



# ISCS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020 - WEEK 20TH 24TH

*"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."*

W.B. YEATS



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Dear ISCS Community

We have finally entered the last term. The events of the past few weeks have been truly disconcerting. Overnight, we have had to change the way we live and think, forcing ourselves to abandon the comfort of old routines and adapt ourselves to a new reality of protection. Spring is the season of promise and the reaction of our Community to this crisis has been extraordinary, sending a clear message of hope.

Our Community has taken a step forward in many ways. Our teachers have worked tirelessly to turn live lessons into the online format in an incredibly short time. Our Upper School teachers are working non-stop preparing the evidence that will allow Cambridge to assess our IGCSE and A-level students.

Our students have adapted to a whole new learning environment on the go, while facing new challenges. This is a good example of the exceptional character of our students! From the youngest to the oldest, we have all shown cooperation, flexibility and good humour in this abrupt situation which is truly inspiring for the entire ISCS Team.

I would also like to highlight the continued support of families. Your constant commitment is one of the pillars on which ISCS's success is based.

*by Mr Parra*

## ISCS HOUSE POINTS

	1241	1626	
	1217	1709	

The House Points system continues to be updated in the Online version. This week the highlight of the event was ISCS World Book Day. Anais (Grade 3), Sydney (Grade 10) and Miss Predouli brought their Houses 10 points each for being first to answer "Why is World Book Day Celebrated on 23rd April?" The start of the new term and excellent effort moved the Blue House to the 3rd place!

*by Mr Perlijev*



As you know our online learning is now in full motion, however we are adjusting with each day to ensure that we cater for the needs of all our children and so your feedback is very important. I think that it is vital that we have a balance of academic activities and fun activities which though remain educational are a little lighter and easier to manage. We have to remind ourselves that hopefully we are way past the halfway mark now and that within a few weeks we will be returning to our school with smiles on our faces. Another day of completed social distancing, means another day closer to returning to our classrooms.

*by Mr Hawthorne*



James and his father celebrating a Polish Easter tradition; Smigus Dyngus. Splash each other with water for good fortune and prosperity!

## EARLY YEARS

Early Years students have managed to stay busy during the spring break vacation. Miss. Mooijer received pictures and videos of the children's Easter celebrations and the development of their bouncy egg science experiments. This week, the students were challenged to create a game using empty bottles to practice their throwing and numeracy skills. They also discussed Earth Day and were encouraged to do something positive for the environment. On Google Hangouts, we discussed how the earth has become cleaner and more welcoming to the animals as a result of the COVID pandemic. They were most interested in the fact that sharks have been moving more freely in the Indian Ocean as a result of less shark nets and less bathers along the South African coast!

## KEY STAGE 1

Now that the spring holiday is over, it is time to get back to remote learning! Because of the heavy workload on our young students, they have got some opportunities to try many at home science experiments shared with them this week, using household materials! It includes learning around weather, density, transportation of water through plants, molecules, acid reactions, and even paleontology...I am sure our Grade 1s will become great explorers. We are also continuing our learning of data through pie graphs and new topics. Each child has individual work that is made specifically for their learning needs. On the 22nd of April, it was Earth Day - hopefully all our grade 1s have been busy creating a mean, green masterpiece!



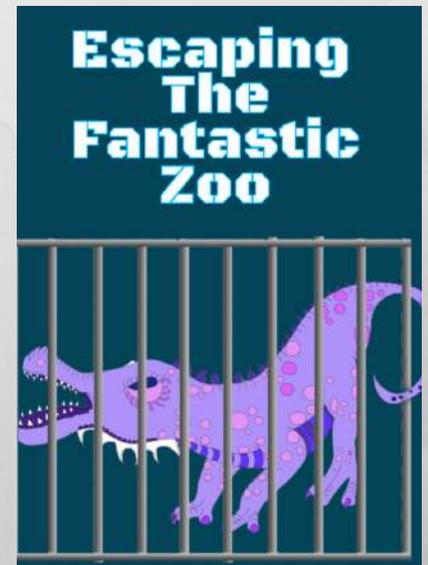
## KEY STAGE 2

In Grades 3, 4 and 5 we have certainly hit the ground running! We are currently writing a story called 'Up, Up and Away' and working very hard using the materials and videos from White Rose Maths. We have incorporated an Earth Day activity, into our learning, every day this week. Every weekday, the children can access the Joe Wicks physical workouts and so we envisage that the children are going to be very fit once they return to school. We have even had the opportunity to visit Disneyland to try out some of their rides 'virtually' and have had a virtual walk around the 'Star Wars' park to take them to a galaxy far, far away from Cham.

## PERFORMING ARTS IN PRIMARY

The students have also been continuing to learn the script that they produced as a team before the switch to remote schooling of their own Music and Drama piece called 'Escaping the Fantastic Zoo' in anticipation of return to school.

In the spirit of further inter-disciplinary practice the learners have been creating poster art for the piece within their ICT class.



We've ended the week with some gorgeous weather and World Book Day... my perfect combination! I've already received some entries for the Book Review Competition and the Character Costume Contest (sent by email to students on Thursday 23rd April). Our students are making a great effort so far and I can't wait to see all the entries. I think it's going to be difficult to choose a clear winner!



In Secondary, we've been talking to our Grade 8 students about potential IGCSE options for next year. As our school continues to develop the Cambridge Curriculum, we hope to be able to open up some options for study. Mr Hopton and I met with the students and sent them a survey to find out a little more about what they might be interested in. We're looking forward to seeing the results, and finding out how we can best meet our students' needs as we grow as a school. Mr Caracheo and I are working on the procedure for compiling Grade 10 and 11 work for Cambridge. It's a busy time of year for the exam classes and their teachers, but I have no doubt that our team effort will help us through an unexpected situation. Thanks to parents, staff and students for all your support as we reach the end of another 'virtual' week at school. On that note, I'll leave you with my best wishes for a lovely weekend. I'm off to pick up my book and enjoy the sunshine while it lasts!

by Ms Helyer

## INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY



Grade 9 students are exploring the world of Web Authoring. Tasks and activities are designed to introduce the students to the coding languages used to create websites, leading the students to ask questions, weigh up problems and solutions and then in the spirit of enquiry and exploration, access a variety of stimulus materials and resources in order to develop their understanding. The Unit will culminate in the students creating their own online portfolios, which will become very useful for them when applying for jobs and University places



### STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

**"It is interesting to see how we use websites everyday but do not realize how much work goes into them."**

Isabella Saenz

**"It has been a great new learning experience using collaborative documents and working on google hangouts, enabling us to work as a team and help each other."**

Maya Baig

## SECONDARY PERFORMING ARTS



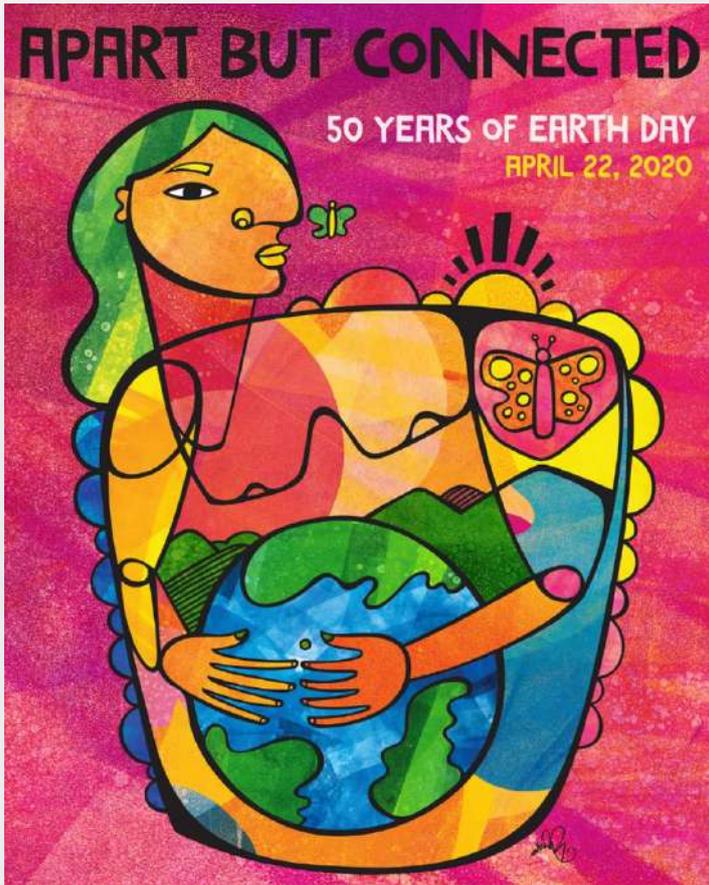
This week upper secondary students will be watching a professional rendition of Twelfth Night, recorded by the National Theatre UK, which also ties in with Grade 9's English literature studies.

Giving students as many chances as possible to experience professional performance work throughout the year is a vital part of Performing Arts at ISCS. Whether through Interactive workshops or seeing professional performance, it is an important part of inspiring our learners to become 'young professionals' themselves.



by Mr Jackson

Mr Jackson teaching a virtual lesson from home



Dear ISCS community,

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a relaxing break and could relax and refresh your mind these last two weeks. Our Spring Challenge is now closed, and we wanted to thank all the students who have sent us beautiful pictures of what they have done. We hope they had fun participating to our activities!

We were impressed by their creations and are more than happy to divulge them! Yummy cookies, awesome art craft and amazing cakes are waiting for you in our virtual gallery:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/6YXW9PARFwoY5Jtt8>.

This week, we have actively worked with the school to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Earth. Thanks to the teachers and their commitment, students have discovered our planet and produced some beautiful work about her. Let's discover them:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/GPG3U9dszY3geeYk7>

We wish all of you a relaxing weekend! As usual, take care of you and your family, stay home, and relax!

*by The PO Team: Audrey, Mariska, Céline & Kasia*



## THIS WEEK... Miss Yolanda Mooijer

### ABOUT ME...

Hello! As the Early Years Teacher at ISCS, I am often followed by, or chasing after, a group of 3-5-year-old children! I grew up in Canada, but I was raised by immigrant parents from The Netherlands. My educational background is in Sociology and Early Childhood Education. After completing my studies, I worked as a Pre-K teacher in Vancouver and then decided to move to Shanghai, China to do the same! I stayed in China for 4 years working in a bilingual preschool program. I enjoyed this experience very much! Because of my Dutch roots, I also wanted to work in Europe and have now found myself in beautiful Switzerland!

### HOBBIES AND PASSIONS...

Sports and staying healthy is a big passion of mine. I love to get outdoors with my friends and family and do activities like skiing, hiking, and cycling. Recently, I have started running and am a proud finisher of my first full marathon! I also enjoy doing yoga, travelling to new countries, and of course watching all the most recent hits on Netflix... Tiger King anyone?

