

- Inspiring Global Citizens Since 1983 -

The Bear Essentials

The ISB Weekly Newsletter 2024/25

Friday 27th September, 2024

Volume 6, Issue 6

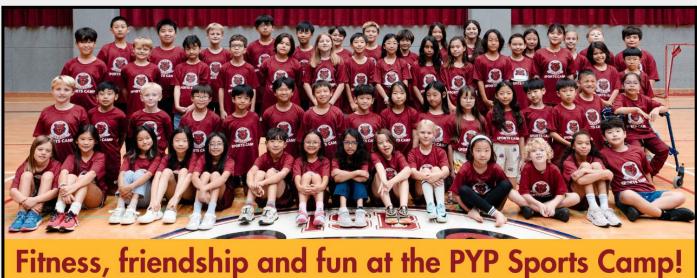
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IMPORTANT DATES

4th & 5th October - EAISAC HS Leadership Conference at NIS Saturday 5th October - SKAIS X-Country Meet at ISB 7th - 9th October - School Photographs 8th - 10th October - ES Health Screening 9th - 11th October - Grade 5 Camp Saturday 12th October - Board Training Day & Board Meeting 14th - 18th October - Digital Citizenship Week 14th - 18th October - ISB Open House Week

Featured Story



What a weekend! The annual PYP Sports Camp was a hit! Despite the initial threat of rain, the weather held off long enough for our Grade 3-5 students to enjoy some active outdoor time on the sports field before dinner.

And then the rain came! But no worries—they dried off and geared up for the biggest sleepover ever! Many of our students were real risk-takers, spending their first night away from home. Games, sports, activities, and plenty of communication and teamwork were at the heart of this year's camp. Great job, Bears!

A huge thank you to all the teachers, student helpers, PTA, cafeteria team, and everyone else who contributed to a fantastic experience for our students, making it another opportunity for healthy, happy learning. Check out more pictures in the Elementary School Focus section of the Newsletter.

School Photos Schedule

Pret-a-Portrait will visit ISB between **October 7th - 9th** to take our new school photographs. The detailed schedule will be in next week's newsletter, so please make sure to double-check your child's photo schedule, including any teams and club photos. We encourage all students to dress smartly, either in school uniform or neutral, plain clothing. A viewing card explaining how you can view and order pictures, will be sent home with your child.

Please ask your child to give it to you as soon as possible so you have a chance to order any pictures you would like at a discounted price. If you have any further questions please contact Pret-a-Portrait directly on +44 800 021 7626 or <u>customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net</u>.

VIEWING AND ORDERING





On the day of our visit to school your child may bring home a pre-registration card.

This will enable you to register for an email notification as soon as your pictures are ready.

Then, as soon as your pictures are ready, we'll send you a unique link to your child's pictures.

In addition, when the pictures are ready, your child will be given a viewing instructions card to bring home.

This will include a unique Sitting ID which gives you access to your pictures.

When entering this, you will be offered the chance to sign up for email notifications for future visits.

Ultimately, we believe this will be quicker, more reliable and better for the environment.

On our website you will be able to choose from the range of pictures we have taken. These can be ordered as digital downloads, prints, packs, frames or canvases.



Customer Service Team

If you have questions, our customer service team is standing by and will be delighted to give you any help or support you might need.

customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net



Join our Autumn Open House event coming up in October! Click the image to register, and <u>share the link</u> with anyone you think might be interested in learning more about life at ISB!

The IB Continuum: Understanding the Foundations of an IB Education

Join our IB Curriculum Coordinators as they walk you through the core elements of the IB Continuum. This workshop will highlight the common features of the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP), and Diploma Programme (DP), with a special focus on Approaches to Learning, Approaches to Teaching, and the IB Learner Profile.



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 <u>apply through this link!</u>



ISB Community Runs Are Back!

Our cross country team is training on Saturday mornings and we would like to invite all members of the ISB community to join us for some training runs. The next Community Run starts at 7.30 am at Pale de Cz, Haeundae Beach on Saturday 28th September. These timed runs are to promote fitness and a love of running. All abilities are welcome! <u>Click here to view the starting point and running route</u>.

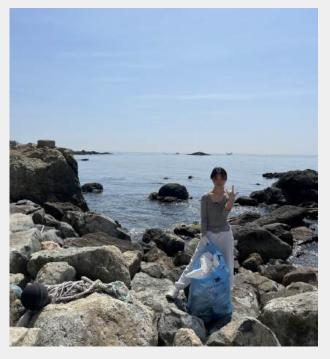
Join the ISB Monthly Beach Cleanup!

We are excited to continue and grow the monthly beach cleanups hosted by the Beach Clean Crew and invite the ISB community to participate! Students must sign a permission form (unless accompanied by a parent/guardian). Let's work together to make a positive impact on our environment!

Next Cleanup:

- Sunday, October 13
- 🚫 10:00 AM 11:00 AM
- 📍 Meet at Songjeong Beach (far left, near 죽도 Park)

We will make an announcement in the MHS Assembly next week, too!



SKAIS ES Futsal Tournament at ISB

We are pleased to announce that ISB will be hosting the SKAIS Elementary Football Tournament on Saturday, September 28th! This is a great opportunity for our young athletes to showcase their skills, teamwork, and school spirit.

At ISB, we're proud to see our students embody the IB Learner Profile as Risk-Takers and Communicators, working together on the field and taking bold strategies against tough competition. Our Bears have trained hard, and this tournament is not just about winning but developing important life skills, building friendships, and, most importantly, having fun. Below you can see the schedule of games, so let's come together to cheer them on and celebrate their dedication, teamwork, and resilience. Go Bears!

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8:45 - 8:50			COACH'S MEETING														
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4:10 - 4:45	11									DIS C	v	BESIC		DIS B	v	DIS C	
4:50 - 4:55							1	hank you and fare	well to all tea	msi							



Battle of Busan: MS Football

Middle School Football took to the pitch at ISB in the Battle of Busan (BoB) MS games on Tuesday. All our teams played extremely well, and although these are considered friendly matches to help support the development of skills and teamwork, we were very happy with the final results. Thanks to BFS for joining us on campus, and let's GO BEARS for the upcoming SKAIS and EAISAC tournaments!



Battle of Busan: HS Volleyball

On Monday our ISB Volleyball teams went up against our BoB counterparts, BFS, ahead of the upcoming athletics fixtures later in the year. Although it is always great to emerge victorious, the purpose of these games is to get real match experience and practise for all students ahead of the SKAIS and EAISAC games throughout the season, allowing students to practise their teamwork, skills, and game strategy before stepping into serious competition. Well done bears for your great efforts, and thanks to our competitors from BFS for some great, friendly competition.



From the Head of School

ISB to Host IB Asia Pacific Professional Development Event

We are delighted to announce that the International School of Busan has been selected to host IB Regional Workshops for the first time in our 40-year history! From 11th to 13th April, 2025, we will be welcoming educators from across Korea and the Asia-Pacific region for a fantastic professional development experience. With 29 IB certified workshops on offer, the event will cover a variety of topics across the PYP, MYP, DP, and Leadership, providing opportunities for both English and Korean speakers. Some highlights include:

- What is AI? An overview of AI in teaching, learning, and assessment
- Wellbeing Across the School Community
- Local and Global Inquirers
- Leading an IB Education
- Approaches to Learning
- Learning and Teaching for Conceptual Understanding

This is a great opportunity for educators to connect, collaborate, and enhance

their IB expertise. We look forward to welcoming several hundred educators from across the Asia Pacific region in April!

For more details on registration and workshop schedules, visit this IB event page.



Evidencing Learning - Parent Workshop

Thanks to all of the parents who joined us for the Parent Workshop on Wednesday. We focused on how we track, assess, and report learning at ISB. The workshop highlighted the school as a continuum of learning (PYP-MYP and DP), which enabled participants to see the broader picture of student growth across each phase of the school.

Special thanks to our IB Coordinators Jennifer Fenton, Solène Matsushita, and Nico Gysbers—for leading this insightful session.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

At this month's ISB Board of Governors Meeting a new Child Protection Policy Handbook was reviewed and approved. This handbook includes the following associated policies, which were also approved: Safe Recruitment Policy, Low-Level Concern Policy and Intimate Care Policy. Additionally, the Board committed to completing online Certified Child Protection Training specifically for Board Members. Please note that the new Child Protection Policy Handbook can now be accessed from the <u>Safeguarding and Child Protection</u> Page on the ISB Website.



Simon McCloskey



From the Elementary Principal

We enjoyed a damp but exciting PYP Sports Camp last week, where students showed great resilience and teamwork despite the weather. With autumn just around the corner, we're gearing up for some exciting upcoming events. The Morning Calm Book Awards are fast approaching, and we encourage our young readers to get involved! This Saturday, our elementary football teams will participate in a tournament, and next weekend, we look forward to the Cross Country meet. Let's continue to support our students in all these wonderful activities as the seasons change and new opportunities arise!



Kevin Smith

Elementary Learning Focus

Sports Camp

We had our 4th annual PYP Sports Camp last weekend with over 60 excited participants. Students enjoyed a handball tournament on the field with a pizza dinner before the weather sent us indoors. The movie night and sleepover in the gym are always a highlight! New friendships were formed, flashlight shadow puppets were made and giggles filled the evening. Our amazing cafeteria breakfast energised the students for a morning of fun activities including volleyball games, handball, 'The Floor is Lava' and a Disco Dance Party. Thanks to our PTA for providing a delicious and nutritious snack for students before they packed up and headed home.





High School Activity Leaders

A special thank you to our high school referees: Aedan, Jisu, Alex and Theo, and the activity leaders: Yumi, Taehee, Kate, Andy, Patrick and Luis. Your enthusiasm and organisational skills were greatly appreciated!



Morning Calm Medal 2024-25 Launched with ES Students!

The 2024-25 Morning Calm Medal event has officially begun for our Elementary School students. They have already enjoyed watching book trailers and listening to author interviews, sparking excitement for this year's selections.

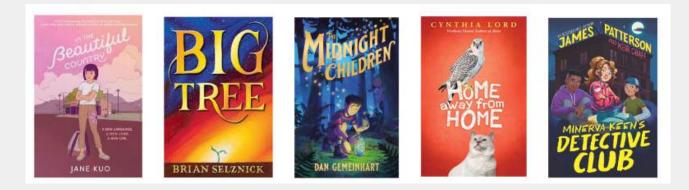


The Morning Calm Medal is an annual book award chosen by international school students in Korea, recognizing outstanding authors from around the world. This year, 25 international schools across Korea will participate. Students are encouraged to read the nominated books, share their thoughts, and vote for their favourites during Book Week in April 2025. We hope all students join this fun event and keep growing their love for reading!

2024-25 Morning Calm Medal Nominees - Picture Books



2024-25 Morning Calm Medal Nominees - Chapter Books



Grade 4 research Map Making

This week, our Grade 4 students dove into map-making for their fictional countries. They started by researching the sizes of real countries to decide on the scale of their own maps. Next, they determined how many regions their countries should have and what made each region unique, from geography to cultural features. After completing their maps, the students presented their creations to the class, sharing the thought process behind their decisions. It was a great opportunity for them to apply research skills, think creatively, and develop a deeper understanding of how maps reflect the diversity within countries.





Grade 1 Explore Signs & Symbols

Grade 1 enjoyed their journey and learned a lot about signs and symbols. They had a lot to share about all of the different signs that keep us safe and that they tell us where to go. Mila shared that before our trip she didn't know what symbols were but now she knows they are pictures that give us information. Many students agreed this was a new understanding.

Thank you to all of the parents who joined us on our field trip. You made it possible to keep us all safe, happy, and learning. We are gaining a better understanding of the different systems that are in our community and how public transportation is a good choice for helping our planet.



Grade 2 - Goal Setting and Healthy Choices

As part of our inquiry into Who We Are (Healthy Choices), we are learning about setting goals and trying to achieve them. Ms Joola came to visit Grade 2 to tell us about the 75 day challenge. We will start our 75 day challenge soon, but first we need to choose our personal health goals. Today we worked in our inquiry groups to discuss and share ideas for goals to help us make healthy choices every day.



Early Years Two Explore Numbers

Throughout the unit of *How We Express Ourselves*, the children have had many opportunities to explore numbers in a range of ways. One example is from last week, when they looked around and recorded the numbers they found in their surroundings. This activity encouraged them to observe the world more closely, developing their early numeracy skills. By recording what they discovered, the children engaged in critical thinking and strengthened their ability to express ideas through numbers, symbols, and visual representation.

This experience connects to our unit, **"How We Express Ourselves,"** by helping children see numbers, like words or art, as a form of communication. Through this experience, they learned that numbers and other symbols can be ways to express and interpret the world around them.



Early Years One Investigate Who We Are

Central Idea: People grow and change over time. To explore the central idea that people grow and change over time, the children looked at family and baby photos displayed in the classroom. They excitedly shared with their friends the people in their family pictures, and they loved spotting their friends in the photos, proudly telling the teacher who they recognized. The children also had fun matching baby photos with their current pictures.

At first, some found it hard to believe that they were once babies, but soon they understood that everyone grows from a baby into a bigger person who can do many things. They were particularly fascinated by the baby photos of the teachers, eagerly trying to match them with the present-day pictures. We're having so much fun exploring and recognizing familiar faces!



Grade 5 inquire into Economic Activities

Grade 5 is diving into their "How We Organize Ourselves" unit, where students will explore how economic activities affect people and the environment. They are investigating the journey of everyday items like T-shirts, food, and electronics to understand the global economic system that connects us all. Students also mapped their personal "ecosystem" to see how far their goods travel, to learn about the impact of consumer choices. They will continue to explore concepts like the importance of sustainable production, how resources are used, and the responsibilities we have as consumers. This unit will encourage critical thinking, collaboration, and an understanding of how our choices influence the world around us. We look forward to seeing students grow as thoughtful, informed citizens!



From the Secondary Principal

It was wonderful to welcome our students back to campus after the Chuseok break. I am sure that everyone was able to celebrate and spend time with family and friends. I trust that it was a restful and rejuvenating break for our students and faculty alike.

During the short school week last week, our Grade 11 and Grade 12 students got involved with the DP retreat. The DP retreat is both an opportunity to complete significant DP related work and learn about specific aspects of the DP and an opportunity to do some fun activities with DP peers. We believe that this time is invaluable to set up a successful DP year for all of our Grade 11 and 12 students.

On Friday, our Grade 6 through 10 students participated in the annual team-building trips. The morning began on campus with specific activities built around the Approaches to Learning (ATLs) to guide intra-grade level team building. After this series of activities, we moved off campus to continue the activities of the day. The aim is for our students to better know each other and learn ways of interacting that will be supportive of learning for the year.

This week was all about getting right back into the heart of the semester! The next four weeks are uninterrupted full weeks of learning. At this time in the semester, many assessments will take place and new units will commence. Students will start to identify their strengths and their challenges in each of their classes. At the end of the month, we will have Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences to ensure that everyone is fully informed as to how your child is doing and what can be done to improve and maximise growth. Keep an eye out for sign-up information for the conferences in the coming weeks.

Please read on to see details about the trips and the Chuseok-related activities that took place in our Korean classes. Please also see the information regarding the launch of the ISB Pathways website.

Secondary Learning Focus

Korean L&L Chuseok Activity

To celebrate Chuseok, Korean A offered students a chance to explore the significance of the holiday and gain a deeper understanding of our traditions through various activities. In the grade 6 class, students learned about the different names associated with the phases of the moon and wrote letters to thank farmers for their hard work. This activity helped them express their

gratitude during the harvest season.

Grade 8 students explored traditional Chuseok foods, including the representative dish, Songpyeon. They learned about the meaning and origin of Songpyeon and then, in groups, planned and made their own. The activity involved mixing the dough and shaping the Songpyeon beautifully. They also wrote thank-you letters to their foreign teachers, making the experience more meaningful.

Gilles Buck









In the 9th grade, students experienced the beauty of tradition through learning calligraphy. They focused on the regular script among various styles and practised writing their names. This activity allowed them to appreciate the elegance of the written characters, cultivate a calm mindset during the process, and enjoy the art of calligraphy.

In their "Language and Media" unit, 10th graders engaged in creative projects to showcase information and cultural values related to Chuseok using various media. They expressed the traditional, lyrical aspects of Chuseok through poetry, created blog posts on how to wear hanbok, compiled Chuseok foods into a small booklet, and produced a documentary-style piece to preserve the



tradition for a youth audience. Additionally, one of the students designed a board game that allows players to learn about Chuseok through fun, interactive gameplay. These activities effectively demonstrated the practical functions of different media in conveying characteristics and intentions to their audiences.

Finally, Grade 11 DP students organized various traditional Chuseok games for secondary students. They planned and conducted a meaningful and enjoyable event, including games such as "무궁화 꽃이 피었습니다" (Red light, Green light), 씨름 (Wrestling), 제기차기 (a game played by kicking a Jegi), 투호 (a game of throwing arrows into a pot), 딱지치기 (a game with paper tiles), 닭싸움 (chicken fight), and 줄다리기 (tug-of-war). They ensured that all students participated in these traditional activities.



MHS Team Building Trips Grade 6 Trip Report

Last Friday, our Grade 6 students had an unforgettable experience at Hero Park in Yangsan. The day was filled with exciting physical activities, including trampolines, zip lines, rock climbing, soccer, jungle gym fun, and an obstacle course. With smiles beaming across their faces, students embraced the opportunity to collaborate with peers, take risks, and step out of their comfort zones. It was a day of growth and adventure, where they developed confidence and teamwork in a fun, dynamic



environment. The entire Grade 6 team had an amazing time, and we look forward to more enriching experiences like this!



Grade 7 Trip Report

It was not a typical school day! The 'Amazing Selfie Race' gave Grade 7 students the opportunity to test their skills of collaboration, teamwork, critical thinking and creativity. Haedong Yonggungsa Temple provided the venue and Grade 7 provided the fun. Whether it was the skill of throwing accurately into the stone bowl, rubbing the rump of a 'suidae', seeking underground dragons or using Maths' formulae to count lanterns, Grade 7 was kept very busy. All of this after a morning of 'luging' at Lotte World.

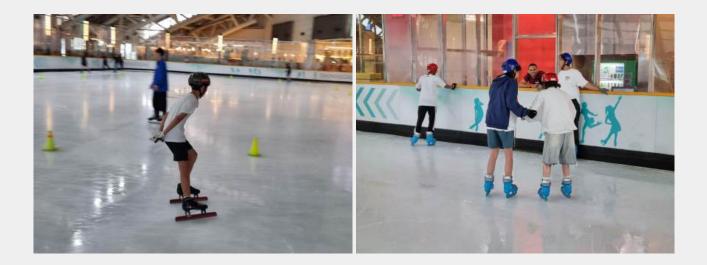


The pace was fast with the Grade 7's energized and enthusiastic. They learnt new things from old, challenged themselves and each other and, all in all, proved that learning does not always need to be in a classroom!

Grade 8 Trip Report

After the team building activities on campus, our Grade 8 students headed for the ice rink. Some of our students got to show off their expert skills while others were real risk takers and tried skating for the first time. After the time at the rink, due to inclement weather, the students had a chance to visit the food court and have some down time socialising.





Grade 9 Trip Report

The Grade 9 Team-Building Activity Day at ISB was a huge success! The day kicked off with fun team-building exercises inspired by the IB Learner Profile, including blind trust walks and group island hopping, encouraging collaboration and communication. Afterwards, the students travelled to Seongjeong Beach for a scavenger hunt, enjoyed lunch, and even had a chance to take some beginner surfing lessons! The students bonded through the various fun challenges, discovering shared interests and strengthening friendships outside the school environment. Well done, Grade 9!



Grade 10 Trip Report

Our Grade 10 students showcased their leadership and organisational skills by leading team building activities for the entire secondary school. Their maturity and enthusiasm were evident as they guided their peers through engaging challenges, setting a positive tone for the day.

Afterward, the students headed to Jangsan for a friendly bowling competition, where their competitive spirits were on full display. The fun continued with lunch at Haeundae Beach, where they



enjoyed the fresh air despite some light rain, taking time to relax and recharge before the afternoon's activities.

The day concluded with an exciting visit to the escape rooms, where the students worked together to solve puzzles under time pressure. Their teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills shone through,

making it a fun and rewarding experience for both students and teachers, even though not everyone was able to beat the clock.



Both students and teachers had an incredible time, and the engagement and positivity from the Grade 10s were evident throughout the entire day. This trip not only provided an opportunity for fun but also to strengthen their bonds. We couldn't be prouder of our Grade 10 students!

Grade 11 and 12 DP Retreat

Last week, our DP students participated in a two-day retreat designed to allow students to step away from their usual classroom environment and engage in meaningful collaboration with their peers.



One of the primary objectives of the retreat was to support students in their academic endeavours. Grade 12 students dedicated time to work on their extended essays, a crucial component of the DP curriculum. The collaborative atmosphere facilitated deeper discussions with peers and mentors, providing students with the opportunity to think critically and reflectively about their work.

Meanwhile, Grade 11 students engaged in a collaborative mural project that introduced them to the five stages of a CAS activity: investigation, preparation, action, reflection, and demonstration. Not only did they create a stunning mural, but they also learned valuable lessons about collaboration and project planning. This experience highlighted how CAS activities can be both enjoyable and educational, laying a strong foundation for their individual CAS experiences in the coming year.



In addition to academic pursuits, the retreat offered opportunities for relaxation and social connection. Paddle boarding and bowling allowed students to bond outside of the classroom, providing time to foster supportive relationships as they navigate the challenges of the DP together.



ISB College Counseling/Future Pathways Program Update: ISB Pathways Website

Greetings! I am happy to announce that the ISB Pathways website <u>bit.ly/ISBPathways</u> is here! The purpose of the site is to serve as a resource hub and a guide for ISB students and their parents/guardians for all things related to post-secondary pathways/career and university planning. There is also a health and wellbeing section full of resources available on the site.

Please see below, some of the post-secondary planning resources you will be able to find on the website:

- Career exploration resources
- University exploration
 resources
- University/program information for different countries around the world
- Resources for applying to university
- Standardised testing information (SAT/TOEFL,etc)
- Resources for writing the college essays/personal statements
- Creating your High School Resume



Please bookmark this site. It will be regularly updated and it is an on-going resource that you are welcome to come back to frequently. I look forward to meeting with students in person to discuss this information and put together a plan that makes sense for them.

Warm regards,

Ms. Hibon Secondary School Counselor and College Counselor <u>ehibon@isbusan.org</u>

ISB at Busan Global City Forum 2024

Members of the ISB Media Team were invited to join the Busan Global City Forum today at Paradise Hotel Busan. Our school is owned by the city, so we were delighted to be part of the action!



The sessions focused on international cooperation and urban development of Busan's sister and friendship cities, and featured the City Mayors from Busan, Park Heong-Joon, Hamburg, Peter Tschentscher, Koper, AleŠ Bržan and Deputy Mayor of Genoa, Pietro Piciocchi for a panel discussion. Other global and youth representatives joined for panel talks and even Busan City Mascot @boogi_in_busan stopped by for a photo op.





It was a great experience for our students to witness how a large-scale event is produced, and what aspects of media are involved in the process. They also learned a lot of new insights into the future of our beautiful port City. Finally, they represented themselves and our school professionally (even when they were let loose on the refreshments table!) so a huge thank you to each member of the team in attendance. Great work Media Team!

From the School Counselor

Downtime is Crucial

Students' days and schedules are busy with attending school, participating in after school activities and meeting other personal and family responsibilities. With busy schedules that are packed with academics and activities, it is important that we create balance in our children's lives. A way to make this happen is to make sure children and youth have downtime and get enough rest (including sleep) every day. Balance helps children/people truly enjoy learning and life in general.



When in balance, students can flourish and thrive at the academic and personal levels. Avoiding overscheduling (both for adults and children) is also an important strategy to ensure wellbeing. Adults can feel overwhelmed and unwell when being overscheduled, too busy and constantly on the go. So can children, there is no difference. Building in downtime and opportunities for relaxation can help support good mental health for all people, including youth. For more on downtime and ideas and steps for creating downtime for children and youth see Why Downtime Is Crucial for Your Child's Schedule.

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



Eco Initiatives at ISB

With International Day coming soon on **October 19th**, the Student Council has organized a selection of food trucks to provide a variety of foods and drinks for the event. In keeping with our school's commitment to being plastic-free, the Eco Club is aiming to significantly reduce plastic use during the event.



We kindly ask all attendees to bring their cups for drinks, as this will greatly help in minimising plastic waste. For food, trays will be provided by the school.



Eco-Schools Green Flag Award To support these efforts, while the event is happening, Eco Club members will be dishwashing throughout the day, ensuring that reusable items are cleaned and can be used again. So it would be great if our attendees could help us by bringing a cup to support our community.

In addition to these eco-friendly measures, we are calling for donations of old PE uniforms. If you have any PE uniforms that you no longer wear, especially as you've grown older or moved up to high school, we encourage you to donate them.

There will be a uniform drop-off box located at the Eco Club booth outside C.4.4 during International Day. Your contributions will make a big difference in promoting sustainability within our school. Let's all work together to ensure that International Day is both enjoyable and environmentally friendly. Every small action counts!

(Below: Drawings of PE kit by the Elementary Eco Club)



Great work to all the PTA volunteers over the past few weeks for providing snacks, encouragement, and support to our students, teachers, and community.

From the PTA

International Day - October 19th, 2024

Here's everything you need to know about this year's Annual International Day Event!

- > <u>Tickets</u>
- > <u>Sign up</u>

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 <u>pta@isbusan.org</u>.



Please check the flyer in the whole school news section for more information on the next Parent Workshop and PTA Coffee Morning, and mark your calendars for another wonderful chance to learn and grow together as a community!