

- Inspiring Global Citizens Since 1983 -



The Bear Essentials



The ISB Weekly Newsletter 2024/25

Friday 13th September, 2024

Volume 6, Issue 5

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IMPORTANT DATES

16th - 18th September - Chuseok Holiday
19th - 20th September - DP Retreat
Friday 20th September - G6 - G10 Team Building Trips
20th - 21st September - PYP Sports Camp
Monday 23rd September - Battle of Busan, HS Volleyball
Tuesday 24th September - Battle of Busan, MS Football
Wednesday 25th September - Parent Workshop

Happy Chuseok!



The annual Chuseok Assembly has become a favourite at our school, and this year was no different. From G4's traditional drumming performance to the Lunchtime Club Band, Grade 11 Chuseok Video Diary, and a Chuseok Themed quiz, topped off with a prestigious ASRBM award for G11 student Jackleen and a renewal of our green flag award for the ISB Eco-Club, it was a jam-packed celebration of culture, tradition and community. Have a wonderful Chuseok holiday and we will see you back at school on Thursday 19th September!

Whole School News



OPEN HOUSE

Monday 14th to Friday 18th October

Monday 14th - Friday 18th October
By appointment

50 Gijang-daero, Gijang-eup, Gijang-gun, Busan

+82 51 742 3332
Call to Reserve Your Spot!

www.isbusan.org

SCAN

Join our Autumn Open House event coming up in October! Click the image to register, and [share the link](#) with anyone you think might be interested in learning more about life at ISB!

Evidencing Learning: Tracking and Assessing Student Progress at ISB

How do we know our students are learning effectively? This session will dive into the strategies and tools we use at ISB to assess, record, and track student learning. Learn about our evidence-based approach to measuring student progress and how this data informs teaching and supports student success. This session will be led by IB Coordinators Jennifer Fenton, Solene Matsushita, and Nico Gysbers, followed by the PTA coffee morning, and everyone is invited to join us.



PARENT WORKSHOP

Evidencing Learning

Wednesday 25th September
8:45am - 10am

**FOLLOWED BY PTA
COFFEE MORNING**

Part-Time Position Open at ISB School Shop

ISB School Shop 'The Bear Essentials' is ready to welcome another member to the team! We're currently recruiting for the position of **School Shop Coordinator**.

The School Shop Coordinator is responsible for overseeing the smooth operation of the ISB shop, delivering high-quality customer service to parents, students, and staff, and ensuring that students can obtain and wear the correct and appropriate P.E. uniform.



This is a part-time, hourly paid position for non-academic staff, so if you are interested in joining the dynamic team at ISB please [apply through this link!](#)

ISB Eco-Club Earns Green Flag Accreditation

We are pleased to announce that ISB has been awarded the prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag Accreditation for the 2024/2025 academic year. This recognition highlights our school's commitment to environmental sustainability and education. The Green Flag Accreditation reflects the successful implementation of the Eco-Schools framework, which integrates sustainability into our curriculum and daily practices. This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our Eco-Club, students, staff, and the broader ISB community. We were delighted to share this award with members of the ISB Eco Club at the assembly on Thursday.

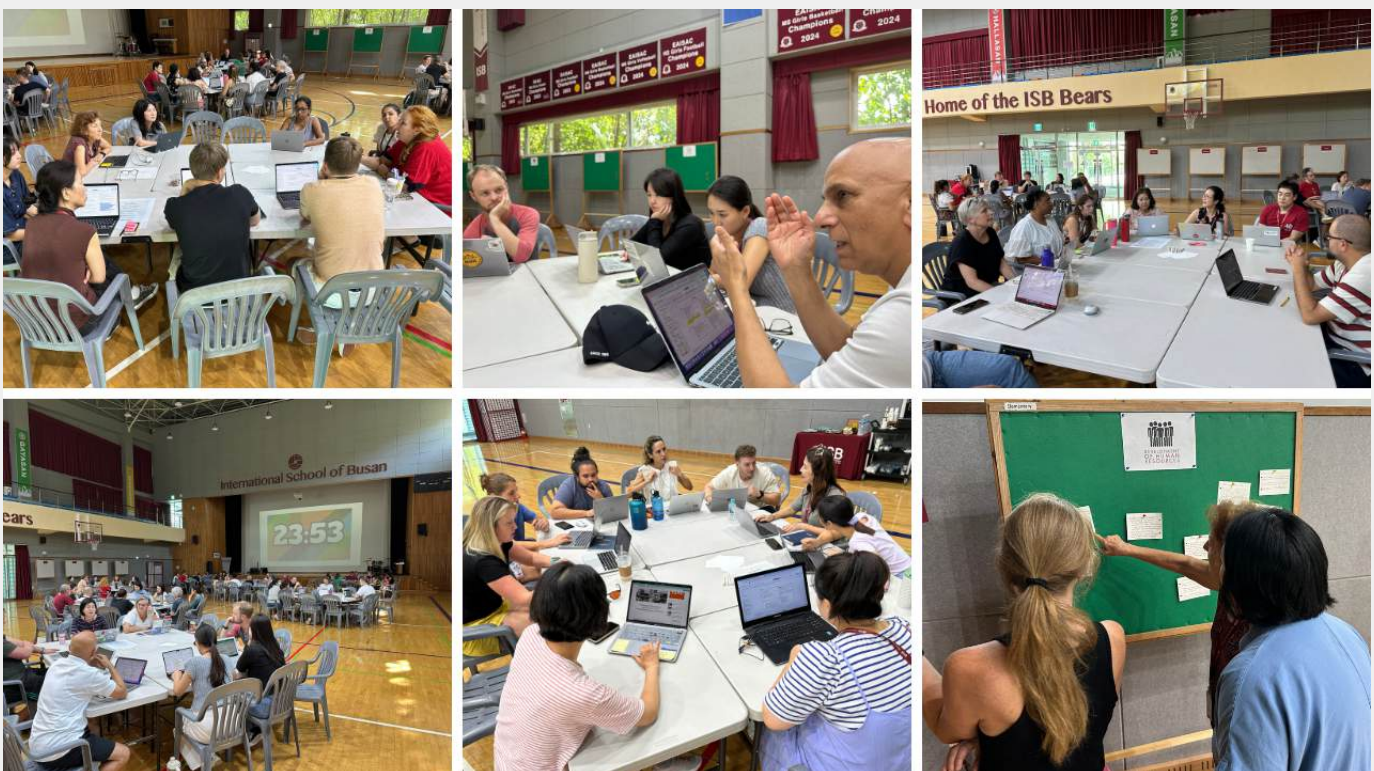


Simon McCloskey

During yesterday's Professional Development day, the ISB community took important steps toward shaping the future. With the upcoming CIS/IB evaluation visit in 2025, staff, students, and a board representative worked collaboratively on self-study reports, reflecting on our strengths and areas for growth. We also analysed data from the CIS community survey, gaining valuable insights from students, parents, staff and alumni. This data informed group discussions during a SWOT analysis, where we identified key priorities for our new strategic plan, set to launch in August 2025.



The involvement of all stakeholders highlights ISB's commitment to inclusivity and collaboration as we plan for the future of ISB.



From the Elementary Principal

It was lovely to see so many of our students come dressed in hanbok to celebrate Chuseok. At morning break the Korean teachers organized the students to dance the Ganggangsullae, a traditional circle dance. Throughout the day students took part in various activities, from making spinning tops to eating rice cakes. Thank you to the PTA for the delicious rice cake treats as we left school before the Chuseok Holiday. Happy Chuseok to everyone in our ISB Community, have a restful traditional holiday with your loved ones, and we'll see you back in school next Thursday!



Kevin Smith



Early Years 2: Inquiry into expressing our feelings and ideas, and working together with others.

We have been exploring and discussing how to manage our feelings and ideas through play, stories, and circle times. We've noticed that the children are developing confidence and becoming more aware of how to express their feelings and ideas, both verbally and non-verbally.

As they become aware that everyone has the right to express their ideas and feelings, children learn to support and respect others' emotions and perspectives, fostering a more cooperative and empathetic environment.

Through the inquiry into social interactions, the children are developing communication skills and thinking skills, allowing them to better understand themselves and others as well as improving their ability to collaborate.



How We Organize Ourselves

Grade 1 students started their second unit of inquiry with an outdoor provocation. Students experimented by driving cars on different surfaces. "The cars get stuck in the dirt and do not go very far." said Coen. Mila shared, "The cement makes it easier for cars to drive." Students then discussed how the community helps us get home on the bus by building roads.



Chuseok Celebrations in Grade 2

This week we had a special event with fun, educational activities, and tasty treats. Grade 2 family members came into school and shared their Korean cultural traditions with the children. Everyone was so excited to participate in the activities and to learn about Chuseok celebrations. Thank you so much, Eun Ju, Ella and Tim!



Congratulations Grade 4!

Grade 4 students delivered a fantastic traditional drum performance during the Chuseok Whole School Assembly on Thursday, set to a fusion of Korean rock music. They performed in traditional costumes, and used the drums as both instruments and props as they danced for the audience. We always love to celebrate our host tradition, and this was a refreshing new take on our traditional Korean celebration! Thanks to our Korean teachers for creating such wonderful performing art.



From the Secondary Principal

This week culminated in a beautiful Chuseok assembly where we learned about and celebrated this important Korean holiday. Special thanks needs to be given to our Korean A & B teachers who prepared our students to teach our community, perform and share important aspects of Korean culture with our wider school community. Thank you.

For our teachers, the work week continued into Friday with our Professional Development Day. The day was a productive day related to important curriculum topics in line with our accreditation process.



Gilles Buck

I want to wish the entire school community a fantastic Chuseok holiday and look forward to welcoming back our students next Thursday!

Secondary Learning Focus

Upcoming Events:

- Chuseok Holiday - September 14 - September 18
- Team building trips - Friday, September 20th
- Week without Walls Information Sessions for parents and students - Thursday September 26
 - Includes opportunity to ask about the Duke of Edinburgh programme

Week Without Walls Information Sessions:

We will be hosting information sessions to share detailed information about the week without walls trips that will happen towards the end of the school year. These trips are fantastic educational opportunities and the feedback from last year's trips were overwhelmingly positive. We will be sharing detailed information regarding the trips at this information session. We will first provide a general overview of the trips and then break up into sessions specific to each grade level. We highly encourage all Grade 9, 10, 11 students and parents to attend. You will also have the opportunity to separately ask about the Duke of Edinburgh programme from the teacher leaders.

Date: Thursday September 26, 2024

Time: 6 - 7 PM

Who: All Grade 9, 10 and 11 students and parents are invited to attend

From the Science Department

Grade 6 students have been looking at energy in their first science unit. They are currently trying to find the energy value of different foods by igniting them and heating water. This will be their first summative assessment of the year. The new labs are spacious, well designed spaces for the students to work in, as they have places to sit during lessons and benches to work at while doing practical work.



Grade 7

The grade 7 students have been studying evolution and ecology in the first science unit. They had to write a report on an endangered animal where they had to look for solutions and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution. In the ecology section they have been looking at different methods of sampling the biotic populations around the school. This included using nets for pond dipping, sweep nets for catching flying insects and quadrat sampling for estimating plant population size. They will be investigating the population of one plant species for Criterion B and C over the coming weeks.



Getting the students to engage with living organisms has been a valuable learning experience for many students. In the photographs students were simulating the beaks of Darwin's finches as they attempted to pick up bean seeds.

Grade 8

Our Grade 8 students have begun their first unit by digging deeper into the world of botany and agriculture, with a special focus on one of the most pressing issues of our time: the global food crisis. As the world's population continues to grow, our young scientists are learning about innovative ways to increase food production using cutting-edge technologies.



Students explored, using AI tools, various modern farming methods that could revolutionise how we grow food. They learned about vertical farming and the fascinating world of hydroponics and aquaponics, where they were amazed to discover how plants can grow without soil, using nutrient-rich water instead and how fish and plants can be grown together in a mutually beneficial environment.

"I never realised how much technology is involved in farming," said a student in the class. "It's really cool to see how science can help solve real-world problems like food shortages." As our Grade 8 students continue their journey through the world of botany and agriculture, they're not just learning science – they're cultivating the seeds of innovation that could one day help feed the world.

Grade 9 students kicked off the year by diving into a unit on Atomic Theory and the Periodic Table. They explored the structure of atoms, how elements are arranged in the periodic table, and the trends linked to that arrangement.

Throughout the unit, students conducted experiments to test the properties



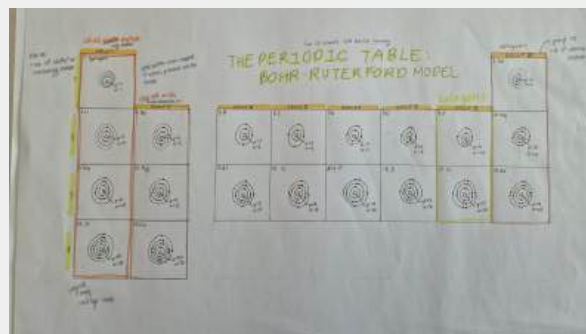
of elements, mixtures, and compounds. By working with iron and sulphur, they observed how heating these elements forms a compound and compared the changes in properties. They also investigated changes in states of matter, creating heating and cooling curves for water and stearic acid.



As we wrap up this unit, students are now learning about different types of chemical bonds. Next week, we will be learning how to balance chemical equations and write formulae.

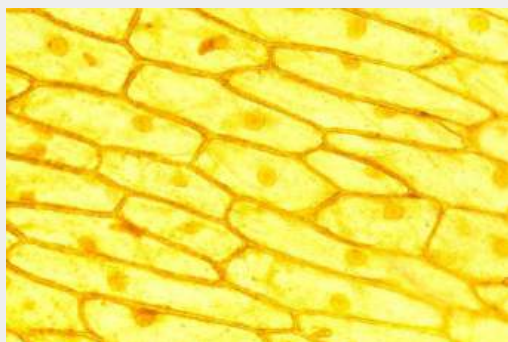
Grade 10

Grade 10 students explored patterns in the periodic table through analysis of atomic structures. Critical thinking and inquiry skills were essential in identifying and understanding the relationships between atomic properties and element behaviour.

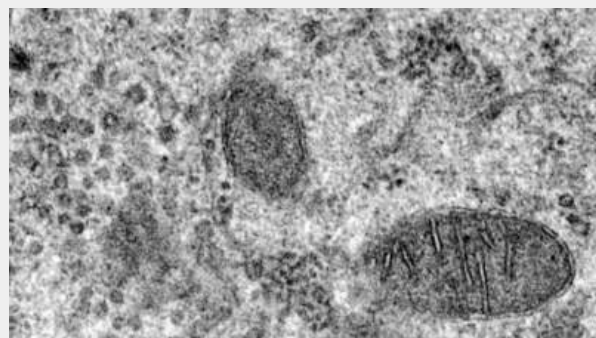


Grade 11 Bio

The Grade 11 students are an enthusiastic curious group of students who have mostly taken on the challenge and rigour of the IB biology course. This course involves a vast amount of content that students need to assimilate, and as a consequence they are faced with many quizzes and tests. They are currently studying the second unit on Cells and associated processes. The unit involves microscopy and micrometre measurement of cell structures. The students will soon be visiting the Stem Cell facility and the Electron Microscopy unit at UNIST to enhance their understanding of their first unit.



Britannica Onion cells under Light microscope



Pixabay Mitochondria under an Electron microscope

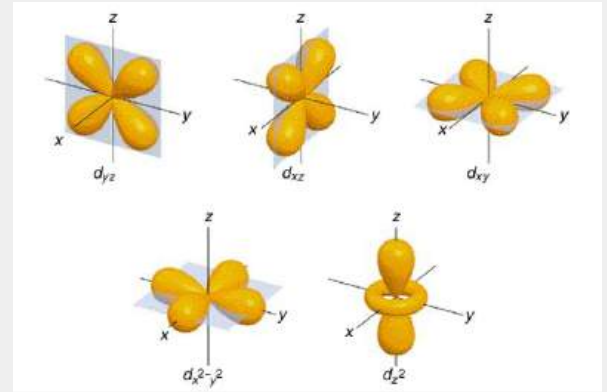
Grade 11 Physics

Grade 11 students recently conducted an experimental investigation to determine the acceleration due to gravity using newly equipped labs. Through precise measurements and data analysis, students applied the scientific method to calculate this fundamental constant, enhancing their appreciation of data integrity, uncertainty, and the nature of scientific inquiry.

Grade 11 Chemistry

Grade 11 Chemists are exploring the fundamental concepts of chemistry, including what is matter and how electrons arrange themselves around a nucleus. These understandings will help them to make sense of the bonding and energy changes that we see in units to come.

They have also made videos on how to prepare solutions, building fundamental lab skills that will help them conduct experiments effectively.



Grade 12 Bio

Grade 12 biologists hit the ground running this year. They were required to do a lot of holiday work, which they have been revising and summarising since their return.

Image Right: A students one page summary of the unit relating to Evolution and Speciation.

In the last two weeks the grade 12's have been working through a range of biochemistry units, specifically relating to metabolism, enzymes and cellular respiration. Students are in the process of submitting their Final Internal Assessments which will make up 20% of their final DP grade, so they have been working very hard in Biology!

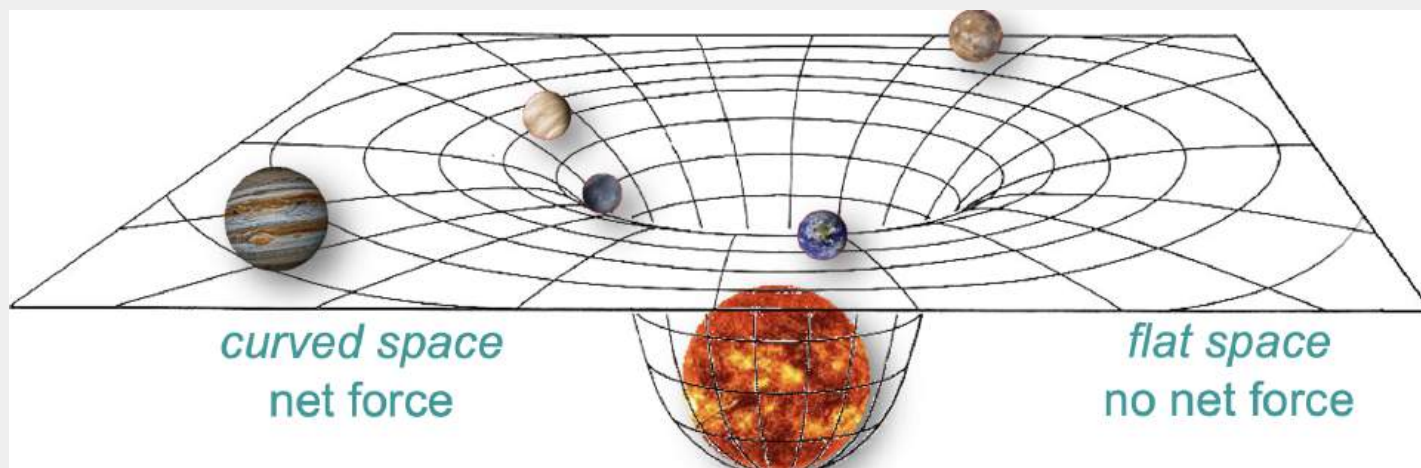
This is a hand-drawn one-page summary of the unit on Evolution and Speciation. It is densely packed with text, diagrams, and notes. Key sections include:

- Natural Selection:** A definition and a note that it results in evolution.
- Lamarck vs Darwin:** A comparison of the two theories of evolution.
- Evolution happens in Pop. X indiv.:** A note about the relationship between population and individuals.
- Speciation:** A definition and a note about the formation of new species.
- Adaptation:** A note about the process of organisms becoming better suited to their environment.
- Reproductive Isolation:** A definition and a note about the barriers to gene flow.

The summary also includes several diagrams, such as a phylogenetic tree and a diagram of a population pyramid.

Grade 12 Physics

Our Grade 12 physicists are learning about gravitational and electric fields and how changes in the objects within them. This is a section of the course that is not easy to visualise, so we use models to help the students develop their understanding.



The physics students are also starting into their Internal Assessment where they will design, conduct, analyse and evaluate their own experiment. This assessment makes up 20% of their final IBDP grade.

Grade 12 Chemistry

Grade 12 Chemistry students recently conducted experiments to investigate factors affecting the equilibrium position. Making the most of our lab space, they applied their understanding of Le Chatelier's Principle and dynamic equilibrium to explain how changes in temperature and concentration can influence a chemical reaction, reinforcing emphasising the ideas of reaction kinetics, chemical equilibrium, and the importance of experimental control.



ISB Career Fair - Shape Our Future!

Do you have an interesting career or work experience? Would you like to help inspire the future of our students' lives? Join us on **Friday, September 27th** from **1:30 PM to 3:30 PM** for an exciting opportunity! We're recruiting **20+ industry speakers** for a **speed-dating-style** format of presenting your career to eager students in Grades 9-12. Students can explore a wide range of careers in short 15-minute sessions followed by Q&A, with lots of exciting events in between. **Don't miss this opportunity to inspire the next generation!** Hosted by **Grade 12 English B students** Sign up here: [Sign Me Up!](#)

ISB CAREER FAIR

Friday September 27th,
1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Students in Grades 9 - 12
20+speakers

SPEED-DATING STYLE
15 MINS SESSIONS + Q&A



“ Students explore a wide range of career opportunities and see where the future could take them ”

Please complete this [form](#) if you are interested!

Brought to you by Grade 12 English B Students



STUDENTS GRADES 9
THROUGH 12

bit.ly/ISBPathways



SCAN ME

**Resources and information
to learn about careers and
universities and plan for life
after high school**

From the PTA

We have our next Parent Workshop and PTA Coffee Morning coming up after Chuseok. Please check the flyer in the whole school news section for more information and mark your calendars for another wonderful chance to learn and grow together as a community! If you are interested and would like to get involved in organising events, coordinating volunteers, hosting and planning fundraisers, and are an enthusiastic and positive team player, or you would simply like some more information, please contact pta@isbusan.org.



GET READY FOR ISB INTERNATIONAL DAY

THIS EVENT WARMLY WELCOMES THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY INCLUDING FAMILY AND FRIENDS

TICKETS

PRE SALE TICKETS: 15,000 KRW

(AGES 3 AND UP)

DEADLINE: WED 16 OCT



TICKETS WILL ALSO BE SOLD ON THE
DAY FOR 20,000 KRW

WHEN & WHERE

SATURDAY 19

OCTOBER 2024

10.AM - 2.PM

ISB

ADDRESS

50 GIJANG-DAERO, GIJANG-GUN

WHAT

COUNTRY BOOTHS
INTERNATIONAL FOOD
ACTIVITIES
RAFFLE PRIZES
AND MORE

**SIGN UP TO
VOLUNTEER**



ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

ISB INTERNATIONAL DAY



PASSPORT

YOUR PASSPORT IS YOUR TICKET.
COLLECT STAMPS FROM THE
COUNTRY BOOTHS TO COMPLETE
YOUR PASSPORT AND WIN
PRIZES.
ALL VISITORS, INCLUDING
VOLUNTEERS NEED A TICKET



CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

IT'S A DAY WHERE THE ENTIRE
COMMUNITY GATHERS.
AT THE COUNTRY BOOTHS YOU
WILL LEARN ABOUT THE
DIFFERENT CULTURES AT ISB

FOOD COURT

FOOD, DRINKS AND SNACKS WILL
BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
FROM A FOOD COURT.
MAKING FOOD FROM YOUR
COUNTRY IS A VERY POPULAR
ADDITION TO THE FOOD COURT



PREPARATIONS

IN THE WEEKS PRIOR TO THE
EVENT VOLUNTEERS FROM EACH
COUNTRY WILL MEET TO DECIDE
ON A THEME FOR THE BOTH AND
MAKE PREPARATIONS.

NEW TO ISB?

DON'T WORRY, THE PTA WILL
CONNECT YOU TO OTHERS FROM
YOUR COUNTRY



THE BOOTH SHOULD HAVE
INFORMATION ABOUT THE
COUNTRY AND SOME SORT OF
ACTIVITY.

TIME SCHEDULE

8:00 BOOTH SET UP BEGINS
10:00 EVENT START
13:00 FLAG PARADE AND
RAFFLE PRIZE DRAW
14:00 EVENT CONCLUDES



"WHO'S WATCHING MY KIDS?"

WELL; YOU ARE!
PTA ENCOURRAGE ALL
COUNTRIES TO MAKE SHIFT
SCHEDULES SO IT'S POSSIBLE FOR
EVERYONE TO LOOK AFTER KIDS,
VISIT OTHER BOOTHS, GET SOME
FOOD AND ENJOY THE DAY!

PRACTICAL INFO

PAYMENT: CASH OR BANK
TRANSFER.
PARKING IS AVAILABLE AT THE
ISB PARKING LOT.

RAFFLE PRIZES

ALL VOLUNTEERS AND THOSE
WHO COMPLETE THEIR
PASSPORTS WILL HAVE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO WIN GREAT
PRIZES

