



2023-24 IST Community-wide Goal: Understanding and Promoting the Diversity of Knowledge (IBLP)

Our community welcomes and values the multiplicity of interests, ideas, and beliefs and values that exist within our international community living here in Tianjin, and beyond, and we are committed to providing a safe, open-minded, and inclusive environment for all. In embracing physical and socio-cultural diversity, we also champion diversity of thought and the critical thinking and open-minded inquiry and learning across a range of topics and disciplines that deepens conceptual understanding and intellectual growth and independence. We listen carefully when considering alternative points of view, and we are willing to grow and change as a result of sincere intellectual inquiry and discourse. We will engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance, we challenge injustice, and we take personal and professional responsibility for our roles, responsibilities and actions, and their consequences.

Dear Parents and Students,

I am excited to offer this week's BLAZE article, and the first one for the year 2024 in Mr. Moody's absence. I sincerely hope that every family has been able to enjoy a lovely and relaxing holiday and that you were able to ring in 2024 with good cheer and hopeful spirits. In preparing my thoughts for this week's message, I paused to consider the reason for Mr. Moody's absence, and I think that it is an important part of what makes the International School of Tianjin, such a tremendous place for all our community members. Mr. Moody is not here this week because he has been attending various recruitment fairs to replace staff members who will depart our school in June. On the surface, recruitment for an international school seems like a simple matter and it is likely something that most people do not consider very often. However, as an international community, recruiting quality teachers who will make broad and meaningful contributions to our school is one of the most important duties shared by the IST administration. Mr. Moody takes extraordinary care to ensure that all teachers who come to IST are not only capable and qualified, but that they are people ready and willing to live up to the IST community ethos.

The first week after a holiday is always an interesting time at IST. I can imagine that in many homes, there may be a mix of anticipation and anxiety as the holiday draws to a close and we resume classes. However, I am consistently amazed and delighted by the positive energy and smiling faces that return to IST after such a break. Our community thrives on the kindness and positivity of its students and families, and it is this very aspect that drives our administration to work exceptionally hard. We strive to ensure that our teachers always approach the important work of the school with a spirit of working, learning and acting together.

I believe it is crucial to remind parents and families that as we continue with this school year and eagerly await the warmer months of spring, we must prioritize the health and well-being of our community. I encourage all parents to remember that if your children are unwell, it is best to keep them at home and allow them the necessary time to recover before returning to classes. While some parents may worry about missed lessons, our experience has shown us time and again that unwell children struggle to learn effectively and pose a risk of spreading infections to their classmates. By keeping your children at home when they are sick, you actively contribute to maintaining a healthy environment within our school.

I am happy to invite all members of the community to the IST MAD Night on Tuesday, January 23. MAD Night represents a showcase of Music, Art and Drama

Upcoming World Celebration Dates...

Tuesday - January 16, 2024 Martin Luther King Day

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is an American federal holiday marking the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. It is observed on the third Monday of January each year, which is around the time of King's birthday, January 15. King was the chief spokesman for nonviolent activism in the civil rights movement, which successfully protested racial discrimination in federal and state law.



that promises to entertain and engage students and parents alike. This is a slight change from our published calendar and more details about the event are included in this issue of BLAZE.

Finally, I am happy to remind all families that our first semester will officially end next Wednesday. Secondary students will continue their Semester 1 schedules until the end of the week and will begin their new Semester 2 schedules on Monday, January 22. Semester reports will go home on Friday, January 26 as published in the school calendar. And, as always, parents are warmly invited to the Secondary Awards assembly, which will be in the IST theater at 8:30am on Monday, January 29.

I wish all members of the IST community a happy and prosperous 2024 and I sincerely hope that we will all continue to work, learn and act together in this amazing and transformative community!

Warm regards,

Michael Conway
Secondary Principal / Deputy Director
International School of Tianjin



HEALTH SCREENING FOR STUDENTS

Jan 12th, 2024

Dear Parents,

The school clinic will carry out health screening checks for all students:
Secondary (except Gr 12) – Tuesday 16th Jan and Thursday 18th Jan
Elementary – Tuesday 23rd Jan and Thursday 25th Jan

All students will have their height and weight measured. Students in Kindergarten and above will also receive a sight test (Students who have glasses or contacts permanently or for reading should wear them during the vision test); while students in Grade 1 up to Grade 11 will additionally receive a hearing test.

All students screened will receive a form to take home that day informing their parents of the results of the health screening. Please note that IST's clinic services provide a broad screening net only and that parents are responsible for any follow up treatment that tests might suggest to be warranted.

If for some reason you **do not** wish your child to have the health screening, please send in a note with your child next week.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school clinic.

Sincerely,

Hongman Zhang & Wei Fan

School Nurses of IST

BLAZE



WEEKLY

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2024/2026 IST Scholarship Announcement

The International School of Tianjin is once again proud to announce its scholarship program for students in their final two years of school. The purpose of the scholarship program at IST is twofold: first, it provides an outstanding educational opportunity each year for a limited number of current IST students of exceptional talent who are experiencing clearly-demonstrated financial need; and second, it provides that same opportunity to a limited number of non-IST students of exceptional talent in order to enrich the overall quality of both our student population and our IB Diploma Programme. This latter group may or may not have financial need.

Description and Value of Scholarships

The IST scholarships are awarded for a period of up to two years to students about to enter 11th grade. The following scholarships are offered:

- Full scholarships: equivalent to the cost of all tuition (components A & B) for grades 11 and 12.
- Tuition scholarships: equivalent to the cost of tuition only (component B) for grades 11 and 12.
- Bursaries: equivalent to half the cost of tuition (half of component B) for grades 11 and 12.

IST scholarship students will benefit from an outstanding education in their final two years of school. Students who successfully complete the two-year programme will be awarded the IST High School Diploma. IST is an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, and students have the opportunity to earn the full IB Diploma, which is highly regarded by competitive universities worldwide as an entrance qualification.

Selection Process

A maximum of three IST scholarships or bursaries may be awarded every year to current-IST-student candidates. A similar number will be awarded to students outside of the IST community. The selection process will include examinations, a formal interview, and a final selection by the IST Scholarship Committee of the IST School Board of Governors.

In making its recommendations, the IST Scholarship Committee will give consideration to:

- Candidates who demonstrate a high level of academic potential
 - IST candidates **must** have achieved honors/high honors or equivalent in at least 2 of the previous three semesters.
 - IST candidates **must** also include an outline of how they intend to contribute to the school culture and demonstrate the IST philosophy in their application statement.
 - Other candidates must be in the top 25 percent of their school class
- Candidates who have the ability to make a significant contribution to the life of the school
 - through heavy involvement in CAS activities
 - through active promotion of the IB Diploma programme
 - through active leadership within the school community
- Specifically for current IST students, candidates who have a demonstrated need for financial assistance.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

Students of all nationalities are invited to apply for an IST scholarship. Current students at IST with demonstrable financial difficulty are welcome to apply. A strong command of written and spoken English is essential. It is the policy of the school that a family cannot receive more than 1 full scholarship at any given time. Students with other family members currently receiving scholarships may not be offered scholarships for the full two years of the award.

Method of Application

All candidates should contact the school to receive an application package. **The closing date for applications is Thursday, February 1st, 2024.** Applications received after this deadline will not be considered. The scholarship examinations will be held on Saturday, February 24th from 9:00am to 2:30pm. Interviews with qualified candidates will be held on or about March 6th. Scholarship awards will be announced by early April.

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Required Documents

Students will need to obtain copies of their last two school reports. If they are in a language other than English, they must be translated and notarized.

From the Student

A Personal Statement that includes:

- Information about you and your interests.
- Why you are applying for the scholarship at the International School of Tianjin.
- Transcript from your current school that has reference to honor roll and/or class ranking
- A minimum of **two letters of reference** that detail the character of the applicant in terms of his/her honesty, integrity and maturity. Character references can be from teachers or other adults in a supervisory position but cannot be from family members or close acquaintances. *(For IST students, a brief email reference from a teacher can be sent directly to Mr. Conway)*
- For IST students, an outline of how they intend to contribute to the school culture and demonstrate the IST philosophy.
- Any other details relevant to your scholarship application.

From the IST Parent

If consideration of financial hardship is sought, parents must provide the following:

- Their own formal letter of explanation, detailing their financial circumstances.
- A letter from an employer which clearly states that tuition is not provided for by the company, either directly or indirectly (in the form of an employee stipend or a salary adjustment).



The Scholarship Selection Process

Application

Students wishing to apply for a scholarship must submit the Scholarship Application Form **no later than 12:00 pm Thursday, February 1st, 2024**. This form includes personal details and educational background.

Students must also attach any and all required supporting documentation (see details in 'Required Documents' information).

Incomplete applications will not be considered and late submissions will not be accepted.

Examinations

Examinations will be held at the school on Saturday, February 24th from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Students will complete three examination papers

- a) Mathematics – testing mathematical skills and problem solving.
9:00am – 10:30am
- b) English – testing reading comprehension and essay writing.
10:45am – 12:15pm
- c) Science – a test of general problem solving, logic skills and scientific writing. This is not based on any specific course content.
12:30pm – 1:45pm

Interview

Following the examinations, selected candidates will be invited for an interview with the selection panel. The selection panel will consist of the Director, the Secondary Principal, the Diploma Coordinator and members of the IST Board of Governors. The contribution that the student can make to the school and their long term and short-term goals, will be the main points for discussion. Students are welcome to bring supporting evidence to the interview. *Interviews are on Wednesday, March 6th.*

Results

Candidates will be informed of their results by early April.

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Scholarship Application Form

Student Information:				
		Gender: Male / Female		
Family Name		First Names		
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)		Age		
Nationality & Citizenship		Native Language		
Language(s) Spoken at Home				
Other Languages Spoken				
E-mail Address				
Schools Attended: (Begin with present school)				
Grade(s)	School Name	Location (city/country)	Language(s) of Instruction	Dates Attended mm/yy – mm/yy

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Please complete all parts of this application form.

Parent Information:

(Please attach a business card with your company name and address)

Father:

Last Name

First Name

Nationality & Citizenship

Company Name:

Position:

Address _____

Telephone Number

Fax Number

E-Mail Address

Mother:

Last Name

First Name

Nationality & Citizenship

Company Name:

Position:

Address _____

Telephone Number

Fax Number

E-Mail Address

Signatures:

T H E

FRIDAY 12 JANUARY 2024

BLAZE



W E E K L Y

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Student

Father

Mother

Date



the Parent Partnership

Happy New Year, dear IST parents!

I often come across a question that many parents share: "How can I help my child limit their screen time?" While the focus has shifted from simply monitoring the amount of time children spend on screens to considering the quality of the content they consume (screen nutrition), our ultimate goal remains the same: we want our children to actively participate in life and engage with the world around them.

Here are some tips you can use:

1. Create phone-free zones at home.
2. Be engaged and give your child your full attention after school or work. Spend time each day talking face to face with your child.
3. Go outside. Take a walk or play outdoors to boost your endorphins.
4. Be realistic when cutting your child's current screen time.
5. Be a role model yourself.

HOW TO CREATE SCREEN TIME BOUNDARIES WITH KIDS



Create "screen free zones"

Mom: "Why don't we make the bedroom a screen free zone for the school year? I'll do the same."

Lead by example by setting your own boundaries,

Mom: "It's after 7pm so I'm putting my phone away for the night."

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IST Library & Information Literacy Center

Our Mission

The IST Library is a friendly place where our community is inspired and challenged to think critically, read widely, act ethically, value creativity, and defend the right to access information.

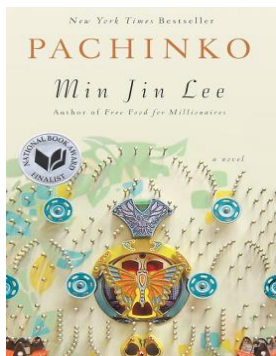


Birthday Book

Happy birthday to Hyo Ri in grade 5!

For Hyo Ri's birthday book, we have selected *Squished* by Megan Wagner Lloyd, illustrated by Michelle Mee Nutter. *Squished* is by the author and illustrator who wrote the very popular book *Allergic*. Since Hyo Ri enjoys graphic novels, we hope she will love this book!

If you would like to celebrate a special birthday with the IST Library Birthday Book Club, please contact the librarians at linnea_simon@istianjin.org.cn or deb_kienzle@istianjin.org.cn for more information on how to join.

Parent Book Club—January 16th @ 8:30 in the library

Our next Parent Book Club selection is the novel *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee. We will meet to discuss this book next week, on January 16th in the library. The library has copies of the book in English, Chinese, German and Korean. A digital copy in English or Chinese is also available upon request.

All interested parents are welcome to join us for a book discussion, coffee, and treats, even if you haven't had a chance to read the book. Scan the code to join our WeChat group.

Library hours: Monday to Thursday 7:30 to 4:30 | Friday 7:30 to 3:30

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1ST MAD NIGHT

JAN
23

WHOLE SCHOOL ART
EXHIBITION

MUSIC AND DRAMA
PERFORMANCES

PERFORMANCES IN
THE THEATRE

ART EXHIBITION
FOYER

18:00-19:30

T H E

B L A Z E

W E E K L Y

FRIDAY 12 JANUARY 2024



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1ST PARENT FORUM

**ENJOY YOUR
TIME LEARNING
WITH EACH
OTHER IN IST!**

**JAN.24,
WEDNESDAY
FROM 10:05AM -
12:00PM
HAN TC**

10:00-10:30 CORNELL NOTE-TAKING BY MR.SCHAAF

10:35-11:05 COLLEGE COUNSELING BY MS.AMBIKA GB

**11:10-12:00 PREVENTING ONLINE FRAUD BY MS.JIN
CITIC BANK**



Happy Lunar New Year 2024

Year of the Dragon

The Elementary School is going to have their annual Chinese New Year celebration. We are warmly inviting everyone to join us in celebrating this important Chinese tradition.

Schedule of the Main Events

Feb. 5 th ~Feb.8 th	Activities	Time	Venue	Remarks
Monday	Opening Show by Action Group	9:45-9:50	Outside in front of Han Building	Whole school
Wednesday	Temple Fair (N-5)	8:30-9:30 N-G1 10:10-11:10 G2-5	Theater	Dress up in Chinese outfit if you like
Thursday	Closing show-Dragon Dance by Action Group	3:00-3:10	Gym	Whole school

INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF TIANJIN

Chinese Bazaar

Wednesday Feb 7th
9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Come along to IST and enjoy
the joys and festivities of
the Chinese New Year!

With over 20 vendors





PFO Meeting
Please come and
join in!

Wednesday
24th January

8.15 - COFFEE AND WESTERN SNACKS

9.00 - WELCOME AND PFO UPDATE

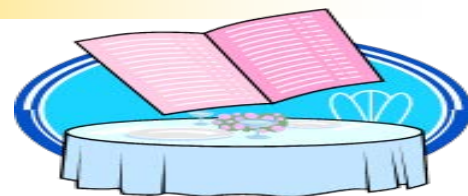
9.10 - DIRECTOR & PRINCIPAL INTRODUCTION

9.30 - UPCOMING EVENTS WITH PFO

10.00 - PARENT EDUCATION FORUM



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EAT LEARN LIVE						MENU G3-G12						
		Monday 2024-01-08	Tuesday 2024-01-09	Wednesday 2024-01-10	Thursday 2024-01-11	Friday 2024-01-12						
Salad/Fruit		Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	Seasonal Fresh Salad Bar Fruit of the Day						
Western From The Grill Station		Basil and Pine Nut Noodles 罗勒松子面	Grilled Chicken with Pepper Sauce 黑椒汁煎鸡排	Meat Loaf 牛肉面包	Chicken Burger 鸡肉汉堡	Spaghetti Bolognese 肉酱面						
		Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬	Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬	Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬	French Fries 薯条	Stir fry Vegetable 炒时蔬						
		Allergy: milk,cheese, Pine nuts	Allergy: onion, black pepper sauce	Allergy: beef, herb, soya sauce	Allergy: chicken, flour, mayonnaise	Allergy: beef, cheese powder, tomato sauce, herb						
Asian From The Wok/Noodle Station		Sauteed Tomato and Egg 西红柿鸡蛋	Braised Pork Taiwan Style 台湾卤肉	Kung Pao Chicken 宫保鸡丁	Korean miso soup 韩式大酱汤	Chicken Teriyaki 日式照烧鸡排						
		Grilled Tofu with Cabbage 蚝油豆腐	Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜	Deep Fried Beans 干煸豆角	boiled eggs 煮鸡蛋	Stir fry Cabbage 炒洋白菜						
		Steamed Rice 米饭	Steamed Rice 米饭	Steamed Rice 米饭	Steamed Rice 米饭	Steamed Rice 米饭						
		Allergy: wheat, egg	Allergy: pork, soya sauce,egg	Allergy: chili, leek, soya sauce	Allergy: egg, bean, pork	Allergy: Soya sauce, green garlic, ginger, breadcrumb						
Vegetarian			Stir Fried Potatoes with Carrots 炒土豆胡萝卜	Kung Pao Vegetable 宫保蔬菜	Korean vegetable miso soup 蔬菜大酱汤	Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce 番茄意大利面						
Soup		Tomato and Egg Soup 西红柿鸡蛋汤	Pumpkin Soup 南瓜汤	Borch 罗宋汤	Tomato and Egg Soup 西红柿鸡蛋汤	Pumpkin Soup 南瓜汤						
Dessert		Swiss Roll 瑞士卷	Mini Muffin 小玛芬	Mousse 木司	Carrot Cake 胡萝卜蛋糕	Chocolate Cake 巧克力蛋糕						
Nutritional reading over the week		Energy 热量 (Kcal)		Protein 蛋白质 (g)	Carbohydrate 碳水化合物 (g)	Fat 脂肪 (g)						
每周营养分析		715		26	102	16						
Nutritional recommendation 营养建议		725		25	100	25						

EAT LEARN LIVE						MENU NURSERY-G2						
		Monday 2024-01-08	Tuesday 2024-01-09	Wednesday 2024-01-10	Thursday 2024-01-11	Friday 2024-01-12						
Snack		Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Cookies Fruit Cut	Banana Bread Fruit Cut	Vegetable Sandwich Fruit Cut						
Set Meal		Margherita Pizza 比萨	Steamed Rice with Sausage 广式香肠饭	Macaroni and Cheese 小弯芝士面	Teriyaki Chicken 日式照烧鸡排	Italian Sausage Bean Brasserie 意大利香肠烩豆子						
		Sweet Corn and Broccoli 玉米粒西兰花	Stir Fried Cabbage 炒洋白菜	Grilled Chicken with Vegetable 煎鸡胸肉	Cauliflower with Tomato Sauce 番茄菜花	Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条	Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条					
		Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条	Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条	Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条	Rice 米饭	Steamed Rice 米饭						
		Allergy: flour, tomato sauce, cheese, herb	Allergy: oyster sauce, soya sauce	Allergy: flour, herb	Allergy: chicken, crumb, cauliflower, tomato	Allergy: onion						
Fruit		Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day	Fruit of the Day						
Drinks		Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult	Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult	Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult	Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult	Milk/Yoghurt/Yakult						
Nutritional reading over the week		Energy 热量 (Kcal)		Protein 蛋白质 (g)	Carbohydrate 碳水化合物 (g)	Fat 脂肪 (g)						
每周营养分析		726		24	105	27						
Nutritional recommendation 营养建议		725		25	100	25						

Morning snack offer available at 6 rmb, Snack are only available for daily set lunch consumers.

DIARY DATES

Wednesday - January 17, 2024
Semester 1 Ends

Friday - January 26, 2024
Reports send home

Monday - January 29, 2024
Secondary Awards Assembly

Wednesday - January 31, 2024
New Parents Orientation

SPORTS DATES

Tuesday 16 January –
MS Volleyball vs Wellington (Boys @
Wellington; Girls @ IST)

Saturday 20 January –
ISAC HS Basketball Tournament (Boys @ DAY
Beijing; Girls @ DCB Beijing)

Saturday 20 January –
ISCOT MS Volleyball Tournament (Boys @ IST;
Girls @ Wellington)

Wednesday 24 January –
ISCOT Chess Tournament @ Wellington
(12:15 – 15:30)

25-27 January –
ACAMIS HS Basketball

WELCOME TO THE IST SPORTS AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCA) PROGRAM FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Please take note of the following dates:

Season 2 Sport Schedule

- ☺ Starts Monday, 27 Nov and ends Friday, 1 Mar
- ☺ The program will run for approximately 10 school weeks
- ☺ No CCAs during holidays and PTSCs (conferences)

Season two includes:

- ☺ HS Football -(Mondays and Fridays 15:30 – 17:00)
- ☺ MS Basketball-(Tuesdays and Thursdays 15:30 – 17:00)
- ☺ HS Badminton-(Mondays and Fridays 15:30 – 17:00)

Please do not hesitate to contact our department with any questions.

- ☺ Mr. Kennedy – Athletics Director
(byron_kennedy@istianjin.org.cn)
- ☺ Mr. Silvis – Activities Director
(ben_silvis@istianjin.org.cn)
- ☺ Ms. Guo Ying – Activities Officer (CCA's)
(ying_guo@istianjin.org.cn)
- ☺ Ms. Durian Wang – Activities Officer (Sports)
(durian_wang@istianjin.org.cn)
- ☺ Activity Office: telephone 022-28592003 /
extension 8150.