



SEPTEMBER 2023

ISCS MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

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Dear ISCS Community,

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF EDUCATION



Our school is anchored by values such as Global Mindset, which urges us to respect and cherish global cultures, traditions, and promote universally positive ideas. The vast array of nationalities at ISCS, further enriched by newcomers this school year, creates a fertile ground for such a mindset. One of the highlights this month was the European Day of Languages. Beyond merely celebrating Europe's linguistic diversity, this day serves as an emblem of global cultural understanding. At ISCS, the vibrant display of national colors, led by Mr. Neyman's passionate assembly, was a testament to our rich international tapestry. Our recent celebration of the International Day of Peace, characterized by the joyful Malala Run and Colour Parade, was not only a testament to the importance of peace but also an embodiment of our values of respect, excellence, and internationality. Further building on our commitment to a global perspective, we hosted the International University Fair, bringing 17 esteemed universities to our campus. Such events are pivotal in not only broadening horizons but also providing our students with invaluable exposure.

Our educational emphasis isn't limited to fostering a sense of global appreciation. Equally vital is the cultivation of critical thinking, a skill that stands as a cornerstone for future leaders and decision-makers. At ISCS, we recognize the significance of this skill and have integrated it into our curriculum and teaching methodologies. We are committed to nurturing this ability, ensuring that our students not only consume information but also question, evaluate, and engage with it critically. 3D printing plays a pivotal role in this regard. It's not just about getting a print right; it's about understanding why a particular design works, how to optimize it, and what can be learned from failures.

Finally, the magic of Roald Dahl Day brought whimsy to our corridors. Beyond the playful costumes, it was a day to underline the significance of reading, the power of stories, and the lessons we can derive from them.

The past month has been a testament to the vibrancy of our school community and I am excited for the months ahead!

Warm regards,

Mr. Soto



FOREST SCHOOL

With our brand new and super enthusiastic team of **Frau Lehmeier** and **Frau Nayman**, the students are not only working hard in the classroom in their ability groups, they also have a permanent weekly lesson outside in our **"Waldschule" (forest school)** in the nearby Zuki area in the Lorzenpark where they learn about nature and design all in German - amazing! Whatever the weather, forest school in German is always on! **Jeden Dienstag!**

Through our partnership with this **purpose-built Forest School**, our outdoors German curriculum serves an educational purpose, enhancing and enriching our children's learning. Real-world learning brings the benefits of formal and informal education together and reinforces meaningful language learning through acquiring knowledge and skills through real-life, practical or hands-on activities.

We are providing weekly, enjoyable and challenging opportunities for all children to learn and apply German outdoors by engaging in a range of activities, from following instructions for den-building, to vegetable collecting and racing rafts that the children have designed (all through the German language).



PRIMARY NEWS

Early Years



The British Early Years Foundation Framework (EYFS) is considered prestigious due to its comprehensive and research-based approach to early childhood education. It emphasizes holistic development, individualized learning, and a play-based curriculum. Its international recognition, rigorous standards, and focus on child-centered learning contribute to its reputation as a leading early years education program. The areas of learning are:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development
- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design

The main principles of the EYFS include:

- **A Unique Child:** Recognizing that each child is an individual with their own abilities, interests, and needs. The framework aims to support their development through personalized learning experiences.
- **Positive Relationships:** Emphasizing the importance of strong relationships between children, their families, and practitioners. These relationships create a nurturing and supportive environment for children's growth.
- **Enabling Environments:** Creating stimulating and engaging physical and social environments that encourage exploration, creativity, and learning through play.
- **Play-Based Learning:** Acknowledging that play is a fundamental way through which children learn and make sense of the world. Play allows children to explore, experiment, and develop key skills.
- **Observation and Assessment:** Using ongoing observation and assessment to understand children's progress and tailor activities to their individual needs and interests.
- **Partnership with Parents and Carers:** Involving parents and caregivers in their child's learning journey and sharing information about their child's development.

PRIMARY NEWS

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Great start in Years 1 and 2!

We have had a super start to the school year, with the children learning all about each other, their school and their community. A school hike around the local Cham area provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to get to know all of their school mates, and they loved spotting the local wildlife and playing by the lake.

Our International Family

As part of this term's theme 'Our International Family', we have been researching our different cultures through class interviews, surveys and learning how to utilise the internet. The children have investigated different ways to represent themselves in art lessons, creating an art gallery of self-portraits and flags.

How Humans Grow

In Science, the children have been learning about living things, and the human life cycle. They loved bringing in their baby photos, and comparing how everyone has changed. A game of 'Guess the Teacher!' also proved a huge success as they got to see their teachers as children as well.

Mathematical Magicians

Lots of hands-on learning has been going on in our mathematics lessons, with the children investigating how to add using swiss francs, learning their number bonds with dice and dominoes, and how to measure through using decimetres, diplo and cubes! They were very excited to share this learning with their families in the KS1 assembly .



3 4

Year 3/4 on the ISCS Primary Hike!

Year 3/4 had so much fun on the hike! It was a fantastic opportunity for the class to bond and allowed everyone to have a great time practising their social skills outside of school. It was great for new pupils (and myself!) to get to know more about the local area. I know that everyone will be looking forward to more exciting adventures like this in the year to come.

How to be a 'Roar-some' Friend!

In PSHE we have been learning about friendships and the ups and downs that these can go through. The book 'How does a Dinosaur Stay Friends' helped to illustrate how we can resolve issues really clearly. The pupils explain how to be a good friend and also what you could do if you have a disagreement with a friend. I was very impressed that everyone showed a great understanding of how to resolve things in a fair and respectful way. We will be able to use this learning to help with any friendship issues throughout the year.



PRIMARY NEWS



This month has been action-packed for our Year 5 students! In PE, they showcased their athletic talents with Dodgeball, participated enthusiastically in the Football Festival, dived into Volleyball, and honed their skills in Gymnastics.

Back in the classroom, Year 5 students expanded their writing skills, diving into genres like biographies, newspaper articles, and more.

In science, the children were very creative writing a poem or short story about the life cycle of an animal and presenting it to the other primary classes.



Exciting Times in Year 6!

It's been a fantastic start to the school year in **Year 6!** Here's a peek into what we've been up to:

- 1. Welcoming New Faces:** Year 6 has been all about making new friends. We've warmly welcomed new students and are getting to know each other better through fun icebreaker games and interviews.
- 2. Celebrating Uniqueness:** Our creative side is shining through! Students have been expressing their uniqueness through beautiful poetry and artwork.
- 3. Maths Adventures:** In the world of numbers, we've dived into place value and embarked on exciting problem-solving games.
- 4. Mastering English:** Our young authors are honing their writing skills as they embark on the captivating 'Our International Family' project.
- 5. Active Bodies:** We've been enjoying lots of physical activity in PE, keeping our bodies and minds active and healthy.
- 6. Fascinating Science:** In science class, we've begun our journey of discovery, investigating the amazing world of "Our Bodies."
- 7. Bookworms Unite:** Reading enthusiasts have created book club groups, diving into exciting tales and sharing their thoughts and imaginations.

Year 6 is buzzing with enthusiasm, and we can't wait to see what else this year has in store for us. Stay tuned for more exciting updates from our dynamic class!





SPORT NEWS

Playing Beach Volleyball as part of the **Physical Education's curriculum** involves constant movement, including running, jumping, and diving, which helps improve cardiovascular fitness. The players' heart rates increase, leading to better circulation and overall heart health. The sport requires players to use various muscle groups, such as the legs, core, and upper body, for actions like spiking, digging, and blocking. Over time, this leads to increased strength and endurance.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



In **Y8-Y9** in **Frau Sauer's** group, students have been working on their **market stall role plays** and developing menu cards, whilst students in **Mr Nayman's** group have been studying **"Blackout", a short story by Reinhold Ziegler** before completing a storyboard summary of the tale using the imperfect tense - according to the students, it's more fun than it sounds!



"Why do we need to learn this?... When will we use it in real life?..." Learning maths is a waste of time since very few people know it..." are all real complaints I keep regularly receiving from students.

Below, you will find pictures of **year 8 students**. Our objective was to determine the amount of sugar in famous beverages (spoiler: A lot!). They were studying mathematics of proportion, how fun can that be?



This month in **Global Perspectives**, Middle School students have been working on some interesting topics including: **weather and climate, China's power** in the world and also creating climate graphs for cities in **Afghanistan**.

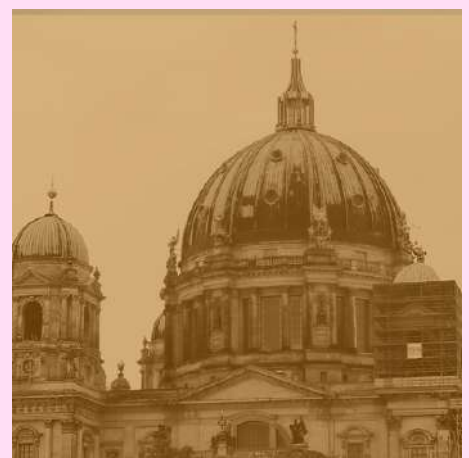
HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

The **Y10** and **Y11** students in Frau Sauer's class have made a start in practising for their **oral exams** whilst the students in Mr Nayman's groups have been reading a short story called "**Die Brücke**" before performing a short play based on the story.

The **Y12 A Level** students have been turning their attention to the topic of **Culture and Traditions** and we hope to arrange a visit to a Synagogue in Zürich to explore the meanings of handwriting, language and Traditions in Judaism.



Following the trip to Berlin last month, Mr Santos is curating an **exhibition of students' photographs** in the theme of "**Monochromatic Berlin**" linked to the colours of the German flag - black, red and yellow. It's been great to see the entries from our students and we are sharing some of them with you below.



EXAM PREPARATION

Students in High School have been focusing on **exam techniques**. In order to be exam-ready it is important students are sure of the expectations and how to meet them from the very beginning. To help them achieve this they've started doing short weekly tests in conditions that mirror the final **iGCSEs** and **A-Levels**.

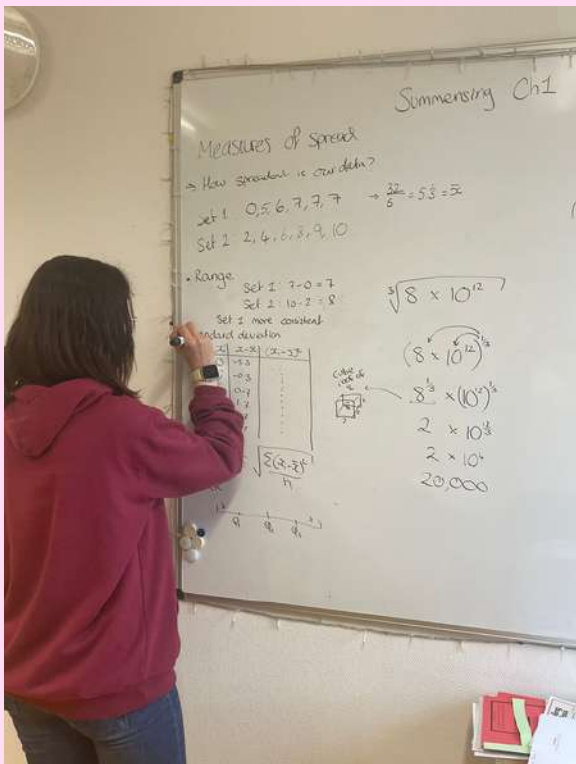
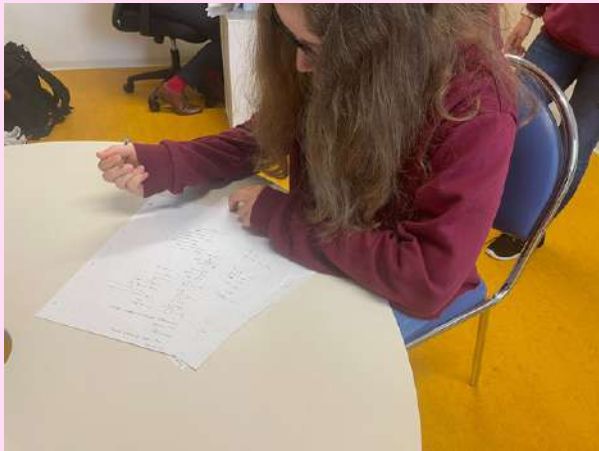
Here's what our students had to say about their tests:

Giacomo Y13 - The tests give me good feedback and help me revise

Chloe Y13 - They are really helpful and tell me what I need to focus on in the future

Lujine - Y12 - The weekly tests induce my

Sebastian Y13 - Doing tests in exam conditions helps to desensitize me from the stress of the final exams



MEET OUR PARENTS!



Tell us something about you!

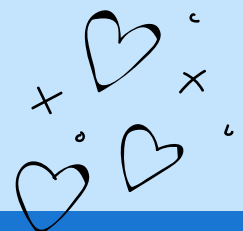
We are the Björknäs family, Claire, Kim, Joshua, Madison and Charlie. We moved here in August after deciding to leave our little village in the Swedish speaking countryside of Finland for new adventures. So, we're rather fresh in Switzerland although it has been a favourite country for us ever since holidaying here some 10 years ago. All the children, Joshua, Madison and Charlie, are born in Finland although we lived in the Netherlands for a few years when Joshua and Madison were young. Claire is originally from Cheltenham in the UK but has lived for over 20 years in Finland. Kim is from Finland and is working for a company called Wärtsilä where he is responsible for the logistics of parts deliveries worldwide. It is Kim's work that has allowed us the experience of living previously in the Netherlands and now, Switzerland. As our home language is English, that is also the main language for the children, but they also speak Swedish, a (tiny) bit of Finnish and of course are hopefully eager learners and will be gradually picking up German.

What do you like doing with your family in your free time?

We very much enjoy the new experiences that Switzerland has been offering us. In the last months we have established our new family tradition of "hiking Sundays" as a term to experience to get out and explore different parts of the country. So far, the mountains have been our main "calling" and we have enjoyed trips to Zugerberg, Brienz, Aareschlucht gorge and Mount Pilatus but with so much to see and do here we have also been for a delicious brunch at the Jucker Pumpkin farm in Seegräbber and experienced the extremely loud Alpabfahrt in Einsiedeln watching the beautiful parade and homecoming of the cows.

Why have you joined ISCS?

After the decision was made to move, we started looking at school options for our children. Since they know English well, we wanted to make their transition as easy as possible and have that as their main teaching language. Having narrowed down the options to 4 different schools we took a trip to Switzerland to visit schools from a rather wide area of Switzerland. The key being to find the right school for our children and then sort out housing afterwards. At ISCS we immediately felt at home with it being a smaller school where our children could find their place. Moving from another country it was very important for us to include the children in the decision and for them to feel at home in the new school. Whilst some of the other schools felt cold and somewhat intimidating, ISCS embraced us with open and happy arms, and it made our final decision a very easy one to make! Having seen the children settle so well and enthusiastically into their new school over the last few months, we are very happy with our decision. The active parent's community has been a positive surprise and is helping us to meet new families in the same position as us! By being active and participating in the opportunities on offer, we hope to soon make new friends and feel at home in our new country.



MEET OUR PARENTS!

I am Eugenia Loras, born and raised in Toronto, Canada, to Greek parents and I now live and work in Zug, Switzerland with my family. We have been living in Zug for the past 14 years.

I have been teaching the English and Greek languages, managing my own businesses and supporting companies for the past 30 years. I love education, organization and helping families! We own our company, EViTernal GmbH with my husband, Thomas Mitsoulis.

These are our businesses:

<http://www.e-loras.com>

<http://www.kyaneous.com>

I am the proud mother of two children, Maggie, 18 and Nikolas 14. We love our 7-year-old French bulldog, Bear, very much!

We work hard and study hard, but when we do manage to have some free time, we enjoy doing simple and relaxing things together.

We are very happy to be part of the ISCS family. We especially like the family atmosphere, the excellent teaching team and the objective testing.

We wish you all a spectacular school year!



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE





ROALD DAHL DAY

The beloved British children's author, Roald Dahl, is celebrated worldwide in September. To mark the occasion, teachers and ISCS pupils dressed as iconic Roald Dahl characters, adding a playful touch to the school day.

This event is a special opportunity for ISCS pupils and teachers alike to immerse themselves in the enchanting world of Dahl's stories, characters, and imagination. By marking this day, the school emphasises the importance of reading and the power of storytelling. It encourages ISCS pupils to explore their own creative potentials and it also fosters a shared love for literature. Additionally, through engaging with Dahl's stories, ISCS pupils are often introduced to broader themes of friendship, bravery, and morality. Celebrating Roald Dahl Day serves not just as a remembrance of the author and his contributions but also as an inspiration for future generations to dream, write, and imagine without boundaries.

Roald Dahl, known for crafting enchanting tales filled with whimsy, wonder, and life lessons, penned classics like "Matilda," "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," and "The BFG." His distinctive style of writing often combined dark humour with fantastical elements, creating memorable characters and narratives that resonated with both children and adults.





ISCS - THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF ZUG



14 SEPT, THU 15:00 - 17:00

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FAIR

