009 newsletter and this is a further reminder as those dates come closer.

**Thursday and Friday March 25 & 26 - School in session for students and teachers.
Monday March 29th - No school**

March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	1 Day 2 EFGH	2 Day 3 ACDB	3 Day 4 EGHF	4 Day 5 AD BC 2009 SEASAC Swimming Arts Festival	5 Day 6 EHFG 2009 SEASAC Swimming Arts Festival	6 2009 SEASAC Swimming Arts Festival
7 2009 SEASAC Swimming Arts Festival	8 Day1 ABCD	9 Day 2 EFGH	10 Day 3 ACDB	11 Day 4 EGHF	12 Day 5 AD BC MSSC movie night	13 ISY FUN FAIR
14	15 Day 6 EHFG	16 Day 1 ABCD	17 Day 2 EFGH	18 Day 0 GIN Hong Kong SEASAC Badminton MUN Upper School Parent Teachers Conference	19 Day 3 ACDB GIN Hong Kong SEASAC Bad- minton	20 BKK MUN
21 BKK MUN	22 Day 4 EGHF	23 Day 5 AD BC	24 Day 6 EHFG	25 Day 1 ABCD EARCOS	26 Day 2 EFGH EARCOS	27 EARCOS



International School Yangon 2010-2011 School Year

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July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
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★ = Vacation or no school for designated students
 = Early Dismissal - Teacher Inservice
 = Parent/Teacher Conferences-Early Dismissal
 = Teacher Conference or Teacher Workday
 = Term BEGIN and END

August 5 New Staff Report to School
 August 9..... Staff Orientation
 August 12..... School Opens
 August 17..... Board Meeting
 August 20..... PTA Welcome back Tea
 August 26 - 27 ISY Open House
 September 1 PTA Meeting
 September 14 Board Meeting
 October 6 PTA Meeting
 October 8End of 1st Quarter - **42 days**
 October 11 - 15*October Break*
 October 19 Board Meeting
 October 21-22.....*Early Dismissal - Parent /Teacher Conferences*
 November 3 PTA Meeting
 November 9 Board Meeting
 November 20 International Day
 November 25-26*No School - ISY Holiday*
 December1 PTA Meeting
 December 8..... HS Science Fair
 December 14 Board Meeting
 December 17End of 2nd Quarter – **44 days**
 December 20 – Jan 7*No School - Holiday Break*
 January 10 School Resumes
 January 11 Board Meeting
 January 12 PTA Meeting
 February 2 PTA Meeting
 February 8 Board Meeting
 February 21*No School - ISY Holiday*
 March 2 PTA Meeting
 March 5 ISY Fun Fair
 March 8 Board Meeting
 March 11End of 3rd Quarter – **45 days**
 March 17-18*Early Dismissal - Parent /Teacher Conferences*
 March 25*No School - ISY Holiday*
 April 5 Board Meeting
 April 6 PTA Meeting
 April 11 –15*No School – Thingyan*
 May 4 PTA Meeting

May 10 Board Meeting
 May (?) Annual General Meeting (AGM)
 May 26High School Graduation
 May 27Last Day of School– **49 days**
 June 6Summer School Begins
 In-service dates will be announced.