

- Inspiring Global Citizens Since 1983 -



The Bear Essentials



The ISB Weekly Newsletter 2024/25

Friday 25th October, 2024

Volume 6, Issue 10

CONTENTS

Whole School News
From the Head of School
From the Elementary Principal
Elementary Learning Focus
From the Secondary Principal
Secondary Learning Focus
Eco Initiatives at ISB
From the PTA

IMPORTANT DATES

28th October - 4th November - Fall Holiday
Monday November 4th - PD Day (no students in school)
Tuesday November 5th - SKAIS X-Country Meet at DIS
7th - 11th November - EAISAC Season 1 / HS Volleyball @ISU
Tuesday 12th November - SKAIS MS Football at ISB
Wednesday 13th November - SKAIS ES Football at GIFS
15th - 16th November - EAISAC MS Football at ISB
Friday 15th November - End of Season 1 ASA's

Featured Story



The ISB campus came alive on Saturday as we celebrated our much-anticipated International Day! The event was a fantastic showcase of the rich diversity that makes ISB such a unique community. From vibrant traditional clothing and creative global collaborations to mouthwatering international cuisine, it was a day filled with fun, connection, and global spirit. A huge THANK YOU to our amazing PTA for their incredible organisational efforts and positivity in making this day so special. The hard work and dedication of our parents truly reflect the caring and supportive community we're lucky to be part of. We're so proud to see our vision of fostering open-minded, knowledgeable, and principled global citizens come to life through events like these.







Boo! PTA Trunk or Treat

The PTA is organising the annual Trunk & Treat event for Friday, November 8th, from 2:00 to 3:40 pm in the ISB Courtyard! Cars will park in a circle with their decorated trunks, creating a festive space for students to walk from car to car, collecting treats and enjoying the event. All students will participate throughout the afternoon, starting from Early Years all the way to Grade 12! (big kids like to play too!). The students are invited to come to school in costume on this day. Please note that costumes **should not include any weapons (including guns, swords, and axes etc) or violent elements**. If you would like to volunteer to participate, please [complete this form](#).





Chef Kim's Holiday Turkey Sale

Due to popular demand, Chef Kim Kill Hee is back with a special offer on delicious turkeys. These turkeys can be cooked either at the ISB cafeteria or in your home oven. They will be prepared and ready for you to heat up and savour. Say goodbye to the hefty 350,000 KRW price tag for turkey at hotels!

These turkeys will be available from October 15th, 2024, through January 31st, 2025. Chef Kim will coordinate with you to arrange a convenient pickup time, and he is available almost any time. **Please place your order at least two days in advance.** The 5 Kg turkeys serve 6-7 people, while the 7 Kg turkeys serve 8-10 people. They are perfect for dinner parties with friends, church gatherings,

Thanksgiving, and Christmas and New Year celebrations.

About Chef Kim

Chef Kim boasts over thirty years of experience as an executive chef at renowned hotels such as Marriott, Hyatt, Grand Hyatt, and Chosun. Mr Kim has had the privilege of serving distinguished guests, including George W. Bush, and prime ministers from Italy and Canada.



Menu Options:

- A) 5Kg Uncooked Turkey with Cranberry Sauce - 120,000 KRW
- B) 7Kg Uncooked Turkey with Cranberry Sauce - 140,000 KRW
- C) 5Kg Cooked Turkey with stuffing, giblet sauce, and cranberry sauce - 185,000 KRW (most popular)
- D) 7Kg Cooked Turkey with stuffing, giblet sauce, and cranberry sauce - 195,000 KRW

Add-Ons:

- 20,000 KRW for Delivery anywhere in Haeundae
- 15,000 KRW for 500g of Mashed Potatoes
- 15,000 KRW for 500g of Steamed Brussel Sprouts
- 15,000 KRW for 500g of Steamed Broccoli

- 15,000 KRW for 500g of Steamed Carrots
- 15,000 KRW for 500g of Extra Stuffing
(Turkeys are sourced from the USA, Canada, and Australia)

How to Order:

Contact Chef Kim with your order and preferred date (please order at least two days in advance).

Email: Khkim6543@hanmail.net
Phone: 010-2583-6545



EARCOS Conference

The East Asia Regional Council of Schools (EARCOS) is an association of international schools in East and Southeast Asia, including ISB, that fosters collaboration, growth, and professional development among member schools. Focused on educational excellence, EARCOS brings together school leaders, educators, and specialists to exchange best practices and advance the quality of education across the region. This week, the EARCOS Leadership Conference is taking place in Bangkok, where Secondary Principal Gilles Buck and I have been attending workshops and presentations filled with valuable insights to apply in our own school context. Some standout sessions we've attended include:



Simon McCloskey

- Strategies to Foster Authentic Belonging in EARCOS Schools - Dr. Derrick Gay
- Diving Deeper into a Culture of Innovation - George Couros
- The Hunt for Evidence of Impact - Greg Curtis
- Unlocking the Power of Financial Statements - Deidre Fischer and Amanda Zhang
- Trust Based Observations - Creating Cultures of Trust and Empowering Teachers - Craig Randall
- Using AI Tools Responsibly to Improve Teaching and Learning - Jagriti Agrawal

Parent Workshop: The IB Continuum – Understanding the Foundations of an IB Education

On Wednesday, we welcomed current and prospective parents to our workshop, The IB Continuum: Understanding the Foundations of an IB Education. Our dedicated IB Curriculum Coordinators guided participants through the key aspects of the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP), and Diploma Programme (DP). The session focused on Approaches to Learning, Approaches to Teaching, and the IB Learner Profile, offering valuable insights into how these elements shape learning at ISB. A special thank you to our IB Coordinators—Jennifer Fenton, Solene Matsushita, and Nico Gysbers—for leading the session. Parents left with a clearer understanding of how the IB at ISB nurtures well-rounded, lifelong learners. Thank you to all parents who attended.



From the Elementary Principal

As we approach the Autumn/Fall break next week, we are wrapping up the first part of our school year with today's Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences. This is a valuable time for reflection and goal-setting, where students, parents, and teachers come together to discuss achievements and areas for growth. Setting clear goals for the remainder of the year helps guide our students in their learning journey, fostering responsibility and self-awareness. We hope these conversations inspire motivation and a sense of purpose as we move forward.

Wishing everyone a restful and rejuvenating break!



Kevin Smith

Elementary Learning Focus

Wheels Week in Grade 1

Grade 1 students have been learning all about community systems and they have been developing their bike riding skills on the transportation system they created. They brought their understanding of community systems from their transportation model and blueprints to life by creating a road system around the ISB campus. Their final transportation system had signs, arrows, parking lots, crosswalks, and even a rest area. Students reflected that they were a system because they all worked together to draw the roadway and it worked well. Students were able to ride their bikes and scooters safely.



Early Years Sweet Potato Experience

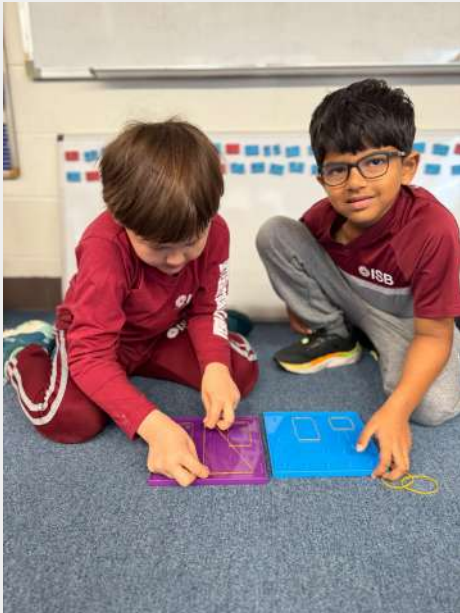
What a wonderful way to celebrate autumn! On a beautiful sunny day, EY1, EY2, and Kindergarten went on a field trip to a local farm for a sweet potato-digging adventure. Armed with small shovels, they eagerly explored the fields, working hard to carefully unearth the hidden treasures beneath the soil. Some of the potatoes were so firmly wedged in the soil that the shovels got bent. After the digging was done, the children were treated to the delicious taste of freshly cooked sweet potatoes, a well-deserved reward for their efforts. As it had rained a lot the previous day there was also lots of fun splashing and jumping in the mud, some students even got stuck in the mud. We had a great adventure!





Grade 2 Maths Inquiry

In Grade 2, the students have been inquiring into shape. We used our geoboards to make patterns and create different 2D shapes. In addition, we explored the properties of these shapes by discussing the number of sides and corners they have. The students enjoyed working together to identify familiar shapes in everyday objects around them. We love maths!



Gymnastics Success!

Last weekend Stefania in Grade 5 participated in the Korean Rainbow Cup Rhythmic Gymnastics Contest in Masan. She took 1st place in the ball, hoop, clubs, and ribbon competitions. Congratulations Stefania!



From the Secondary Principal

This week was a short learning week for our students since the week wrapped up with our Parent Student Teacher conferences. These conferences are a vital part of the learning process as the open conversations invite reflection and permit a focus on growth for the remainder of the semester and year. We will be hosting further PTSCs on March 1st. The final push into the break was challenging but our students have done great and are eager for their well-deserved autumn break. Our teachers feel the same way and will enjoy their own well-deserved relaxation over the holiday.

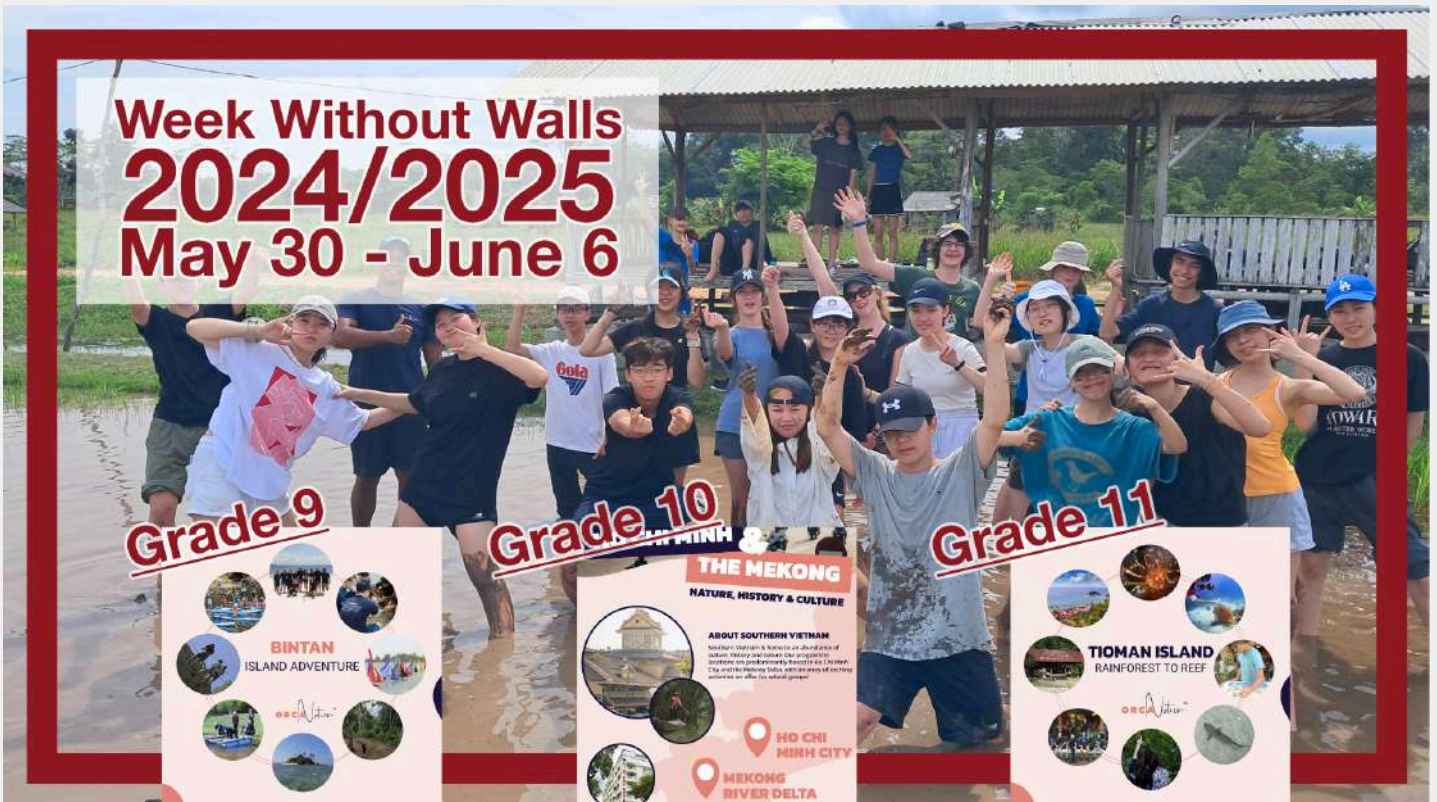


Gilles Buck

When we return in November, we will begin the final leg of the first semester of studies. For Grade 10 and Grade 12 students, this will include formal exam sessions in preparation for E-assessments and DP exams respectively. Of course, November will also bring MUN conferences and many sporting events. We look forward to all of the hard work and all of the fun!

Secondary Learning Focus

Week Without Walls Sign-Ups:



The Week Without Walls trip is ISB's capstone Experiential Learning programme for our high school students. It is an approach to learning that fosters international-mindedness and global citizenship, giving students the opportunity to participate in cultural immersion experiences and gain first-hand real-world exposure to diverse cultures, outdoor activities, community service projects and a deep connection to the natural world. **Please take a moment to review the detailed information in the [Week Without Walls information portal](#).**

On the linked page, and below, you will find sign-up forms for the different grade levels. Please complete these by Monday, October 28.

- [Grade 9 - Bintan, Indonesia - Sign-up Form](#)
- [Grade 10 - South Vietnam - Sign-up Form](#)
- [Grade 11 - Tioman, Malaysia - Sign-up Form](#)

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr Gilles Buck at gbuck@isbusan.org or Mr Rigard Kruger at rkruger@isbusan.org

From the Language Acquisition Department

We, at the Language Acquisition Department, continue to work enthusiastically with our students to offer them effective and joyful learning experiences of the target language (Korean and Spanish). In this edition of our ISB newsletter, we highlight some of the most relevant activities that we have been doing.

Korean (B) - Grades 8-12

October 9 was 한글날 (Hangeul Day). Hangeul Day is a national holiday in South Korea that commemorates the Korean Alphabet every October 9th. We celebrate the day when the Korean writing system, 'Hangeul' was created by 세종대왕 (King Sejong) in 1443. It is also known as “Hangeul Proclamation Day.”

In ISB, the Korean Language (B) language acquisition students had time to appreciate the beauty and nature of the Korean alphabet system, Hangeul, by expressing their creative ideas with Hangeul consonants and vowels. ISB Korean students really enjoyed the time with Hangeul.



Korean (B) - grades G - 7

Grade 6 and 7 Korean B students are currently exploring the unit on 'Eating with the family.' In this unit, students learned how to order food politely in Korean and introduce Korean food and customs. As part of exploring Korean culture, students made 송편 (Songpyeon), a traditional rice cake prepared during Chuseok, and learned the cultural significance of making and sharing them with family. To practice their language skills in a real-world setting, we visited a café located in front of the school. Each student read the menu and ordered their chosen items in Korean, applying what they had learned in class. It was a fun and rewarding experience, as the students had the chance to use the language outside the classroom in an authentic environment. Everyone enjoyed the activity and gained confidence in their speaking skills.





Spanish (B) - Grade 6

¡Aprendiendo con energía! (Learning with energy!)

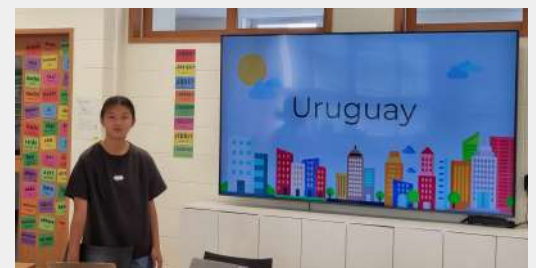
So far this year, our Grade 6 Spanish language acquisition class has been buzzing with enthusiasm and excitement as students dive into the vibrant world of Spanish language learning! From greetings to verb conjugation, and giving presentations about themselves and their families, these lively learners are making remarkable progress.



Students have been playing revision games on platforms like Señor Wooley, Blooket and Quizlet, where they can reinforce their vocabulary and grammar skills while having fun with their classmates. One of the highlights was an exciting scavenger hunt that had students racing around the school, practising their Spanish skills while solving clues. They searched for items and completed tasks that required them to use the vocabulary and phrases they'd been learning. It was a fantastic way to get everyone moving and apply their knowledge in a practical setting.

¡Sigue así, clase de español! (Keep it up, Spanish class!)

Stay tuned for more updates as we explore the wonderful world of Spanish together!



Spanish (B) - Grade 11

In the picture, Grade 11 DP Spanish B/SL students are focused as they complete their writing and reading comprehension summative assessments. These tasks are part of their unit on "Identities," specifically exploring health and lifestyle. The summative assessments evaluate the student's understanding of vocabulary, grammar, and cultural concepts related to the unit. Summative tasks in the DP language acquisition program are crucial as they measure students' language proficiency, encourage the use of complex structures, and ensure they apply their knowledge in meaningful contexts. These assessments also prepare them for future real-world situations and the final IB exams in grade 12.



Spanish (B) - Grade 10

In the picture, Grade 10 MYP Spanish B students are working together on a project related to their unit on "Going on Vacation." They are discussing travel plans, looking at maps, and sharing ideas about destinations. Collaborative tasks like this foster communication skills as students practise speaking and listening in Spanish while engaging with real-world scenarios. Developing collaborative skills in a language acquisition class is essential in the MYP because it helps students learn from one another, enhances problem-solving abilities, and builds confidence in using the language. Through teamwork, they not only learn but also enjoy the process, making language learning more dynamic and engaging.



Spanish (B) - Grade 8

In the picture, Grade 8 MYP Spanish B students are actively participating in a vocabulary feedback session with their teacher as part of their unit on "Health and Well-being." They are using their smartphones to look up words, take notes, and engage with interactive language apps. Group-teacher formative feedback sessions are essential in Spanish language acquisition classes, as they allow students to clarify misunderstandings, receive personalized guidance, and improve their language skills in a supportive environment. These sessions foster active learning and collaboration, making the process more enjoyable. Incorporating technology, like smartphones, enhances language learning by offering quick access to resources and interactive tools, making learning more dynamic and effective.



2024 Latin American Film Festival: A Cultural Celebration for the Busan Community (Thursday, October 17 - Sunday, October 20)

The 2024 Latin American Film Festival brought the rich and diverse cultures of Latin America to Busan, featuring films from 12 countries across Central and South America and the Caribbean. This event allowed our community to connect with Latin American culture through cinema.

Mr. Fernando and his wife, Jenniffer, attended

the opening ceremony, where they viewed the Chilean film *Quando las Nubes Esconden la Sombra* (*When the Clouds Hide the Shadows*), directed by José Luís Torres Leiva. The film follows Maria, an actress stranded in Puerto Williams, Chile, due to a storm, who finds herself discovering the unique life of the southernmost city and confronting an unresolved past. The festival highlighted film's role in bridging cultures, and we were honored to participate in this celebration.



EE Handover Ceremony

On Wednesday 23rd October, we celebrated the hard work and dedication of our students at the IB Extended Essay Ceremony! Their in-depth research, critical thinking, and perseverance have culminated in impressive essays across various subjects, and the annual EE Ceremony is a recognition of this incredible effort.

A huge thank you to Catherine Buchanan, Secondary Teacher Librarian, Nico Gysbers, IBDP Coordinator, and the EE supervisors for their invaluable guidance and support throughout this journey. Their mentorship has been key to the students' success. We are so proud of their achievements and look forward to seeing how they continue to excel in their academic journeys. Well done, everyone! Thank you to the PTA for providing the lovely decorations and catering for this event.





International Day

Last Saturday, we had an incredible time at International Day! Our Eco Club booth was a huge hit, and we were thrilled to see so many people stopping by to check out our activities. The booth was buzzing with excitement, and it was organized in a way that everyone could explore and enjoy what we had to offer.



One of the highlights was our sea glass jewellery station. It turned out to be the most popular activity! People were so eager to get beautiful jewellery pieces, and instead of setting prices, we let people donate however much they wanted. To our surprise, we received some incredibly generous donations, and we'll make sure this money is put to good use for eco-friendly causes. After grabbing their jewellery, visitors were drawn to our other activities. On one side, we had piles of free books, which were a big hit with both parents and students. People were excited to take them home! Right next to the books, we had a PE uniform giveaway, with items donated by students and parents, and this also caught a lot of attention.



Our "plant babies" activity was another favourite. We had lots of spider plant babies ready to be potted in small plastic pots, and participants got to choose their plant, pot it, and take it home. It was a fun hands-on activity that brought smiles to so many faces.



We also made sure to feature MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) awareness in our booth. We had a huge fish colouring mural for the kids, where they picked out different sustainable fish to colour and stick onto the mural.

It was a fun way to educate younger visitors about sustainable fishing. We also had an MSC information board, which caught the interest of many parents.



One of the most exciting parts of our booth was the eco-pledge activity. We set up a whiteboard where people could write their own messages about being eco-friendly, and they got to take photos with our special eco-club frame. It was such a fun and meaningful way for everyone to share their thoughts on caring for the environment.



And of course, our eco club played a major role in reducing plastic use at the event. While some members were busy at the booth, others were helping with dishwashing and organising trash. We worked hard to make sure everyone sorted their waste properly, and our dishwashing team was constantly at work, cleaning trays and cups to minimise plastic usage.



Overall, we're so proud of the impact we had on International Day, and we'll keep striving to make our school a cleaner and greener place!



From the SS Counseling Office

Self-Care Tip of the Week: *Gratitude*

What are you feeling grateful for?

Sometimes we are so busy chasing the things we do not have, that we forget to notice the things we already have, the people in our lives and the fortunate circumstances we live in.

(Adapted from a text by Andy Puddicombe, Headspace)

Free image by teksomolika at Freepik



This week's Secondary School self-care tip of the week was all about Gratitude. Gratitude is not a trait, it is something that we can all practice and benefit from. Gratitude and appreciation can bring a greater sense of happiness, improve our physical and mental health and strengthen our relationships. There are physiological changes that take place in our bodies when we take a moment to be thankful and recognize the good in our lives. It can calm the nervous system, bring down our blood pressure, lower heart rate and calm breathing, and help with overall relaxation. (Health benefits of gratitude - UCLA Health)

A simple gratitude/appreciation practice can consist of taking a moment to either write down (some people like to keep a notebook or journal) or in your mind, think about 5 things, people or events you are grateful for that day. Allow yourself to connect with the positive emotions and feel good hormones that go through your body. Some people enjoy doing this at the end of the day and others in the morning. Who, what, and where fills you with a sense of gratitude and appreciation?

For more on gratitude and why it is proven to improve our health, and increase our happiness and wellbeing read [Health benefits of gratitude - UCLA Health](https://www.healthline.com/health/benefits-of-gratitude). To try a guided appreciation exercise access <https://www.headspace.com/meditation/gratitude>

Please do not hesitate to contact me at ehibon@isbusan.org if you have any questions. It will be my pleasure to connect with you.

Warm regards,

Ellenore Hibon
Secondary School Counselor and College Counselor

A Huge Thank You for an Amazing International Day!

We're so grateful to everyone who helped make International Day a vibrant celebration of our global community! Special thanks to all the volunteers, organisers, and participants who worked tirelessly to bring the world to ISB with dazzling cultural displays, delicious food, and wonderful performances. Your efforts truly showcased the spirit of unity and diversity at our school!

And now, we're excited to invite you to our next event: TRUNK or TREAT on November 8th!

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon where creativity and fun come alive in the ISB Courtyard! This is your chance to get involved in three fantastic ways:

- Hand Out Treats: Dress up, bring a smile, and share the fun with our students!
- Decorate Your Car and Hand Out Treats: Transform your car trunk into a creative masterpiece and hand out treats to our enthusiastic trick-or-treaters!
- Donate Candies: Help us make sure every student gets plenty of goodies!



Sign up here to participate: [Trunk or Treat Sign-Up](#)

Thank you for your support and let's make this Trunk or Treat an unforgettable celebration!