

MAY 29, 2021

QSI



TIRANA INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL



Pictured above: the 5/6YO Elmer the Elephant program was a great success! Smiles all around!

THE WEEK'S REMINDERS:

MONDAY, MAY 31

Elem, MS & SEC ASA

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

Elem, MS & SEC ASA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

No Elementary ASA

No MS & SEC ASA

Welcome to the Jungle 7/8YO program
@ 9:00am

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Elem, MS & SEC ASA

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Ukulele Jam 9/10/11YO

TIS Tiger News:

Dear TIS Community,



Thank you to everyone who participated in the TIS Virtual International Celebration! It was a huge success a great reminder of our diverse TIS family. Some of the students were able to watch the video at school on Friday, but if they missed it, here it is:

[TIS Virtual International Celebration](#)

Kind regards,
Jon Mudd; TIS Director

CLICK HERE





UPCOMING REMINDERS:

JUNE 8

5/8 YO Violin Program @ 9:00
9/Sec1 Violin Program @ 10:15

JUNE 11

Secondary Graduation @ 6:00pm

JUNE 14

Preschool End of Year Show @ 10:15

JUNE 18

Last Day of School: 11:30 release

TIS Admin: tirana@qsi.org

Secondary and Middle School: jeff-tempel@tirana.qsi.org

Secondary and Middle School counselor:
shanna-tempel@tirana.qsi.org

Elementary: mike-wood@tirana.qsi.org

Elementary Counselor: alyssa-mudd@tirana.qsi.org

Preschool: jennie-fredriksson@tirana.qsi.org

Athletics & Activities: matt-stalker@tirana.qsi.org

**COVID PROCEDURE
HANDBOOK**

TIS WEBSITE

LUNCH WEBSITE

ACTIVITIES WEBSITE



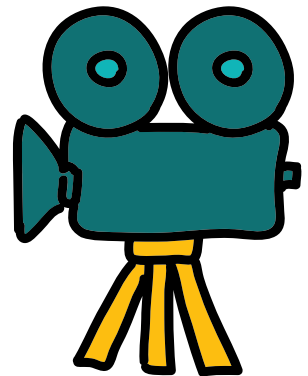
CLICK HERE



If you are a current TIS parent or staff member, you are welcome to join this group. It is a private group on Facebook.

Please note: All programs will be live-streamed, but on a platform other than Facebook.

Parents of performers will be sent the link to join prior to the performance. In addition, we have a videographer capturing each performance to share with parents.



DEPARTING FAMILIES

We know that a number of families will be moving on to other locations or moving back to their home country. We thank you for allowing TIS to be part of your child's education - all of you will forever be a TIS Tiger. We wish each of you health and happiness in your next adventures.

If you are a family not returning to TIS for the upcoming school year and you would like to have school records signed and stamped at the end of the school year, please contact Eglia Lila at egla-lila@tirana.qsi.org

She will prepare the necessary school records for your departure.



Tirana International School is proud to be authorized as an IB World School for the Diploma Programme. Starting next year, we will offer the IB Diploma Programme for students in Secondary III and IV.

It has been a long and challenging process to get here, and we are proud of the work we have done and are excited about the work we have ahead of us. The process began during our MSA accreditation in the 2018-2019 school year when parents expressed interest in the IB Diploma Programme. Our school started the authorization process - a coordinator was appointed; teachers volunteered for IB training; parents and students received information. The interruption of a major earthquake in 2019 and the covid-19 pandemic only briefly slowed the process. This school year, we finished hiring and training teachers, updated policies and handbooks, completed the application, and had our Verification Visit in April. The Visiting Team asked tough questions, but we knew the answers (or how to find them), and overall, they were very impressed with our school community and readiness for IB. On May 13, TIS was notified of being officially authorized.

In the next academic year 2021-2022, we will start with eight bright and eager Secondary III students who plan on rising to the challenge of working towards the IB Diploma to earn the prestigious, internationally recognized IB Diploma. Several other TIS students will opt to enroll in one or two IB courses to include our very popular Business Management course.

Thank you to all parents and students that helped with the authorization process.



Zoom TO GET YOUR COPY OF THE TIS 2020-21



CLICK HERE

ONLY
2,500 LEK!

YEARBOOK

SCAN THE QR
CODE OR GET A
FORM FROM YOUR
HOMEROOM
TEACHER NOW!



Dear Parents of TIS students for 2021-22

We have been so thrilled with the success of our Suzuki Violin program over the last three years. The students have surpassed our expectations with practice and commitment to musical excellence. As we look forward to next year, we are making plans and classes for next year and we are opening the season of enrollment for the violin program. Any child age 4yo- 12yo may enroll.

Next year, we are excited to announce that ALL 7yo children (current 6yo class) for the 2021-22 school year will be enrolled in violin class. This class will be led by our violin teacher Ms. Marjana and supported by our other music teachers. The goal is to expose all children to beginning violin and give them experience on this instrument. After the 7yo class, children may choose to continue violin or return to general vocal music. For these classes, the school will provide violins and materials.

1. If you are a current violin student, please **register to continue** for the program for next year. If you do not re-register, we will know you do not wish to continue in the program and your child will be automatically enrolled in vocal music with Mrs. Wheelis. Current 6yo classes do not need to register.
2. If you are currently a vocal music student with Mrs. Wheelis but would like to begin violin, please **register for** violin.
3. **If you are NEW to TIS for the fall of 2021** please read about the music options for your child attached. If you wish for your child to participate in the violin program please fill out the form as a NEW registration.
4. **[LINK TO REGISTRATION FORM](#)**

If you enroll your child for violin, you will need to provide your own violin in the appropriate size. Ms. Marjana will guide you in the process of purchasing. You can purchase in your home country or here in Albania. Again, please consult with Ms. Marjana before making a purchase.



Tirana International School Summer Camp 2021

4 Weeks

Age 3-11YO

Creative
Campers

195 \$
Week

Monday- Friday

9:00-15:00

Theme of the week

Lunch

Afternoon activities

Activity

9:00 -12:00

(lunch included)

12:10-12:55

Sports, Art

13:00-15:00



**REGISTER FOR
SUMMER CAMP
BEFORE
MONDAY, MAY 31ST**

Congrats

...to the crew of Middle School
and Secondary students who
masterfully shared the play
Agememnon.





Preschool News

#fromthedeskofMrsFredriksson

Dear Preschool Families,
We had a great week and we hope you did you, too!

On Friday, the Preschool was full of color as we celebrated diversity and our different nationalities. The students had fun painting their flags, talking about where we come from and watching snippets from the TIS video. Judging by the preschoolers, everyone in the video is now famous! It was so fun to hear their screams of delight and to see their smiling faces as they recognized someone they know. 😊

We do come from different places, but together we are a family.

Have a happy week ahead!

Hugs from your preschool family ♥

Ms. Jennie and the Preschool Team





Elementary News

#fromthedeskofMrWood

Dear Parents,

It was wonderful to see so many students dress in the colors and/or traditional dress of their home country on Friday. That, along with the brilliantly colored flags waving proudly in front of our school, were special visual reminders of the beautiful diversity of which our TIS community is made up. Of course, the virtual international day celebration video was exciting to watch too. Thank you to all who contributed to the video. And thank you for having your child attend our truly special international school.

As we enter our final three weeks, I know that meaningful learning continues for students, even amidst the excitement and anticipation of summer fast approaching. We all look forward to a strong finish to perhaps the most challenging school year ever due to the pandemic.

Please, if you are a returning family and have not completed the elementary foreign language preference form for your child, your kind attention to doing so this weekend will be appreciated. I hope that you and your family can enjoy the sun and beautiful outdoors this weekend! 2

Take care,
Mike Wood
Mike-wood@tirana.qsi.org

2021-22 Foreign Language Preference Form

We are requesting that parents of current 4yo through 10yo students complete this form.





8YO Class

... Reading, Arithmetic and Cultural Studies

We have been busy finishing up the last of our units for school.

In **Reading**, we finished our Novel Study books: "Wonder" and "Stone Fox." It was fun to see the comparisons and contrasts of the book to the movie in "Wonder." In Reading and Writing, our last unit is Poetry. We started with Acrostic poems this week. These are poems using one word vertically and adjectives to describe that word horizontally – we did our names!

In **Math**, Mr. Kim, our student teacher, is teaching us about fractions. We have learned some new fun games that teach us how to compare fractions and to decide which one is greater than, less than, or equal to. In Science, we have been gardening. Some of us have been successful and some are still waiting for those seeds to sprout! Let's hope they do soon!

In **Cultural Studies**, we finished up our unit on Workers and Consumers in Communities. By showing mastery, we had an "Entrepreneur's Extravaganza" where we got to make items and sell them in our "shops" to other students and some teachers last Friday. This was a great way to have fun and learn all at the same time. This week we just started our new unit on Vikings! We've learned so far that Vikings are from northwestern Europe (Scandinavia), have their own alphabet called Futhark with letters called Rune, they like to make swords, and they are excellent sailors who make their own sailboats. We are all excited about making swords, shields, and going on a raid at the end of this unit! This year has been great, we've learned a lot and are ready to move into the next level – 9's here we come!!





9YO Class

A bunch of great days!

What is the best way to end a Cultural Studies unit related to Agricultural Practices in a Home/Host Country? Taking a farm field trip, of course! This week the 9 YO class was exposed to local agricultural practices, livestock animals, and organic vegetable crops during their visit to Blerina's Farm. At the end of the day all students expressed greater appreciation towards farmers and an awakened respect for livestock animals. What a great day!





Russian

Hands-on learning

Russian Intro II and Russian Pre-intro class are busy!

1. Architect Sasha.
2. Within the topic "In the city" we got acquainted with the famous Russian buildings. And we even built copies of them. Sasha has already built the Kremlin's Spasskaya Tower, and now he has made the Bolshoi Theater and the Cathedral of Christ the Savior. This Cathedral is the largest in Russia, It was being built 50 years during the reign of three Russian emperors. Sasha did it faster.
3. Pre-intro students study domestic and wild animals.





6YO Class

2D Shapes

The Six-year-old classes have been studying Geometry and 2 D shapes. We enjoyed seeing how we could sort, manipulate, and play with these flat shapes.





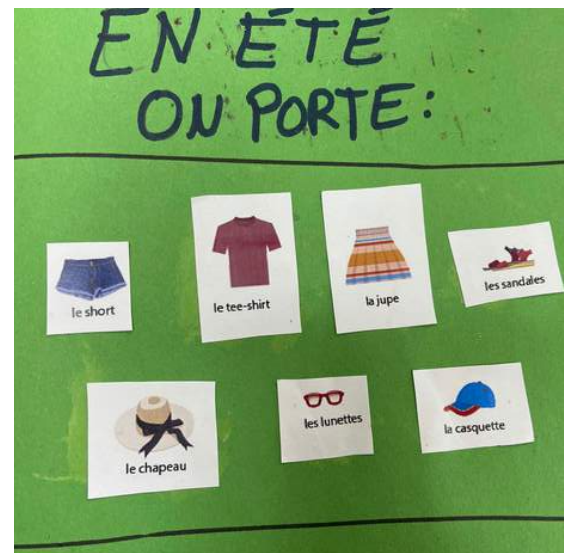
French

All things French

Introductory I students have learned the colors in French together with the Francophones countries. The “Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie” (OIF) is an international organization representing countries and regions where French is a lingua franca or everyday language, where a significant proportion of the population are francophones (French speakers), or where there is a special connection with French culture. The students have chosen to present 11 countries that are part of the Francophonie world by coloring their flags and saying their colors in French.

Introductory II students have just learned to talk about the weather and clothing. They have created a booklet for “Clothing for four seasons” in French, and they have chosen what they wear in different seasons by describing the weather.

Pre-introductory students are very enthusiastic about presenting their house that was designed by themselves in French class. They have created their home and described its furniture and parts of the house in French.





End-of-the-year Music Performances

In full swing

Our programs are in full swing! **This week the 5 and 6yo classes presented Elmer the Elephant.** It was a great performance! Parents, if you missed the live performance a video link will be sent to you as soon as it is available.

Other classes are deep in rehearsals for other upcoming performances. Watch for more information in your email

June 2 Welcome to the Jungle by the 7/8yo music classes

June 4 Ukulele Jams presents by the 9, 10 and 11 yo music classes

June 8 Violin program ages 5-8 and 9- Sec 1

You can use whatever photos you have from this morning and I will forward a few more for you from the practices of other age groups.







MS/Secondary News

#fromthedeskofMrTempel

Greetings Middle School Students and Families,

As the weeks keep coming and going, here are some important timeframes to think about:

- 2 weeks until Graduation, then...
- 1 week until the last day of school! That means we only have 15 school days left!
- AP Exams are done!
- Graduation - Friday, June 11
- Senior work completed by Friday, June 4
- Middle School/Secondary work completed no later than Tuesday, June 15 (or at teacher's discretion)
- Friday, June 18 - Last Day of School! Early dismissal!

Students are working hard and finishing their last units as the school year quickly comes to a close. It has been an "interesting" year, but our teachers and students have persevered and overcome the many obstacles put in their way!

A huge THANK YOU to the parents and families for your support and understanding as the students had to spend a lot of time at home working online. Thank you for partnering with teachers and helping your students stay on task despite all of the distractions at home. We missed having parents and families on campus this year and felt incomplete as a large part of our community was missing. We are all hopeful that next year we will be able to begin a transition back to a school with a complete community!

2021 Student Schedules

13-year-old through Secondary III students have received their 2021-2022 class schedules! Any student that is interested in requesting a schedule change should submit a schedule change request form by 11 June. Student schedules and the change request form were sent to student emails on Friday. We intend to have all schedules finalized before summer so students can be in their proper classes from the first day of school in August!

Blended Learning Intention Form:
May 31 - June 4

**Click here to complete the
Blended Learning Form**

For those who are choosing to learn from home, a user-friendly website was created where these students can find out what is happening in each of their classes each week. Below is a link to the blended learning website:

Blended Learning Plan Website

**Click here to view the Blended
Learning WEBSITE**

Have a great weekend,

Mr. Jeff Tempel; Middle School & Secondary Director of Instruction; jeff-tempel@tirana.qsi.org

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT:

Ariel Muka

WHAT I WILL
MISS MOST:

I will miss
coming to
school every
day and
walking down
these halls
and staying
outside in the
terrace.



Class of 2021

FAVORITE
CLASSES:

AP Art History
& American
Literature

TIS ACTIVITIES:

Cross Country,
Volleyball,
Basketball,
StuCo,
Yearbook,
Knowledge
Bowl

AFTER TIS:

I plan to start a job and enter a Public Law School. I will study in Albania for a year so I can work and take a few foreign language courses, and then move abroad. My ultimate goal is to become an international lawyer.



National Honor Society Clothing Drive Delivery

Thank you to everyone who donated clothing and toys to the National Honor Society Clothing Drive! It was a huge success and your donations went to people in need. Students from the NHS worked to deliver boxes of sorted clothing to the villages of Berzhitë and Pëllumbas last Wednesday. It was both rewarding and fun.

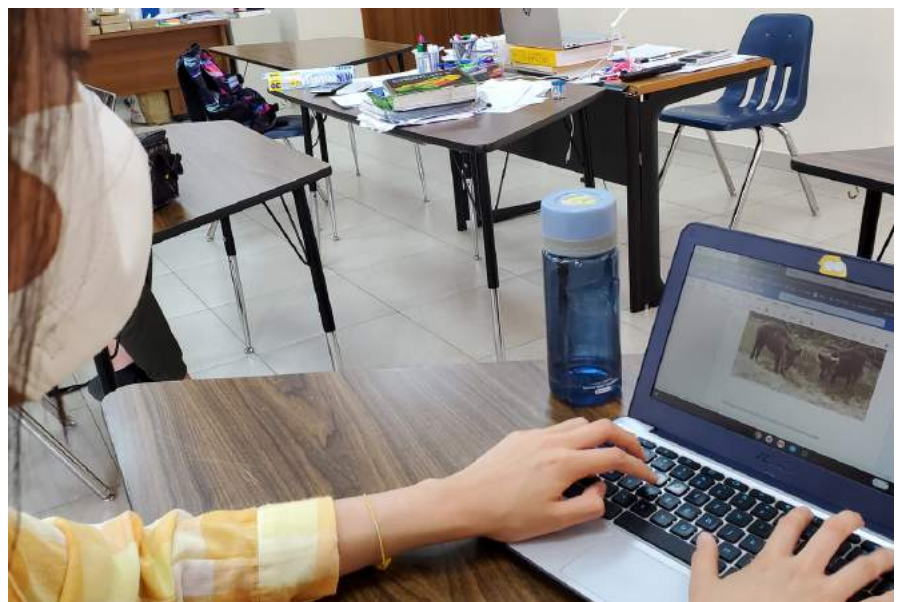
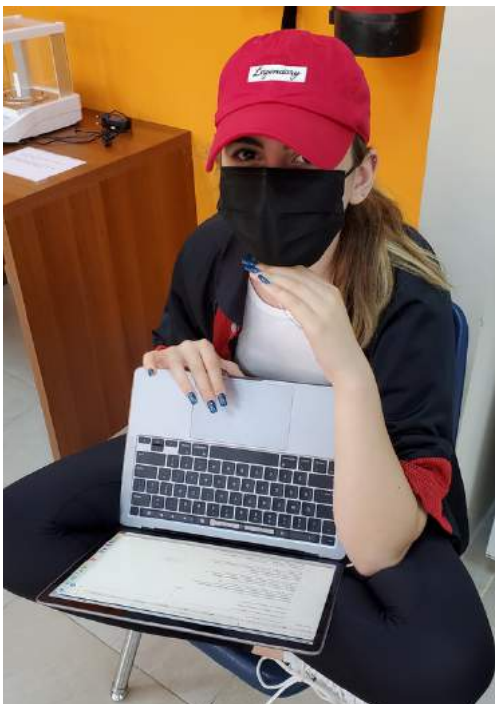
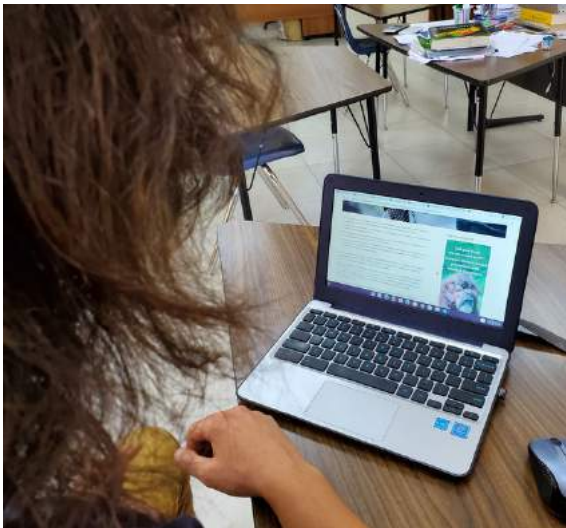




Biology

Serious problems need serious solutions

Wild pigs causing mayhem in Texas to maladaptive cane frogs in Australia. What's going on? The secondary II biology students are practicing their researching, writing, and presenting skills to address important human-caused, environmental issues. These invasive species can have a major impact on the ecology of their new homes. Students explore not only the ecological affects but also the economic costs and the political fights over topics like air and water pollution and habitat fragmentation caused by humans. They also research innovative solutions to these problems as well. Whether urban heat sinks or mining for rare Earth metals or the overharvesting of fish in the Pacific basin, human activity can create serious environmental problems that demand serious answers. Perhaps some of these students whether they become ecologists, economists, or politicians will play a role in finding them.





Don't miss this!

"Childhood Daydreams" by: Daria

The AP Art students have recently completed and submitted their portfolios to the College Board. The main part of the portfolio is called "Sustained Investigation", where a student needs to produce a series of images guided by a common theme or question. **Since we can't organize a live show, they will be sharing their works in a digital form. This week, enjoy the portfolio of the artist Daria Morris, entitled "Childhood Daydreams".**

CLICK

here





Looking back, to see ahead...

Thoughts from Mr. Nykl

Looking back, to see ahead... reviewing your child's progress in math from a holistic viewpoint.

While much of each TIS newsletter includes articles dealing with visible activities, where pictures are possible, it is also worth acknowledging how students are participating in other aspects of their learning; particularly as we look back over this unique school year.

One interesting category of measuring student initiative is via correspondence with their teachers. Though I am aware of hundreds, if not thousands of quick little chats in the TEAMS application by students to their teachers throughout the year, TIS does keep e-mail information to allow for reporting on e-mail correspondence.

As students mature, becoming a more self-directed learner, self-assessment is paramount. An indication of self-assessment is the ability to identify and ask for help as needed. While this happens continually during class time it also happens outside of class time and requires a higher level of articulation than during the class time. One measure of outside classroom initiative is students communicating with their teachers. Here is a simple indicator of how math students have communicated with me via e-mail.

Course	# of students in class	# e-mails	e-mails per student
Math 12	11	366	33
Math 13 (for 6 weeks)	9	83	9.2
Algebra 1 (for 6 weeks)	20	180	9
Geometry	17	314	18.4
AdvMath 1 (6 weeks)	14	78	5.6
AdvMath 2	11	229	20.8
6 weeks is for teaching for Ms. Turner total e-mails to date: 1240			

Such communication was likely strengthened due to the online necessities of this school year. When you combine this summary of student communications with tens of hours, if not hundreds of hours, working one-to-one with students either during class time or after school, we can reflect on the rich web of ways our students are learning in their math classes... And now multiply this outcome by each of the courses your children take. There is a lot going on for each student! We can only conclude that "Learning is pretty awesome!" **And, despite the online challenges, we need to recognize our students have done a remarkable job learning, organizing, and enriching their skills by having a blended learning environment; and, such skills will be expected as they matriculate to a university program.**



Athletics & Activities

As you might have heard on Friday our school competed against 2 other international schools (Warsaw and Budapest) in **MS Robotics**.

There were 11 teams, one of the TIS teams won first place and the second team won 4th place.

Students: Arlin, Joana, Jon, Kacper, Kamilla, Max and Arian

Please when you see these students congratulate them. This is the first year that TIS is winning 1st place in all the years they participated in CEESA MS Robotics.



Elementary ASAs are fun and rewarding for students! **The painting ASA** not only has fun during their time together, learning new techniques and being creative, but they also get to take home their finished products!





Dive Into Reading

Thoughts from Mr. Nykl

Dear Teachers and Parents,

Summer is approaching, and every school holiday is an opportunity to celebrate 'holiday reading'.

We are pleased to announce the annual TIS Summer Reading Challenge. This year's theme is **"Dive Into Reading!"**

The TIS Summer Reading Challenge is about reading for the pleasure of reading. The aim would be to build positive attitudes to reading and to continue to build the students' enjoyment, confidence and reading achievement.

How will the Summer Reading Challenge work this year?

This year we want our students to set their own goals. Of course, a challenge isn't a challenge unless students are working toward something.....challenging.

Students should keep in mind their goals for this challenge. They should set their own goals and work toward meeting them. They are just competing with themselves.

What might be some possible challenges:

- If a student read 4 books last year, reading 6 this year would be a challenge.
- If a student is reading just fantasy, the challenge might be to read a biography.
- If a student is reading short books, the challenge might be to read long books.
- If a student is reading contemporary texts, the challenge might be to read classic literature.

We want our students to make this challenge a fun adventure rather than a chore. Therefore, it's important students get to choose what they read with the focus on relaxation and enjoyment.

Participation is voluntary and open to students age 5 through secondary level. Students can read whatever they enjoy - fiction, fact books, poetry, joke books, picture books, eBooks, audiobooks - just as long as they get to choose what they want to read.

Students who return their summer reading log by September 15th and meet their reading challenge will receive a prize in the fall. You may download the reading log [here](#).

NOTE: To complete this challenge, we would like students to take a photo reading their book somewhere unusual over the summer holidays. We want to see as many wacky ideas as possible. Then send your photos to irida-shehu@tirana.qsi.org - they will be displayed during the prize-winning ceremony and on the library bulletin board. The aim is to showcase children as reading role models.



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2021

Dive into Reading!

*Wherever you go keep
reading*



Return your Summer Reading Log by September 15th to Win a Prize

Make sure you

get connected



Front Office Phone Number: 355-42-365239



Facebook: [click to like and follow our page](#)



Facebook Moms and Dads Private group:
[click to like and follow our page](#)



Instagram: [tiranainternationalschool](#)



YouTube: [Tirana International School](#)



General Email: tirana@qsi.org



Website: <https://tirana.qsi.org/>



Seesaw:

Download this app to keep in touch with
your child's 2YO-10YO classroom

TIS Cafeteria
WhatsApp group



WhatsApp:

Scan this QR code to join the "TIS Lunch"
group that posts photos of each day's lunch.



Tirana International School 2021-2022 Academic Year Calendar



2021-2022 Tirana International School Calendar

July 2021 	Summer Break 	January 2022 	January
August 2021 	August 26 First day of school	February 2022 	February 25 February - 1 March Mid-Winter Break
September 2021 	September 	March 2022 	March 14 Summer Day
October 2021 	October 1 - 2 October Professional Development 18 - 22 October Break	April 2022 	April 25-29 April Spring Break
November 2021 	November 26 November Professional Development 29 Liberation and Independence Day	May 2022 	May
December 2021 	December 20 December - 7 January Winter Break	June 2022 	June 17 Last Day of School



Terms Dates	
Term 1 (74 days)	26 August - 17 December
Term 2 (51 days)	10 January - 25 March
Term 3 (55 days)	28 March - 17 June
Quintiles Dates	
Quintile 1	26 August - 15 October
Quintile 2	25 October - 15 December
Quintile 3	16 December - 24 February
Quintile 4	2 March - 21 April
Quintile 5	22 April - 17 June

UPDATE!

