



PYP Newsletter 8 - Friday 6th February

Dear PYP parents,

Next week students in grades 1 to 6 will receive their Term One report. It will be accessible to you on Managebac. The report card is just one snap-shot of your child's learning as part of our reporting and communication systems. We also communicate curriculum and progress through our Unit Newsletters, End of Unit Reports, assemblies, parent-teacher conferences, three-way conferences and student-led conferences.

Also next week, parents in Kindergarten and transition have been invited to an open-morning on Wednesday or Thursday morning next week. KG/TR parents will spend time with their children in class so that they can interact and observe their child's social, emotional, thinking and creative learning within the context of the learning environment and their peers. This is aligned with the Reggio Inspired approach to Early Years learning.

This year, we have undertaken a review of our reports. This review was aligned with recent enhancements in the IB Primary Years Programme, updates to the Managebac system, improvements in pedagogical tracking systems as well as addressing the needs of a school that is growing.

When reading the PYP report it is important to focus on the 'grade specific phase level expectations(*)' and 'level descriptors'. The reason for this is that in the PYP the learning continuums are phased to reflect that each child is on a very personal learning journey and therefore they construct, transfer and apply their new conceptual knowledge, understanding and skills at different rates.

*In PYP, phase levels cover a two year period of student learning and progression.

We hope that you enjoy reading and discussing your child's report with them and we welcome constructive feedback about the report. If you do not fully understand the report you are encouraged to seek clarification from your child's teacher.



Cari genitori del PYP,

La prossima settimana i vostri bambini riceveranno le pagelle relative al primo quadrimestre che saranno visibili sulla piattaforma Menagebac. Il documento di valutazione che vedrete si differenzia rispetto agli anni precedenti. Si tratta di un quadro d'insieme dei progressi di vostro figlio nel suo percorso di crescita e di apprendimento. Va ad integrare gli altri documenti e momenti di valutazione messi a disposizione dei genitori dalla scuola, quali le newsletter settimanali, le pagelle di fine unità, le assemblee, i colloqui genitori-insegnanti, i colloqui genitori-insegnanti-studenti e, per concludere, la presentazione condotta dallo studente stesso durante le cosiddette *student-led conferences*. Sempre nell'ottica di rendervi partecipi in prima persona del processo di apprendimento dei vostri figli, i genitori dei bambini della scuola materna (*Kindergarten* e *Transition*) avranno la possibilità di trascorrere parte della mattina di Mercoledì e Giovedì della prossima settimana all'interno della classe. Sarà per loro una opportunità unica di osservare i progressi dei propri figli nello sviluppo delle loro capacità critiche, nonché nella loro sfera sociale ed emotiva. Questa iniziativa si inserisce nell'ottica di un nuovo approccio alla crescita e all'educazione dei bambini della prima fascia dell'infanzia (approccio educativo Reggio Emilia – *Reggio Emilia approach*) che il gruppo Inspired sta progressivamente implementando nelle proprie scuole. Per quanto riguarda il nuovo documento di valutazione, come avrete modo di vedere, sono state apportate delle modifiche alla sua struttura ed ai suoi contenuti, in linea con quanto disposto dall' *IB Primary Years Programme*. Le modifiche si sono rese necessarie sia per migliorare il sistema di monitoraggio delle competenze dello studente, sia per adeguare lo strumento di valutazione ai bisogni di una scuola in continua crescita. Nel consultare la pagella, vi preghiamo di porre attenzione in particolare a due voci: gli obiettivi di apprendimento relativi ad una determinata fase di acquisizione delle competenze per la specifica materia* (*grade specific phase level expectations*) ed i descrittori di livello (*level descriptors*). E' importante ricordare che il processo di apprendimento si articola in fasi, le quali si snodano lungo un continuum ideale: i bambini compiono il proprio viaggio di apprendimento lungo il continuum con tempi ed obiettivi propri, per questo il processo di apprendimento è, per ogni singolo bambino, unico e specifico. Così come è unica e specifica, in termini di risultati, la capacità di ogni bambino di costruire, trasferire ed applicare nuove conoscenze e nuovi concetti.

*Nel PYP gli obiettivi di apprendimento di una fase si distribuiscono nell'arco temporale di due anni.



La nostra speranza è che apprezziate la nuova veste ed i nuovi contenuti della pagella. Vi invitiamo a condividerla e a leggerla insieme a vostro figlio. Qualsiasi suggerimento costruttivo per rendere il nuovo documento di valutazione più chiaro e fruibile sarà ben accetto. Gli insegnanti di vostro figlio restano a disposizione a disposizione nel caso necessitate chiarimenti e spiegazioni.

International Day!

Every year we have tried to improve the quality of our International Day Celebration by enhancing the connections we make to our learning and to ourselves. All of us seek to understand and engage with the world around us as internationally-minded global citizens. This year, the level of creativity and engagement in activities, across all grade levels, was the best yet. This was thanks to the efforts of students, parents and teachers working together in collaboration. The food was utterly delicious and I think we all left the celebration looking forward to doing it again next year! A huge thanks to the PAG, parent class representatives and all parents who brought in their home country food and/or came into class to support the students in the creation of activities, games and products that celebrated our international community and pursuit of international-mindedness.





Carnevale Reminder:

On Thursday 13th February we will have a celebration at school for Carnevale. Parents of students in Kindergarten, Transition and Grade 1 are welcome to arrive at school from 2:45pm to help their children change into costumes. All other parents are welcome to arrive at school from 3:00pm onwards. At 3:45pm all parents should take responsibility for their children from their child's classroom teacher.

Order of events:

15:00:

Kindergarten, Transition and Grade One students and their parents will meet in the multipurpose room already dressed up to sing a song

15:15-16:00:

Games in Room 1 for Grades 3 - 6

Games in KG/TR room for Grades KG - 2

Garden available for play

Please support the PAG who are organizing food and beverages in the Multipurpose Room (MYP have their disco in the evening so support with clean-up is appreciated)

16:00-16:30:

Children's parade and prizes for the most creative and original masks according to two age ranges (Early Years and PYP)

16:45-17:00:

Home time

World Read aloud Day:

This past week, on Wednesday 5th February, it was World Read aloud day. Students and teachers read aloud to each other and grade 8 students found some time to read aloud to some of our younger primary school students. The grade 8 students read with such great enthusiasm, skill and enjoyment. The critical importance of reading aloud to children to improve their literacy skills is undeniable and World Read aloud is such a wonderful celebration.





Grade 5 Italian Assembly

Yesterday, Grade 5 parents had the pleasure of an Italian assembly. Mr. Dimitri and Grade 5 showcased their successes with learning Italian grammar through different interactive methods. Our Italian department is well recognised among international schools in Italy for their pedagogical instruction within our transdisciplinary curriculum programme. What seemed to surprise visitors to this assembly was not just the success of the programme but also the great enjoyment in learning Italian grammar that our charismatic teachers have nurtured among the students.



Grade Six: The Good and the Bad!

Grade Six were lucky to be able to draw on the great depth of knowledge and insight that Dr. Lucia Pelosi could bring to their discussions exploring 'governance'. As a highly qualified and recognised Art Historian, Dr. Pelosi was able to shed some light on Ambrogio Lorenzetti's 'The Allegory of Good and Bad Government' fresco panels dating back to the 13th century. They are in Siena's Palazzo Pubblico and worth a visit if you haven't already been. This discussion is part of the 'tuning-in' inquiry stage for the grade six unit centered around the ideas of 'governance'.



Book Fair:

I would like to remind you that we have a Book Fair taking place at school on the 14th of February from 1.00pm to 5.00pm. PYP students will have a scheduled time to visit the Book Fair and can reserve books until the end of the day when you can review and buy them with your child.



Key Dates:

- **Book Fair:** 14th February
- **Primary Report Cards on Managebac:** 10th February

Many thanks for reading.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Best regards,
Mr. Isaac Driver
ISS PYP Coordinator

All aboard....the people carrier!



Kindergarten and Transition playing creatively with open-ended and natural resources purchased for Early Years. Coming soon for the primary playground....a sand pit/stage, small climbing frame and benches!