Dear PYP parents,

It's been a wonderful start to 2020!

Grade 3 Field Trip to the recycling plant:

Grade 3 visited Siena Ambiente ss part of their unit exploring earth's resources. They have been learning about how humans use, and misuse, earth's resources as well as how we could try to improve our level of responsibility towards the sustainable use of earth's resources.

Grade 2 Field Trip to the glass factory:

On Thursday the Grade 2 students visited a glass factory where they could further develop their understanding of how humans use and change materials. I attended this trip and thoroughly enjoyed how enthusiastic and interested the students were with the process. Lots of questions and requests!

Grade 6 Science Fair:

Parent Workshop:

On Wednesday 15th January 2020, Mr Driver and Ms Letizia led a cross programme parent workshop focusing on 'Inquiry based approaches to teaching and learning'. The workshop addressed

the following questions:
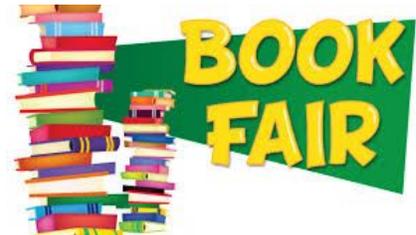
- What is meant by the term inquiry?

- Why do we use an inquiry based approach to teaching and learning?
- What types of activities do students engage with in an inquiry based classroom?

For those of you who attended, I hope that you found the workshop to be beneficial and that it has provided you with a clearer understanding of this highly important approach to teaching and learning, relevant to all IB programmes.

Book Fair

I would like to inform you that we have Book Fair taking place at school on the 14th of February from 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Grade 12 students will have the opportunity to look at the books available, either during their lunch break, during a non-contact session (if they have one during this time) or after 3.50pm.

Music Lessons:

We are delighted to inform parents that we have recently confirmed the appointment of External Music teachers of drums and piano.
Saverio Cacopardi is an experienced drummer for a variety of different groups as well as teaching in other schools around Siena.
Elisabeth Rundlette, originally from the US, has been teaching singing in Rome before moving to Siena. She has experience in teaching a wide range of genres from opera to jazz and really enjoys working with young singers.
Both teachers will be giving lessons after school from 3.45-5.45, and the days will be confirmed when we have a clear idea of student demand. Please let the Office know if you would be interested in taking advantage of these lessons.
As previously mentioned, lessons will be charged at 20 euros for 30 minutes and paid in advance at the start of each term.
Many thanks, Miss Rebecca

International Celebration Day:

We have our International Celebration Day event on Wednesday 29th January 2020 from 3.45 to 5.30pm. This year we are collapsing the timetable on the following days and are asking for parent volunteers to support us with

working with students to prepare activities and materials for the day.

The dates of the upcoming sessions are

- Tuesday 28th January 2020 - 1.30pm to 3.45pm

For these sessions, students will work in one of the following areas, supported by parents, older / senior students and teachers: World music; Traditional Dress; National/cultural history; Important country/cultural animals; National/cultural celebrations; Food culture/etiquette; Language; National/cultural famous people; National/cultural games/sports; National/cultural arts and dance; Science and Technology around the world.

Events around

I'd like to inform you that on the 22nd and 23rd of February there will be the first edition of **"Siena Comics for Kids"**, an event organised by Scuola del Fumetto. Please find below the web link for the event.

https://www.sienacomunica.it/siena-comics-for-kids/

If you know about any interesting events that will happen in town or nearby, share it with the school community please!

Key Dates:

- **International Day Celebration:** 29th January
- **Book Fair:** 14th February
- **Primary Report Cards on Managebac:** 10th February

Many thanks for reading.

Best regards,
Mr. Isaac Driver
ISS PYP Coordinator