



# NEWS LETTER

May 2020 - Week 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>

"To me education is a leading out of what is already there in the pupil's soul." —  
Muriel Spark

## WHAT'S INSIDE

PRIMARY NEWS

SECONDARY NEWS

FROM THE  
PARENTS  
ORGANISATION

GETTING  
MOTIVATED

MEET THE STAFF



**The first week of the re-opening of the ISCS campus has come to an end! Congratulations.**

The return to school on Monday was really very emotional for students and staff. They were very happy to meet each other and be able to resume in-person classes.

The conduct of students has been excellent during classes and breaks during the week, complying with the protective measures outlined in our protocol. Well done! It is important to keep up the good job in the following weeks as this is a long run that will continue until at least the end of this academic year.

We want to express our gratitude to all the families, students and staff for their contribution, their adaptability and their positivity.

Challenges in life help to build our character and I am sure that this difficult time will forge strong attributes in our students, with values that will accompany them through their lives, such as responsibility, determination, patience, solidarity, resourcefulness and taking initiative.

Have a nice weekend and I look forward to meeting you next week!

*José Antonio Parra*



## Dear Families,

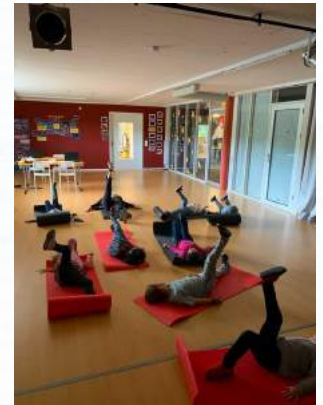
After over seven weeks of not being at school is it finally good to be back. The children have proved themselves to be very resilient in adjusting to the 'new normal' and are washing their hands often and are self regulating themselves when it comes to social distancing. It might be an idea to make sure they also bring a thin jumper or sweater since we are trying to keep the classrooms ventilated (with the windows open) as much as possible and we don't want them to get too cold.

*Mr Hawthorne*

## PRE K

It has been great to be reunited in the Early Years classroom. The children lined up with big smiles on Monday morning and have continued to show enthusiasm all week. They have been busy playing with the classroom toys and games once again and are also showing more interest and engagement when sitting down to do Phonics, Maths, and German. This week we focused on the book "Green Eggs and Ham," by Dr. Seuss. We practiced reading the words based on our phonetic knowledge and looked at the rhyming patterns. Last Friday, we made our own green eggs and tested them for ourselves! We also practiced yoga and made Spring artwork for the corridor displays. For our Science experiment this week, we changed the color of daisies from white to blue and red!

*Miss Mooijer*



## GRADE 1

We have been busy bees! I am very proud of Grade 1 for coming back with lots of energy and understanding and respecting the new procedures (they even love that they have their own desks). Grade 1 have enjoyed their exploration through our solar system, recognising the planets and the phases of the moon (see photos)! Maths for us this week has included measurement, using the correct terminology, as well as learning how to measure objects of different lengths. Literacy has had us discovering that base words can have prefixes and suffixes - how 'wonderful!'

*Miss Deutsche*



## GRADE 3, 4 & 5

This week, we have started the topic of perimeter and area in Maths. We looked at how to find the area of shapes such as squares, triangles, parallelograms and rectangles. In English we have been recapping on sentence structure, as well as writing for effect, exploring metaphors and similes, personification and other forms of figurative language. In Science, we have embarked on the new and challenging topic of how man has had an impact on the environment. *Mr Hawthorne*

**Pictured, from left: Santiago researching how mankind has had a negative impact on the environment, social distancing in the classroom and Majid studying perimeter and area.**







# SECONDARY NEWS

It's been a very different week in Secondary as our students and teachers adapt to our new school environment. After a long time without our students seeing their friends, it's challenging for them not to be able to interact as they normally might. No contact sport and minimal interaction in Performing Arts are just two examples of activities in which teachers and students have had to change the way they work. However, this shows huge resilience and adaptability at a difficult time. For example, Grade 6 and 7 had been working on some performance pieces before we went online. On our return to school, the students were still eager to continue working on their tasks so Mr Jackson has been able to use their work as a reflection exercise; the students are being asked to think about how a dramatic performance is affected if the element of physical interaction is taken away.

And this type of flexibility is happening across the whole Secondary School. Instead of using the whiteboard, teachers might share a Google Doc with students so that everyone can collectively share ideas. "Group" work has to be managed at a distance. Our classrooms have been opened out as much as possible using rooms with adjoining doors to allow each student to sit separately. All this is being done in addition to keeping classrooms clean, making sure students are keeping their distance while moving around school and monitoring hand washing throughout the day, with a 'checklist' form for this in every teaching space.

So it's been a strange week in a lot of ways, with a lot of 'firsts' - I, for one, have never collected IGCSE coursework wearing a mask and gloves! But I'll happily accept all of those new measures if it means being able to see the students on campus again. We've all learned a lot this week and continue to adapt our practices to ensure everyone's safety and wellbeing. A huge thanks to our students for just being able to get on with it all, and to all our staff for their amazing energy this week.

*Ms Helyer*



Still smiling through it all

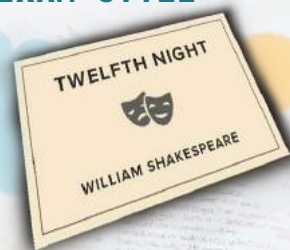


Maintaining distance: "Personal Perimeters" in Grade 6/7 Maths

## DIVING IN AT THE DEEP END: GRADE 9 COMPLETE THEIR FIRST EXAM-STYLE ESSAYS FOR IGCSE LITERATURE

Over the last week, Grade 9 have been reviewing their work and understanding of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night in preparation for their first attempt at an IGCSE literature exam question in June. We've already looked at how we plan, draft and edit a literary essay, but of course this is always more tricky under the time constraint of the exam. While we weren't able to interact using our usual go-to activities such as mind mapping together on posters or huddling around the whiteboard, the class worked interactively on our Google Drive to plan essays and share ideas. To gain confidence in planning essays in timed conditions, students worked in the style of a "quick fire round" with questions read out at random followed by a few minutes of furious typing to note down all their ideas on a shared document. What did we learn from this exercise? That it's not always possible to write down everything we know, but that we can be selective in the key points we want to make. Less really can be more - as we always say, it's quality rather than quantity that counts!

*Ms Helyer*





# PARENT ORGANISATION

*Dear ISCS community,*

This week, we were delighted to receive our certificate of participation for our community's involvement in the celebration of Earth Day. We would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the children and parents who participated in our Earth Day Challenge, as well as to the teachers who included this action in their educational programmes. Thanks to their support, the students had the opportunity to focus on Mother Earth through science experiments, reading, writing, songs and art. It was a wonderful team effort and our committee is proud of what we were able to achieve together.



As every day should be Earth Day, we should continue to be amazed by the powers of nature and focus on what we can do to preserve it. If you would like to participate further, here are some suggestions:

- The "Let's bloom Switzerland" campaign (Led and promoted by RTS/SFR/RSI/RTR aims to create one 1 million km<sup>2</sup> of new biodiverse areas. If you plan to work in your garden and plant flowers, you can register your participation here:  
<https://missionb.ch/>
- The "No Mow May" campaign (by Plantlife) aims to enhance biodiversity by allowing your mower to stay in the shed and your lawn to be covered in beautiful wild flowers:  
<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk>
- There's still time to focus on Mother Earth and take action:  
<https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-challenge/>

We would love to hear what you have been doing to protect our environment, so don't hesitate to share your actions with us by email ([longoerpelding@gmail.com](mailto:longoerpelding@gmail.com)).

One last thing...don't forget to send us those beautiful selfies of our amazing mums who do so much for our community. Hurry - the challenge will end on Sunday!

We wish all of you a relaxing weekend!

Your PO team,





*Andrey Mariska Celine Kasia*



## KINDERGARTEN IN ACTION!

We are so happy to resume our classes outside! This week Kindergarten students enjoyed the PE trip to the park in Cham where we explored several different activities. We worked on our balance and talked about running safely.



	1409	1800	
	1324	1946	

## HOUSE POINTS

The students are eager once again to receive their House Points at school. The Yellow House is only a few points away from 2,000 and are getting closer to defending their title from last year! ISCS Blue House follows closely behind them, needing to make a final push during May and June in order to get the prestigious House Points title.

*Mr Perliyev*

## This week we meet... Mr Evison

### MEET OUR STAFF

### About me...



Most of you probably now know me as the man sitting next to the cute baby in the ISCS quarantine video. I also teach science and maths to our Grade 6, 7 and 8 students. I live in Luzern with my wife and 18-month-old daughter, but I come from England. I grew up close to London and found a fascination in how things work from an early age. I studied physics at university and my desire to share my passion for science led me to teaching. I have been living in Switzerland for two years, but started at ISCS only a few months ago. Despite having spent half my time at the school so far in our online teaching environment, I love being part of the community.

My favourite things to do are drumming, windsurfing and snowboarding. Being in Switzerland is heaven for snowboarding and good for windsurfing. As for drumming, so far I've just been annoying my "Hausmeister."