



ISCS NEWSLETTER

April/May 2020 – Week 27th - 1st



“He who opens a school door, closes a prison.” — Victor Hugo

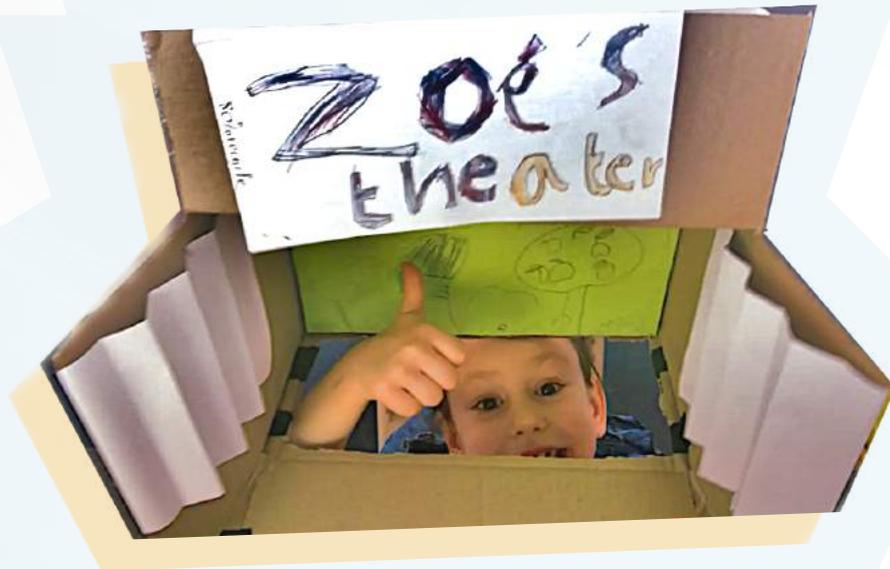
WHAT'S INSIDE

PRIMARY NEWS

SECONDARY NEWS

FROM THE PARENTS ORGANISATION

MEET THE STAFF



MESSAGE FROM MR PARRA

After being notified by the Swiss Authorities that compulsory Schools will be able to re-open, ISCS will open its doors for staff and students on May 11th and face to face classes will begin. We were all looking forward to hearing this news which we can finally celebrate! The Swiss government outlined the basic principles of School resumption and the measures to be implemented as part of normal school operations.

There are basically three groups of measures:

- Schools should ensure a minimum distance of 2 meters for interpersonal contact
- We should guarantee compliance with the recommended hygiene rules
- We should implement a mandatory “self-isolation quarantine” binding for both adult school staff and school children with symptoms of illness.

At ISCS, we have been preparing this scenario with a detailed protocol that will follow the mandatory measures from the Swiss government and International Schools' health and safety practices. We understand that this new period is very critical, we are fully aware of the great responsibility and we will be very respectful of the mandatory measures. The protocol will take into account Cantonal guidelines and will be shared early next week with staff, students and families.

All ISCS team is eager to come back to the school and see the students and families again.

It will be exactly 8 weeks since ISCS closed. We thank staff for the enormous energy displayed during this time and students and families for their adaptability and support.

Best regards

José Antonio Parra

Dear Families,



I would like to thank you personally for the incredible resilience and flexibility that you have shown in the face of unprecedented challenges. As teachers we have enormous appreciation for the work you do every single day with your children and recognise that. The weeks of home schooling have undoubtedly been testing for everyone but with the lifting of certain restrictions hopefully there is light at the end of the tunnel. Take care and be safe!

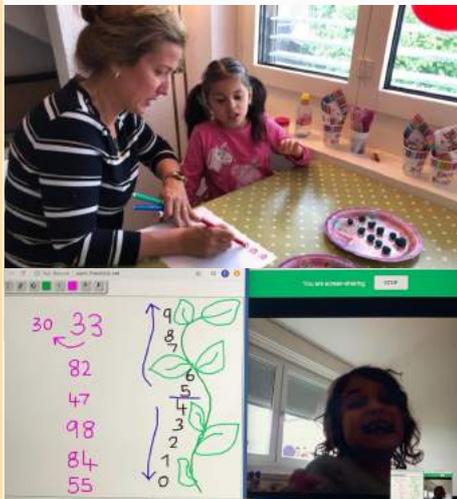
Lee Hawthorne

EYFS / PRE K

The Early Years class has been learning about different types of currency. The students in our class are all from different countries and have found out that the money looks different depending on the place. They also practiced counting money and added values together using a calculator. They were asked to look at old receipts to see how much things cost and also add these values together. During the Google Hangout, we played music bingo. They were very focused and excited to hear the next song! It was a lot of fun and something we will surely do again!



GRADE 1



This week, Grade 1 was offered the chance to do a quarantine bake off! I started it with my secret recipe for triple choc fudge brownies and left it open for the rest of the class to get involved to see if they wanted to share any of their special recipes or try mine! The goal was to try to also put an instructional video together.

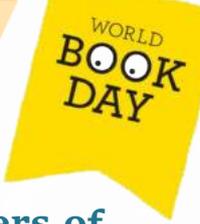
As we are starting to learn about day and night in science, we are discovering more about the planets in our solar system and their features. As part of global perspectives we have also been talking about sport in our families, collecting data.

Continuing on from Earth Day last week and Grade 1's love for science, we have had the opportunity to try some groovy experiments and take our learning off the page and out of books and do something hands-on.

GRADE 3,4 & 5

This week, as always, we have been very busy at home. The children always continue to make me proud and I can see from the work they submit, in many cases, is of high quality. Thank you! This week we have been continuing with our White Rose Maths program and we will continue to use this for the next few weeks. I have been providing the children with videos of my story writing and in parallel the children have also been writing their own story based on Up, Up and Away. In Global Perspectives, the children have been exploring China's importance as a country and why so many companies make things in China. This week, we have had a virtual tour of The Whitehouse in Washington and the Empire State Building in New York.





Another week has flown by...and it's time to announce the winners of the World Book Day competition! A special thanks to all students who took part; your creativity is inspiring, and the reviews certainly reveal some budding writers among you!

by Ms Helyer

Our Book Review Winners:



Anais (Grade 3)



James (Pre K)



Almaha (Grade 6)

Anais' beautiful review of Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix was a great read in itself-extremely imaginative and reflective.

James wowed us with a book review of Paddington, in addition to a video of him reading the book! Brilliant!

Almaha chose Human Body!, a non-fiction book, and used lively language to take us through her favourite recent read. fantastic!

Sowing seeds of success in Science

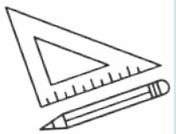
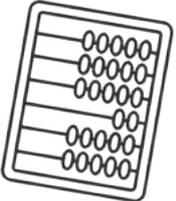
For Grade 11, this is a very serious chapter in their academic career. It is a time of great focus and commitment to academic studies, so that they can reap the opportunities that will follow. This week, the students have been reflecting on their learning in AS Biology and Chemistry, identifying their strengths and weaknesses using feedback from recent assessments. This self-reflection has provided them with the learning tools that will support them in independent revision. The students and I have collaboratively identified areas that they are making progress in, but also areas that they need to develop. I have every hope that our students have the potential to fulfill their aspirations and build into this experience qualities of independence that sow seeds of further success for their own future. We look forward to planning the practical aspects of their curriculum / assessment which will provide another challenge that our students will continue to learn and develop from.

Miss Predouli

Maths and Physics

During the last six weeks, students have been working hard in what would have been their revision period, to work on some extra assignments that we can use for their Cambridge assessment portfolios. In AS Mathematics and AS Physics, students have been analysing different types of exam questions, focusing on the technical vocabulary and key words in order to decipher exactly what the problems are asking of them. Using this skill, they are then able to evaluate the question using their knowledge and understanding to decide on the best approach to finding a solution. It has certainly been an "exponential" learning curve for all of us with the use of online learning platforms! It is amazing that we have been able to come so far and finish delivering the AS syllabuses. During the following weeks, we will keep giving shape to the students' Cambridge portfolios so we can present the work which shows their progress and potential.. Although digital teaching has allowed us to keep up the pace and not miss a single class, we all miss human interaction and I look forward to seeing Grade 11 in school - at a safe distance, of course!

Mr Caracheo



PARENT ORGANISATION

Dear ISCS community,

Seven weeks ago, all schools in Switzerland have shut down and remote learning has begun. It wasn't part of the plan and it hasn't been easy on any of us... nor for the parents who had to balance remote learning with their family and work responsibilities, neither for the children who had to adapt to a drastic change in their learning, facing at the same time anxiety and lack of direct interactions.

However, today, we wish to take a moment to say thank you to the incredible teachers for their efforts. They were handed an almost impossible task — to transition from the realms of tangible classroom to the computer screen— with minimal notice. Their teaching plans were upended by technological challenges and access issues, but they continue to adapt at every turn. With determination, commitment and inspiration, they push on and try to make their lessons smoother and more streamlined each passing day.

Thanks to them, our children can continue to progress, looking to their teachers as a sign of stability during these trying times. We, parents, keep up to learn too. As we support our children through this transition, we learn first-hand that teaching is harder than it looks, that it can be difficult to focus a child's attention on certain subjects, and that teachers are everyday heroes.



So, even though remote learning is far from perfect, this unexpected situation allowed us to learn something completely new altogether.

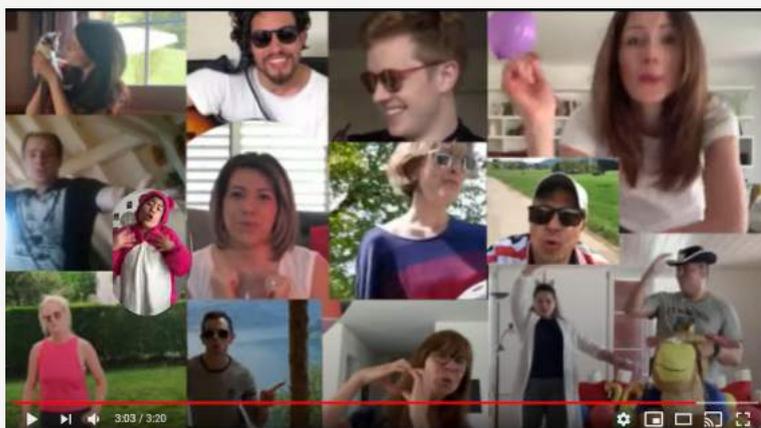
We wish all of you a relaxing weekend! As usual, take care of you and your family, stay home, and relax!

Your PO team,

Andrey Mariska Celine Kasia

PARENT TESTIMONY

For the: **ISCS - TEAM VIDEO 2020 (Covid19 period)**



"It was brilliant!! I have sent it out to loads of family and friends. What fun!!"

I think it does sum up how lovely, friendly and fun the ISCS family are ❤️"

ISCS House Points

The House Points system continues to be updated in the Online version. This time the highlight was the **PO Spring Challenge**. Insia, Milan and Calista brought their Yellow House 32 points, while Zoe, Anais and Isabella combined for 8 points for the Green House. James, Lilly, Annemijn and Maya brought Blue House 7 points, whilst Connor, Bethany and Anna achieved 3 points for the Red House.



MEET OUR STAFF

This week... **Mr Perliyev**

What you know

Many of you know that I have been teaching at ISCS for many, many years. Next 2021/22 year will be the 10th at our lovely school that I dedicate my whole time being here in Switzerland. Throughout my years at ISCS I got the chance to teach and learn from the ISCS community. Many of you know me as Mr V, Prof P or Coach V. I love to travel and visit historical sites and have visited quite a lot of interesting places and have a long list of other countries I would like to go.

What you don't know

But not many of you know that I got married last week! Her name is Anna and she came to Switzerland from Ukraine. We were delighted to register our marriage last week, although without a party, rings or ceremony. We will celebrate soon!... Let the new chapter in our lives begin!

