

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

Today marked the last day of classes for our Grade 12 Seniors who commence their study leave on Monday in preparation for the commencement of their IB Diploma Examinations on Wednesday, the culmination of each senior student's 13 years of compulsory schooling and of the two-year IB Diploma university matriculation qualification. On behalf of our entire community, I wish these wonderful young people the very best as they begin what will surely be amongst the most challenging series of examinations that they will ever face! Please be sure to lend these students (and their stressed parents!) your strong support and best wishes for the busy three weeks ahead!

A reminder to families that we will be celebrating Earth Day at school on Monday, with the theme for the day "Planet versus Plastics". Students will engage in a variety of learning experiences throughout the day related to the theme and encouraging our shared responsibility and commitment towards making our world a better and more sustainable place. And of course, no one day is really Earth 'Day' – every day is Earth Day, so please be sure to work together as families to model and promote more sustainable lifestyles to our children and communities.

On Wednesday the IST Board of Governors met to make a series of major decisions in preparation for the 2024-25 school year, including decisions about a series of facility renovations and upgrades, our major new gymnasium construction project, and school fees. I believe that the news is all good and that our community will be excited to learn the details of these important decisions when the Board releases its 2024-25 School Fees Announcement early next week.

Please also note that the annual 'non-binding' INTENT TO RETURN SURVEY will accompany the Board letter. The Survey asks that you indicate your likely decision about the continued enrollment of your child/ren at IST next year. You are asked to indicate whether you are likely to leave, likely to stay, or remain undecided. It is important to remember that this is a non-binding survey, so there is no need to worry that your decision may change; it will have no implications for your final decision, but will give us an early indication of likely turnover in the number of students enrolled, which significantly helps our planning for the new school year.

**Upcoming World Celebration Dates...**

Monday - April 22, 2024 Earth Day

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated on April 22. Worldwide, various events are held to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day events in more than 193 countries are now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network.

Thursday - April 25, 2024 ANZAC Day

Anzac Day is a national day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand that broadly commemorates all Australians and New Zealanders "who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations" and "the contribution and suffering of all those who have served".

Thursday - April 25, 2024 Portugal's Freedom Day

Freedom Day is a national holiday in Portugal, with official commemorations. It celebrates the 1974 Revolution that ended the dictatorship and started democracy. It also commemorates the first free elections that took place a year later on 25 April 1975.

I will be travelling to Hangzhou next Thursday to attend the Association of China and Mongolia International Schools (ACAMIS) Leadership Conference, AGM, and Board of Directors Meeting. As the President of ACAMIS, it is my honor to lead these meetings and to represent our school at such a significant regional event attended by the 90 ACAMIS member schools and some 350 attendees. I am especially proud because two IST students from the Literacy Lab (A Jin and Stella) will be giving a student agency presentation to the conference delegates, the only students in attendance! Last week two other students (Yi Ting and Moumou) gave a similar presentation at the ACAMIS English Language Learners Teacher Conference in Guangzhou, again the only students to ever travel to present at such an important teacher development conference. I have copied below extracts by two well respected international school leaders sharing reflections on these presentations, the first by the current (but retiring) ACAMIS Executive Director, Tom Ulmet, and the second by his replacement Larry Hobdell, previously the US State Department Office of Overseas School Regional Representative for East Asia. Both gentlemen spoke extremely positively about their impression of these fine IST students. I am sure that you will be as proud of them as I am!

"Thank you both for coming to the ACAMIS ELL Conference and making the wonderful, well organized presentation. You received a large number of questions afterward which is a sign of generating great interest among the participants. Your school community, Mr Moody and Mr Conway can be very proud of your own three P's. Preparation, Poise, Presentation. I met Mr Conway's son and his co-presenter last year in Guangzhou and you have followed on nicely from their excellent presentation. As I mentioned, IST students are the only students who have been able to make such a presentation at a major conference away from their own school and this is due to the confidence that your school has in student involvement the encouragement from people like Mr Schaaf and the support from Mr Moody. This will also add an extra dimension to your university applications so be sure to include it." [Tom Ulmet]

*"Good morning, Steve,
I wanted firstly to compliment you and your School for the amazing Student Staffed and Managed Learning Center presentation so wonderfully conducted by your two students at the ELL Conference. Honestly, if I closed my eyes, I would thought that I was listening to two corporate professionals making a proposal to a board. That's just how poised, knowledgeable and good they were. It's an authentic exemplar for student agency at its highest level. Bravo to the staff member who guides these student leaders." [Larry Hobdell]*

To our Seniors, I wish you all the very best as you commence your examinations – I know that you will all do exceptionally well! And to the rest of our community, have a wonderful weekend!



Steve Moody
Director



the Parent Partnership

All children experience a task or an activity that becomes difficult, or overwhelming or not challenging enough, so they want to quit. There could be a couple underlying reasons: they may be facing unrealistic expectations from others or even themselves, they no longer find it enjoyable, or they don't perform as well as their peers.

Here comes a tough decision for families, as no one wants to raise a quitter, however on the other hand, there are also some very legitimate reasons to allow your child to give up an activity too. One way to be sure of the answer is to have an honest, open and collaborative conversation with your child.



WHEN YOUR KID WANTS TO QUIT, SAY...

"I see you're having a hard day. Let's wait till tomorrow to make a decision."

"I thought you enjoyed this activity. Can you tell me why you want to quit?"

"Sometimes, when we make a quick decision based on **BIG** feelings, we can regret it later."

"It seems you are frustrated, you are safe to express your feelings."

"What would you change if you could make this activity enjoyable again?"

"Let's write out a list of the reasons you want to quit."



T H E

BLAZE

W E E K L Y

FRIDAY 19 APRIL 2024



Working Learning Acting TOGETHER



**INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL of TIANJIN**

22 April, 2024



EARTH DAY

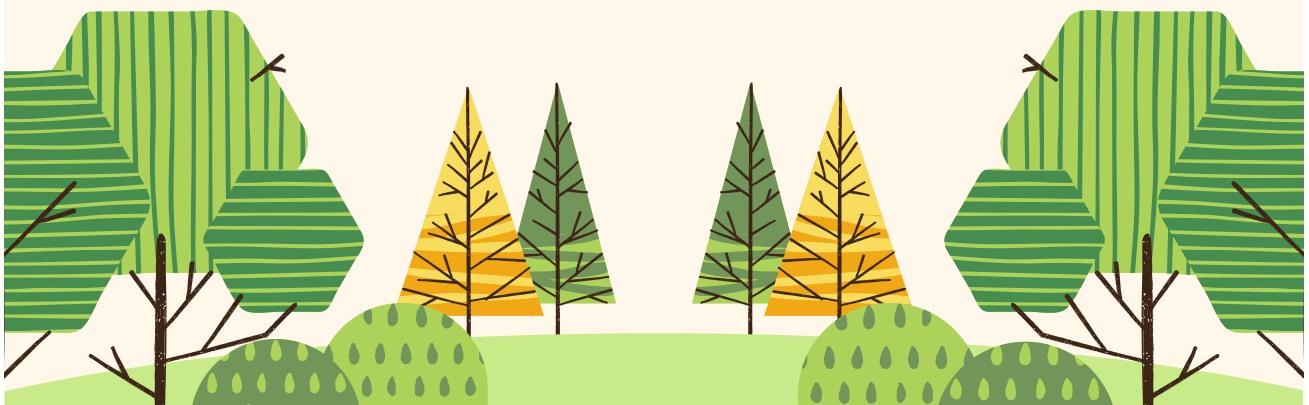
THEME: PLASTIC VS. PLANET

SCHOOLWIDE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

EARTH DAY ASSEMBLY

EARTH DAY PHOTO

WEAR GREEN!



THE

BLAZE

WEEKLY

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

FRIDAY 19 APRIL 2024



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF TIANJIN

Elementary Speaking Spectacular!



APRIL 24, 2024

IST THEATRE - HAN BUILDING

1.10-2.05pm

BLAZE



WEEKLY

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

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 Club

Happy Birthday, Gio!

Thank you to Gio, grade 1, for his birthday book donation to the library. Gio donated the book *Waffles and Pancake: Best Friends Fur-Ever* by Drew Brockington. Gio enjoys reading comic books and graphic novels like *Dog Man*, so we hope he will also love this one! Thank you for your generous donation, and happy birthday, Gio!

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.

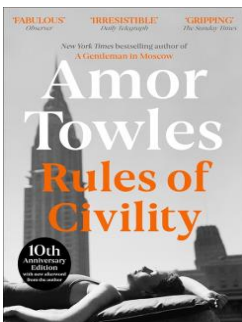


Poetry Month

We are celebrating poetry all month long at the IST library. Stop by to pick up a free poetry postcard, create your own poems with our big magnetic poetry board, or read some books of poetry!



Parent Book Club—date TBD @ 8:30 a.m. in the library



Our next Parent Book Club selection is the novel *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles. We will meet to discuss this book in May, in the library. The library has copies of the book in English, Chinese, 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. Contact one of our library staff to join our WeChat group.

THE

FRIDAY 19 APRIL 2024

BLAZE



WEEKLY

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

A decorative banner with colorful pennants in teal, yellow, and purple, strung across the top of the central area.

 **SHARE
KIDS BOOKS**

BOOK FAIR

April 23rd & 24th
8 am to 4:30pm

at the IST Library

A row of colorful books in various colors (white, teal, yellow, red, grey) with some having a leaf design on the cover, standing on a black base.

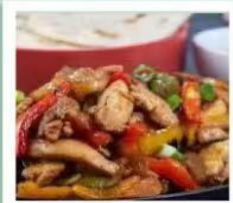


PFO COOKING CLUB

Food theme: The Mexican cooking Class

Menu:

1. Guacamole
2. Fajitas
3. Picadillo
4. Tacos dorados de papa (potato taco)
5. Dessert: arroz con leche



When: 25th April **Thursday** 9:00am-2pm

Where: IST Elementary Kitchen

Host: Fatima

Cost: 100 RMB per person

Please join the WeChat group by scanning this QR code:
Max 16 participants, first-come first-served.





Join PFO's family hike to Little Qinghai lake

**April 27th, pick up at IST 6.30am and
Ao Cheng 6.50am, back around 7pm.**

**PFO will sponsor the hike so you only pay
90 rmb/person.**

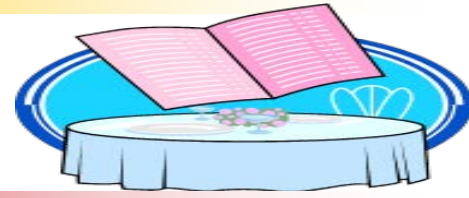
The hike is 9 km long and the elevation is 300 meter.

Last sign up April 21rst.

Scan the QR code to join the hike with your family.



BLAZE



WEEKLY

Working Learning Acting TOGETHER

EAT LEARN LIVE						MENU G3-G12					
	Monday 2024-04-22	Tuesday 2024-04-23	Wednesday 2024-04-24	Thursday 2024-04-25	Friday 2024-04-26						
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	Sauteed Potatoes with Onion 洋葱炒土豆 Allergy: onion, black pepper sauce	Mashed Potatoes 土豆泥 Allergy: beef, herb, soya sauce	Allergy: chicken, flour, mayonnaise	Allergy: beef, cheese powder, tomato sauce, herb						
Asian From The Wok/Noodle Station	Sauteed Egg with Vegetable 鱼香鸡蛋	Braised Pork Taiwan Style 台湾卤肉	Kung Pao Chicken 宫保鸡丁	Noodle with Pork in Korean Bean Paste or Chili Pasta 韩式炸酱面/火鸡面	Chicken Teriyaki 日式照烧鸡排						
	Deep Fried Beans 干煸豆角	Stir fry Vegetable 炒蔬菜	Cauliflower with Tomato Sauce 番茄菜花	Fried Eggs 煎鸡蛋	Stir fry Cabbage 炒洋白菜						
	Steamed Rice 米饭 Allergy: wheat, egg	Steamed Rice 米饭 Allergy: pork, soya sauce,egg	Steamed Rice 米饭 Allergy: chili, leek, soya sauce	Allergy: egg, bean	Steamed Rice 米饭 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 每周营养分析		Energy 热量 (Kcal) 715	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 26	Carbohydrate 碳水化合物 (g) 102	Fat 脂肪 (g) 16						
Nutritional recommendation 营养建议		725	25	100	25						

EAT LEARN LIVE						MENU NURSERY-G1					
	Monday 2024-04-22	Tuesday 2024-04-23	Wednesday 2024-04-24	Thursday 2024-04-25	Friday 2024-04-26						
Snack	Yoghurt Fruit Cut	Carrot Cake Fruit Cut	Mini Pizza Fruit Cut	Vegetable Pie Fruit Cut	Cheese Sandwich Fruit Cut						
Set Meal	Fried Rice with Egg 炒饭	Sauteed Chicken with Broccoli 西兰花炒鸡肉	Hot Dog 热狗	Teriyaki Chicken 日式照烧鸡排	Beef Balls with Gravy 烧汁牛肉丸						
	Cauliflower with Tomato Sauce 番茄菜花	Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条	Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条	Cauliflower with Tomato Sauce 番茄菜花	Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条						
	Vegetable Sticks 蔬菜条 Allergy: egg, soya sauce	Rice 米饭 Allergy: soya sauce	Roasted Potato 烤土豆 Allergy: flour, pork, soya sauce	Rice 米饭 Allergy: chicken, crumb, soya sauce	Mashed Potato 土豆泥 Allergy: beef, soya sauce						
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 每周营养分析		Energy 热量 (Kcal) 730	Protein 蛋白质 (g) 26	Carbohydrate 碳水化合物 (g) 105	Fat 脂肪 (g) 24						
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

Monday - April 22, 2024
Earth Day

Wednesday - April 24, 2024
Elementary Speaking Spectacular

Wednesday - May 1, 2024
May Day Break

Wednesday~Friday - April 24~May 17, 2024
IB Diploma Exams

Tuesday - May 7, 2024
ELA Entrance Testing

Friday - May 10, 2024
Elementary Sports Day

Friday - May 17, 2024
Departing Families Session

Monday~Thursday - May 20~23, 2024
Secondary Exams (G9-11)

SPORTS DATES

Saturday 27 April -
ISAC HS Football Tournament (TBD)

Saturday 11 May -
ISAC MS Basketball Tournament (Boys @
HBJ; Girls @ IST)

Friday 17 May -
ES and SS Track and Field/Cross country
(12:15 - 15:30)

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 3 Sport Schedule

- ☺ Starts Monday, 11 Mar and ends Friday, 24 May
- ☺ The program will run for approximately 10 school weeks
- ☺ No CCAs during holidays and PTSCs (conferences)

Season three includes:

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