



MYP Newsletter n°8 - 7th February 2020

Dear Parents,

One week left to the Sky Holiday and many info and events to share.

Ms Alaimo absence

Ms Alaimo informed us yesterday that due to some medical reasons, she will not be able to come back to school for this academic year.

During the MYP/DP assembly this morning I shared the news with all students, who are obviously sad about it. We are already organising a replacement for Ms Alaimo, both for Spanish Language Acquisition and Italian Language Acquisition classes, but I am sure you understand that to keep the standard we want it will probably take some time.

Next week we will cover lessons across the existing staff, but specific activities will be set for students by specialist teachers in those subjects, not to pause their learning programme.

Assenza di Ms Alaimo

Ms Alaimo ci ha informati ieri che purtroppo, per ragioni mediche non le sarà possibile tornare a scuola per questo anno accademico.

Stamani, durante l'Assembly ho comunicato la notizia agli studenti che ne sono rattristati. Ci siamo già organizzati per trovare un'appropriata e valida sostituzione sia per Spanish Language Acquisition che per l'Italiano Language Acquisition, ma sono certa che comprendiate che occorrerà un po' di tempo.

Per quanto riguarda la settimana prossima, le lezioni verranno coperte dal nostro staff ma saranno preparate da insegnanti specializzati nelle materie in questione, in modo da non rallentare il programma di apprendimento per i ragazzi.

Residential Trips

Grades 7 - 8 - 9

An opportunity has arisen to enable us to provide grade 9 with a different residential trip location: Munich.

This decision has been made due to a number of entities and we will always endeavor to provide opportunities but cannot always guarantee these annually.



With Grade 9 no longer attending this residential trip, the focus of the trip is more appropriate and aligned with their curriculum and programme requirements.

Grades 10 - 11 - 12: trip to London

Ms Ines has already shared with parents the information letter for this trip, and I am happy to say that there had been a very positive response to it.

As you know, the programme is still a draft and there are of various “free afternoons” listed.

I would like to reassure all parents that it is not our intention to leave students wandering across London by themselves (although I am sure they would like it). Dr Brown has been working with students who are attending this trip and has been collecting a series of activities that they would like to experience in London. This feedback has been collated and shared with our travel agency who are now working on incorporating some of these ideas into the itinerary.

That said, I also would like to confirm that students will have some free time to spend in a specific area agreed with their teachers, as independence is an important skill to develop.

During next week, you will receive via ManageBac all details for all of the three trips.

IB Diploma Programme (DP) Launch-From Mr Pessia

On Wednesday 26th February 2020 I will be running a presentation to formally launch the DP with the parents and student from Grade 10 and 11. The presentation will be run at 9.00am and will be repeated again at 4.00pm. If you do not have a son / daughter in Grade 10 or 11 but would like to find out more about the DP, please sign up for the correct presentation session (9.00am or 4.00pm).

Following this, I will be scheduling 30 minute appointments with all Grade 11 students and their parents on Friday 6th March 2020 during the planning afternoon. These appointments will be to begin discussing students subject selections for their DP. If you are unable to attend, please let me know and I will reschedule.

Safer Internet Week



Safer internet day is on Tuesday next week (11th February 2020). Safer Internet Day aims to create both a safer and a better internet, where everyone is empowered to use technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. The campaign aims to reach out to children and young people, parents and carers, teachers, educators and social workers, as well as industry, decision makers and politicians, to encourage everyone to play their part in creating a better internet. (<https://www.saferinternetday.org/web/sid/home>)



During the week, students will be encouraged and prompted to reflect on the aims of the day and will attend an assembly with this as a specific focus.

MYP & DP Disco

On Thursday 13th February 2020 from 6pm to 8pm, there will be an MYP-DP Disco held at school. The decorative theme for the event is Valentine's Day-students (mainly MYP) will help to produce decorations, specifically for this event.

As PYP Carnevale party will take place before the MYP disco, siblings that would like to attend and stay in school until the MYP Disco we will be more than happy to have them as assistant while decorating the Multipurpose area.

Moreover, I would also like to remind that ex-students of IS Siena are very welcome to attend as well, so if your kid would like to invite one of his ex-peer just let us know in advance (for insurance policy) and we will welcome them.



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

International Celebration Day

On Wednesday 29th January 2020 from 3.45 to 5.30pm we had our annual International Celebration Day Event. I would like to thank all of the DP students for their engagement in the event and for their willingness to work with and support our younger students. The event was a big success and really demonstrated (and celebrated) the international mindedness of our school community. Thank you also to our parents who supported the event, whether through attending / supporting the planning afternoons or by preparing international foods for our community to enjoy.

No-Uniform day for Australia fundraising

As you already know, on Friday the 31st of January, grade 7 organized a Non-uniform day for the MYP and DP students. They have done this to raise money for the 'Rescue Wildlife from the Australian Bushfires' fund on gofundme. The Non-uniform day was a great success as the students raised 97.50 euro. This money will be used to help the animals in Australia affected by the bushfires

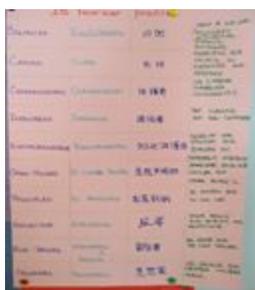


International Mother Tongue Language day and multilingualism workshop

On Thursday 27th of February will be the International Mother Tongue Language day: many activities will be set up to make our students proud of their mother tongue and share their knowledge with their peers. Also on the same day, Ms Simona and myself will run a **workshop** about Multilingualism. The workshop will start at 9 in the multipurpose area, an I-cloud page will be set up for parents to sign up.

Snapshot from teachers...

In Language Acquisition English with Ms Olmez...



During our last few lessons, English Language Acquisition students in Year 9 and 10 have been discussing what it means to be studying in an IB school and how our programme differs from national curricula. We looked in particular at the Learner Profile and explored its meaning in different languages. We believe that if we can develop these characteristics, we will be great learners for life!

In Year 7 English Language Acquisition classes, we are reading the graphic novel 'Sisters' by Reina Teilmeyer and learning how graphic novels are written. Did you know that the author uses different colored pages to show different strands of the story – pretty clever?!!

In Maths and Physics with Mr Trotta...

GRADE 8, MATH: We have completed Unit 3 ("Integers") and we are currently working on the summative Assessment which was started on Thursday and will be completed next week;

GRADE 10, Physics: Approaching the end of the "Mechanics" unit. Now we are working with simulations in order to revise motion graphs and the relationship between forces and motion. We will then cover Work, Energy and Power before starting the Mechanics Summative Assessment.

GRADE 11, Physics: We have completed the "Electromagnetic Waves and Radiation" Unit and we have been working on a general revision of the unit during this week. The students will work on their Summative Assessment next week.

In Maths with Mr Sokratis...

Grade 9 students practiced a lot on several types of linear equations and are familiar with methods for solving them. They are currently working with the "zero product property" to solve already factorized quadratic equations. They were surprised to discover that an equation could have more than one solution.

Grade 10 students have worked on factorizing linear expressions while before there had been a "tombola" as a pre-assessment on linear equations and simplification of expressions. Furthermore,

students were given steps on how to factorize so they could apply these on expressions of higher degree. Currently, they have been exploring systems of equations in a real world context.

Grade 11 students have been introduced to standard form used for very small or very big numbers. As an application of the standard form in astronomy, they managed to find how bigger is earth in relation with the moon (converting masses in kgs and dividing standard forms). There had been a formative assessment on standard form including several different tasks.

In Individual and Societies with Mr O'Sullivan..



In Grade 9 we are coming to the end of our interdisciplinary unit on natural disasters. This unit takes a multidisciplinary approach to learning between the subjects of Individuals and Societies and Science. We explored topics such as earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis and hurricanes from both the perspective of Science, for example why they happen, but also from the perspective of

Individuals and Societies to understand how we respond to these

disasters.

As part of the unit we had the students create earthquake preparation posters to display around the school. The posters were created digitally so that students could improve their technology skills and they aimed to educate students and teachers about how to react in the event of an earthquake.



In **Grade 11** we have been working on a unit called 'Interconnection and Expansion'. This unit aims to explain how human societies became increasingly globalised over the last 1000 years through phases such as the age of explorations and the scientific revolution.

Our unit has covered topics such as the technology of transportation, the emergence of global religions, the Atlantic slave trade and most recently the Columbian Exchange. As part of inquiry students completed infographics which aimed to visually express the impacts of the exchange on Europe and the Americas.

In Drama with Ms McDevitt..



Grade 7 have been writing their own Greek tragedy to perform as part of their unit on Greek Drama.

As well as writing a 'prologue' 'episode' and 'exodus' they have written songs to perform as a chorus. A wonderful example of the way the arts facilitate collaborative learning and creativity.

In Visual Art with Ms Forzoni...



Grade 9 Students are demonstrating good and interesting personal interpretations of still life. They show a good commitment attitude.



Kinds Regards and a presto,
Ms Letizia Rosati
MYP Coordinator