





THE WEEK'S REMINDERS:

MONDAY, AUGUST 30

No ASAs this week

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

Deadline to sign up for ASAs

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

TIS Tiger News:

Greetings TIS families,

It has been a successful start to the 2021-2022 school year!

It has been wonderful to feel the excitement from the students, teachers and parents these first two days of school. It is our goal to keep the excitement for learning alive in our students and to continue to work towards providing in-person, face to face learning for the 2021-2022 school year.

We thank each family for your support as the school continues to work towards a safe TIS and also ask for the community to be safe. We know that there may be times in which all of us may be impacted by additional cases of COVID19 and will work to provide the support needed for our students and staff during this time. TIS is grateful for the TIS community and with all of you, we will continue to stay strong and healthy.

Let's have another great week!

Warm Regards, Jon Mudd



UPCOMING REMINDERS:

OCTOBER 18-22

No School: Fall Break

Registration for After School Activities is OPEN!

You can find the schedule and register your child here: https://tisactivities.weebly.com/ Registration will close on Tuesday, August 31st at 4:00 p.m., and you will receive a confirmation email from Mrs. Scates a few days later.

CLICK HERE

Elementary Session 1 activities will start on Monday, September 13th and end on Friday, October 15th. Middle School and Secondary Session 1 activities will start on Monday, September 13th and end on Friday, November 19.

TIS Admin: tirana@qsi.org

Secondary and Middle School: jeff-

tempel@tirana.qsi.org

10YO-Secondary 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

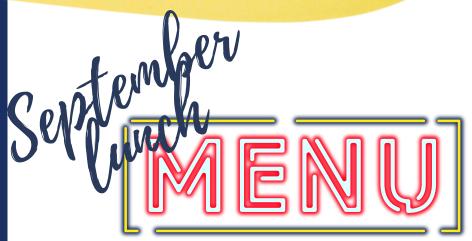
Athletics & Activities: rinascates@tirana.qsi.org

> **COVID PROCEDURE HANDBOOK**

> > **TIS WEBSITE**

LUNCH WEBSITE

ACTIVITIES WEBSITE



Notes from the Library

Circulation on the GO

It's a new school year and a new reading adventure! I am happy to announce that our school library added a wide variety of books to its collection this week.

So, without further ado, here are some lists that highlight recently added books.... but this is just a glimpse.



















Learning is fun!







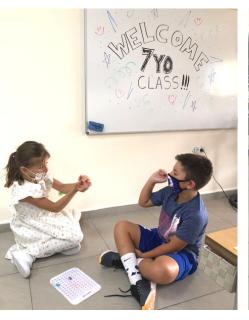




























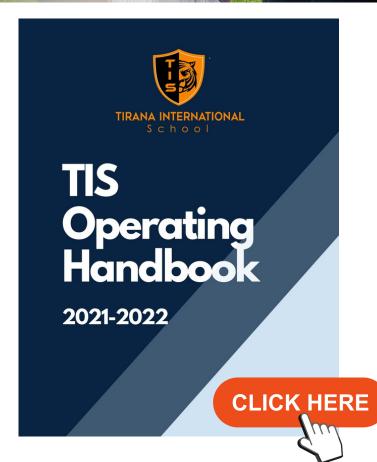


21-22 Operating Handbook

The 2021-2022 academic school year will again require all of us – TIS staff, community, parents, students and teachers – to be flexible and understanding. At TIS, our number one concern, as we navigate education during a continued pandemic, is the health and safety of our students and staff. Please read through the TIS Operating Handbook (linked to the right) by clicking on the handbook image.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free and welcome to contact Mr. Mudd, the Director at:

jon-mudd@qsi.org



REPORTING TO THE SCHOOL

USE THIS FORM TO REPORT: CLICK HERE

Please report any COVID19 health concerns to the school immediately by emailing the teacher, reception and the TIS Doctor. The office will be confirming the absence as soon as they receive the information.

(jon-mudd@qsi.org; reception@tirana.qsi.org; valbona-selmani@tirana.qsi.org)

NOTIFICATIONS FROM THE SCHOOL

TIS feels that it is important to be as transparent as possible with families concerning suspected and confirmed cases. However, we also feel it is important to keep specifics confidential. Parents will be notified that a student with their child's class/cohort has tested positive. The school will also remind and notify parents of the step-by-step procedures to follow. TIS administration and teachers will keep in close contact with the family throughout the entire process.

TIS will identify the first level contact list.

The school will only inform parents before a positive test is reported if there is a high level of evidence or concern that it might be COVID.

HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

First level contacts within the

STUDENT / EMPLOYEE FIRST LEVEL CONTACTS

household must self isolate
for 10 days. If symptoms
begin to show among other
family members, the 10 days
should be extended.

The TIS COVID response team will help to
determine first level contacts at TIS, close
any necessary classes and inform first
level contacts.

All 1st level contacts must self-isolate for 10 days. (If a 1st level contact can show proof of vaccination, their isolation days may be reduced.)

All Household 2nd Level Contacts are asked to monitor and stay home for 7 days if the 1st level contact is showing symptoms.

STUDENT / EMPLOYEE
SECOND LEVEL
CONTACTS

Monitor symptoms.

TIS Student/ TIS Employee is sick

Symptoms include: cough, fever, body

aches, loss of taste or smell and/or shortness of breath

NO

Stay at home

until 48 hours

after symptoms

end

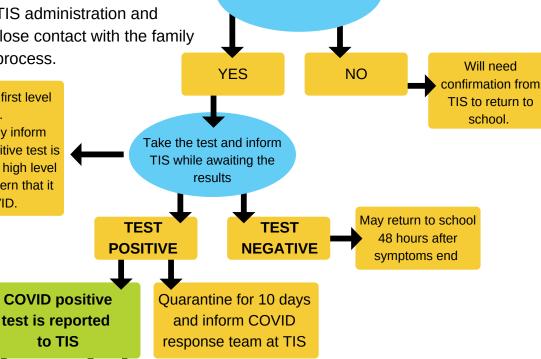
YES

Consult a doctor

for next steps

and inform TIS

COVID19 TEST



Preschool News #fromthedeskofMrsFredriksson

Dear Preschool Families.

We hope that you are enjoying your weekend!

It was wonderful seeing many of you during our back-to-school event this Wednesday. We had a lovely time meeting new as well as familiar faces and enjoyed playing with our students-to-be!

The much-awaited school start finally occurred this Thursday and, despite the rain, we were off to a great start. We saw many happy little explorers eagerly investigating their new classrooms, toys, and playgrounds. Our preschool floor was buzzing with excitement, songs, and lots of activities! As to be expected, there were also some tears.

Tearful goodbyes are a very normal reaction to separation and they can vary in length. Be confident that the teachers are there for your child and that they are doing everything they can to make them feel comfortable, as well as loved. To make it easier for your child and you as a parent, we have some practical tips to ease the transition:

- Talk about preschool in a positive way. Mention the teachers by name and ensure your child that their teachers are very excited to meet them. Together with your child, look at the teachers' photos and the video of their classroom (these were shared via email and Seesaw) to make them familiar.
- During the first days of school, keep your goodbyes short and sweet and give your preschooler a hug and a kiss. Never make promises you cannot keep or sneak out when your preschooler is looking the other way. It will make your child feel insecure and less trusting.

Please reach out to your child's teacher directly if there is anything you would like to talk about, we are always there to listen and help.

Next week, we are looking forward to more friends joining and lots of fun together!

Warm regards,
Jennie Fredriksson
Preschool Coordinator
jennie-fredriksson@tirana.gsi.org













Elementary News #fromthedeskofMrWood

Dear Families of Elementary Students,

How wonderful it has been to welcome students back to TIS!

Teachers and staff enjoyed welcoming students on Thursday and Friday. How fun it has been to see returning students and to meet new ones. We have had a very positive start!

We kindly ask you, and your child, to log into Seesaw, as this is our elementary platform that teachers use for most communication and posting about exciting happenings in the classroom. It is also another resource teachers use for engaging students in activities and posting pictures of student successes. Your child's homeroom teacher has shared the specific login instructions for both parents and students. If you have not received it, or are having trouble, feel free to contact your child's teacher and/or our Information Technology Specialist, Mr. Erdit Cironaku. His email is on the login instructions, and also included here: erdit-cironaku@tirana.gsi.org















Below is information included in the first school newsletter, in case anyone missed it:

Welcome to the 2021-22 School Year!
Our staff is so excited to welcome students back to school this Thursday, which will be a half-day. Class lists will be emailed to you on Monday, August 23.
Elementary teachers have been working actively to prepare for the children and they will be sharing their age level welcome letter and syllabi with you on Wednesday, August 25. Please look for this communication from them. Teachers look forward to meeting you and their students for an informal meet and greet on Wednesday, August 25. This is not a time for individual teacher conferences. Please see the schedule included in this school newsletter. See you there!





Let me take a moment to introduce myself to any new families. My name is Mike Wood, and I am the Academic Coordinator for elementary, ages 5yo-10yo. This is my third year in administration, my twelfth year in our school organization (QSI), and my nineteenth in education. My initial seven years were spent in both private and public schools in California, which is my home state in America. This is my seventh overall year working at Tirana International School. I have also taught in Hungary and China.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to new students and families who are joining us this school year. We are so happy that you are here and look forward to you becoming a part of our wonderful school community. I would also like to welcome back returning families and students. I hope that everyone has had a relaxing summer.



The health and safety of our school community continue to be a high priority. Last year we put into place detailed health and safety procedures and we will continue many of those this school year. Please ensure you send in 3 clean masks each day with your child. This is so students can use a clean one later in the day. It is helpful to send those in some type of labeled sealed bag or small container and to have another labeled sealed bag or container for used masks. Used masks should be cleaned before wearing them again.



Please note that for student arrival, we will resume the successful practice we implemented last year whereby 5-10yo students enter the school through the lower playground gate (pictured below). On the first two days, elementary teachers will be there to greet students and they will line up as follows: 5-6yo students on the lower playground, 7-8yo students on the upper playground, and 9-10yo students in the gym (still entering at the lower playground gate). Please note that students are led to their classes promptly at 7:55 a.m. Please help your child to arrive between 7:45 and 7:55 a.m. The lower playground entrance gate is pictured below for your reference.



Elementary Morning Arrival Gate (5-10yo students)

Dismissal will be like how it was last year, with 5-7yo students being picked up by their parents under the front of the school awning, and 8-10yo students on the right side (which is also the pictured above area). Please don't cross the chain-link barrier in order to maintain distance and please wear masks while picking your child up. Thank you. Bus riders will be walked to their appropriate buses.

Our teachers and staff are here for your child's success. We have an incredible, dedicated, and caring staff whose biggest intention and interest professionally are to have your child learn, grow, mature, have meaningful experiences, make connections, and enjoy being at school.

Sincerely,

Mike Wood; mike-wood@tirana.qsi.org Elementary Academic Coordinator

Middle School/Secondary News #fromthedeskofMrTempel

Dear Middle School/Secondary Parents and Families,

What a week it has been! All TIS teachers returned on Monday to begin preparations for the 2021-22 school year. Wednesday we had the opportunity to spend time face-to-face with many students and families at "Meet the Teacher Morning". And finally, the first day of school arrived and we were able to hear all of the voices and see all of the faces back in the hallways again!

As we are now officially back to school, there are a few important items to note:

- **Lockers** All students will now have the opportunity to have their own personal locker in which to keep their belongings safe. To help secure their lockers, students will also be provided with a combination lock. The locker and the lock are the responsibility of the student.
- Phones will no longer be allowed during the school day. If phones are brought to school, students will be expected to lock them in their lockers when they arrive to school.
 - Students can only retrieve their phones from their locker with permission.
 - If a students is using their phone without permission, it will be taken and locked up in the 4th floor office area. Upon the first offense, students will be given the phone back at the end of the day. For the second offense and any offense thereafter, the phone will be locked up, but will need to be picked up by a parent/family member.
 - Parent support is appreciated as we are trying to get students away from their devices during the school day. It will be an adjustment for all of us, but is a necessary and beneficial change for TIS Middle School and Secondary students.
- **Planners** All students will receive planners this year to help keep themselves organized. The first planner will come at no cost. If a student's planner becomes lost or damaged, they student may purchase another one.
 - Teachers will provide lessons to students that will help them achieve the greatest benefit from their planners.
 - In addition to a full calendar and a weekly calendar where students can write homework assignments an important due dates, they can keep track of their class schedule, teacher office hours, unit completion, and much more.
 - In the back of the planner is where students can find important information regarding school expectations and procedures from the TIS Family Handbook.
 - One important change is we have simplified our dress code for students. Below is what we expect from all students. Any student violating the dress code, may need to change clothes, or go home if changing is not possible.

TIS Dress Code



CONTENT:

Clothing may not display words or images representing alcohol, tobacco, illegal substances or messages that may offend others within the community.

COVERAGE:

The body and undergarments must be visibly covered, at minimum, from armpit to armpit and from the shoulder to 3-4 inches/7.5 to 10 cm at the bottom.

Shoes are required at all times, and masks must fully cover the mouth and nose in all indoor spaces.
Students may remove masks in the cafeteria when actively eating or drinking.

Here are some important dates coming up:

- 20-30 September Fall MAP Testing for 11 yos, 12 yos, 13 yos, Sec Is, and Sec IIs
 - All students will test Math, Reading, and Language Usage.
 - More specific information will come as the dates get closer.

Blended Learning Protocols 2021-2022 School Year

Covid Related Reasons in Which Blended Learning Will be Supported

- Student contracted Covid
- · The students is defined as a 1st Level Contact by TIS
- If in the process of determining if a student is at-risk
- Student has been asked by school to remain home.

If a student is absent due to Covid-related reasons, they will be supported with a blended learning option beginning 24 hours after communicating the information to the school.

Student Absences for Non – COVID19 Reasons – Blended Learning Will Not Be the Expectation

- Sicknesses and Injury (non-Covid)
- Family trips/vacations
- Personal/ Family Appointments off Campus
- · Other non-Covid reasons for absence

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- · Personal/ Family Appointments off Campus
- · Other non-Covid reasons for absence

Blended Learning Protocols for All Students/ Ages

- Approved blended learning will begin after a 24-hour time period to allow staff sufficient time to plan and prepare.
- Students are expected to follow the provided schedule and follow-through with diligent effort.
- Parents are expected to support students, as needed.
- Students are expected to attend online for the duration of the schedule provided to them.

Additional Blended Learning Protocols for Middle School/Secondary (11yo through Secondary IV)

- Students who qualify for blended learning will be expected to attend each class synchronously unless otherwise directed by the teacher.
- Any parents requesting blended learning for their students must fill out the Blended Learning
 Form. This will be provided to parents each week in the TIS Newsletter. Students not
 approved through this process but have a COVID-related absence during the school week
 must provide COVID-related documentation as soon as it is available. Upon approval,
 students should expect to join blended learning within 24 hours.
- This process is extremely important as teachers are not able to provide the support needed without sufficient time to prepare.

Thank you all for choosing TIS! I am looking forward to working with you and your students this school year! If you ever have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Jeff Tempel
Director of Instruction
jeff-tempel@tirana.gsi.org

Athletics and Activities #fromthedeskofMrsScates

Activities RegistrationRegister now!

Please register by Tuesday, August 31st at 12:00 p.m.





Elementary Activities Plan - September 13 - October 15

TIS is looking forward to expanding the after-school activities program for our elementary students this year. There will be five sessions of six weeks each, which align with TIS's quintiles. Initially, elementary students will have activities two days per week. The first session will begin on September 13th and end on October 15th. Students will remain with their age level for indoor activities but may be mixed with other age levels during outside activities. Activities run from 3:15 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Middle School and Secondary Activities Plan – September 13 – November 19

The Middle School and High School activities program will begin on Monday, September 13th. There will be three sessions this year that align with the CEESA calendar—Fall, Winter, and Spring. There will be no travel in 2021, but students will have the opportunity to participate in virtual events with other schools. Some activities finish at 4:00 p.m. while others finish at 5:00 p.m. Please make sure you know what time your child needs to be picked up if they do not take a bus.

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





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

	2021-2022 Tirana Inter		
July 2021	Summer Break	January 2022	January
Su M Tu W Th F Sa		Su M Tu W Th F Sa	
1 2 3		2 3 4 5 6 7 8	
11 12 13 14 15 16 17		9 10 11 12 13 14 15	
18 19 20 21 22 23 24		16 17 18 19 20 21 22	
25 26 27 28 29 30 31		23 24 25 26 27 28 29	
		30 31	
August 2021	August	February 2022	February
Su M Tu W Th F Sa		Su M Tu W Th F Sa	
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	26 First day of school	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	25 February - 1 March Mid-Winter Break
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	26 First day of school	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	25 Pedruary - 1 march mid-Willer Break
22 23 24 25 26 27 28		20 21 22 23 24 25 26	
29 30 31		27 28	
September 2021	September	March 2022	March
Su M Tu W Th F Sa		Su M Tu W Th F Sa	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11		6 7 8 9 10 11 12	14 Summer Day
12 13 14 15 16 17 18		13 14 15 16 17 18 19	14 Summer Day
19 20 21 22 23 24 25		20 21 22 23 24 25 26	
26 27 28 29 30		27 28 29 30 31	
October 2021	October	April 2022	April
Su M Tu W Th F Sa		Su M Tu W Th F Sa	
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	1 - 2 October Professional Development 18 - 22 October Break	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	25 20 April Coring Break
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	16 - 22 October Break	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	25-29 April Spring Break
17 18 19 20 21 22 23		17 18 19 20 21 22 23	
24 25 26 27 28 29 30			
29 20 27 20 29 30		24 25 26 27 28 29 30	
29 20 27 20 29 30			
November 2021	November		May
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Terms Dates			
	days) 26 August - 17 December days) 10 January - 25 March		
	days) 28 March - 17 June		
Quintiles Dates			
Quintile 1	26 August - 15 October		
Quintile 1 Quintile 2	26 August - 15 October 25 October - 15 December		
Quintile 2	25 October - 15 December		

