

Letter from the Head...

Spring is almost here. As I write my letter the sun streams through the window making us forget the recent storms and water shortages. The clocks go forward in two weeks and it's strange to think that in only fifteen weeks we all depart for our long summer holidays. Take away the May Holiday and odd days for Easter means that we have just over twelve school weeks left. In that time we have the DP2 final exams (starting in the middle of the May break); the school end-of-year exams, a Gala evening, the new timetable to complete and many project days! Furrowed brows and slight panic begins to set in when we all realize quite what there is yet to do! However every year is the same and it all works out in the end! We have to keep our diaries free as the weather improves and invitations to various events, information and report evenings and PSG gatherings hit our door mat. Some of these are outlined below and I look forward to celebrating our successes with you over the next few weeks.

Mike Weston. Head of School

Coming up...

- 17 March (08.30): MYP4 have their first introduction to the Personal Project. This is a compulsory, extended piece of writing which will cover time between now and next February. It is very important that parents play a role in this writing with their son/daughter so please ask them what it is all about. All students will receive a hand book, outlining the requirements. This book will also be available to download from our website. This is followed by a session on 20 March at 15.00 on the Areas of Interaction. Both sessions are compulsory.
- 20 March: the whole school in-service day is cancelled. This is replaced by a staff meeting at 13.30 so lessons 1-5, up to 12.50, will be as normal. MYP4 will have a special Humanities lesson from 13.20 - 15.00 followed by a personal project assembly. We request that all other students leave school before the meeting commences at **13.00**.
- 25/27 March: the new SGS term starts for students of MYP1, 2 and 3. MYP3 will only have one SGS lesson in this last term: the first hour on Thursday.
- DP formal oral exams start for their language subjects on 17 March. We wish them lots and lots of luck!!
- 21-24 March: School Closed for Easter.
- 26 March: ALL reports will be issued. Please expect them home with your son/daughter. Please also return the appointment form as soon as possible for the parents' evening on **Thursday, 10 April**
- 28 March: MYP1 Area of Interaction assembly is cancelled...
- 31 March: **DP1, MYP4 and 5 Sports Day** (details to be released)
- 01 and 02 April: **MYP4 and 5 Mentor Activity** (details to be released)
- 10 April: **Parents' Appointment Evening**. Please note this is on the Thursday, **NOT** Wed the 9th...

Quote of the issue: The more we do, the more we can do; the more busy we are, the more leisure we have.
William Hazlitt — English essayist (1778 - 1830)



ART AUCTION: Everyone is desperately getting ready polishing their artistic skills and producing masterpieces to be sold at the annual Art Auction. The date for this is most probably to be the evening of the 18 April, and the venue this year will be the Esserberg Villa. Please clear a space in your busy agendas for this great event!!

The PSG are now extremely busy helping out with the events which mark the end of the school year. Spring Project lunch, Art Auction, DP2 exam 'care', Gala Evening all demand time and energy. The PSG is therefore desperately asking for help. If you can spare any time at all over the next few weeks please contact Connie Lavelle: connie_lavelle@yahoo.ca - even a few hours can make all the difference!

Coming Up (continued!)

- 16 April: Team Day (as advertised in the school calendar) is **cancelled** so lessons as normal ALL DAY
- 24 April: **TEAM DAY** (school closed to all students). This is a new date for the Team Day.
- 25 April - 12 May (inclusive): **MAY HOLIDAY**. During this time DP1 will be visiting the Model United Nations Conference in Lübeck, and DP2 will start their exams. We wish them all lots of luck!

- 31 March, 01 and 02 April. The **SPRING PROJECT**. This is for all students in MYP1-3. Students are given a choice from 10 workshops, ranging from "Painting a Difference" to "Magic"... They choose one and spend three days learning a new skill or partaking in something they have never done before! The day culminates in a special presentation on Wednesday 02 April at 11.30. This will be in the Mediatheek, in the Hemmenlaan and is open to all parents, and relatives. Come and see what your son and daughter has learnt! How have they really made a difference!!?? News and updates from the project will be published daily on the ISG website.

Message from PE: If your son or daughter are injured and not able to partake in the PE lessons they must still attend the class. Often the lesson includes theoretical elements and it is vital that students do not miss such information. Depending on the injury the students also can be involved in refereeing and assessing student performance.

Other news:

On Thursday 7th all the students of the International School headed to Groningen to visit the fantastic exhibition at the Groninger museum, "Russian Legends, Folk Tales and Fairy Tales". Those who have not yet seen this exhibition are encouraged to go, and for a full report on our visit check out the website (www.isgroningen.nl), over the next few days!

We are very pleased to welcome Cleo Rijgersberg back from her maternity leave. She will be resuming her DP and MYP5 lessons from Monday 17 March. On the same subject we are sorry to be losing Marie Davoust from the International School from 14 April. But its good news for her: Marie is departing to start her maternity leave! We wish her all the best over these forthcoming weeks, and will be looking forward to the 'big news'!



You may have been told that Mr. Steinebach and Mr. Rietveld were away 'on holiday' a few weeks ago, and Ms Ten Kate is just back from the Spanish sunshine...! Actually it was not a 'holiday' but three days of intense training though the IB Organisation. Mr. Rietveld and Mr. Steinebach were on a DP conference and Ms ten Kate was away on a MYP advanced teachers' conference... Up to date training is vital to keep abreast of the developments in the IB subjects and I am sure we will see the benefits of their visits over the coming months...