



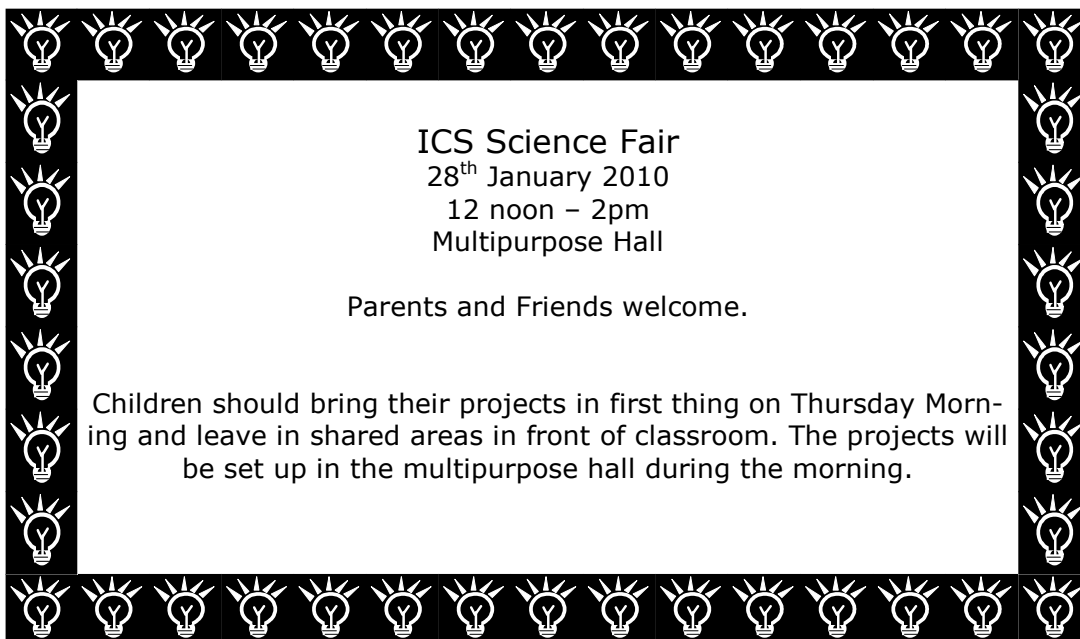
International Community School (ICS)

27.01.10

Year 2009-2010, Issue 17

Wednesday's Newsletter

- Primary Science Fair— 28th January
- Half Term—12th -20th February
- Food Fair—16th April



ICS Science Fair
 28th January 2010
 12 noon – 2pm
 Multipurpose Hall

Parents and Friends welcome.

Children should bring their projects in first thing on Thursday Morning and leave in shared areas in front of classroom. The projects will be set up in the multipurpose hall during the morning.

British Schools of the Middle East

Parents may be aware that the ICS is a member school of the BSME. This is a prestigious organisation to which all the best British Curriculum schools in the region from Libya eastwards to the Gulf and Pakistan belong. The only other school in Jordan which is a member is the Aqaba International School, which was accepted recently and there are no schools which are members in Syria, Lebanon or Turkey. Most of the member schools are in Egypt and the Gulf. Jordan hosted the BSME annual conference two years ago and this years conference, which takes place next week, is in Bahrain. David Price will attend the conference this year as the ICS representative. There are quite stringent regulations about membership which involve a scrutiny of the curriculum, teaching methods and quality of the teaching staff in the member schools. The conference will provide an update on the most recent developments in the British National Curriculum and on the regulations for member school inspection.

Mr Price will provide a fuller account of the most important parts of the conference in next week's newsletter.

Clarification—Cafeteria

Further to our information two weeks ago, please note that the cafeteria is catered by a private company who utilise Crumz products.

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SECONDARY NEWS

Secondary News

Congratulations! I am sure that all parents would like to join me in congratulating Saqib Safdar on the birth of his son who arrived this Monday at around 3 in the afternoon, UK time. Saqib will be back as soon as it is reasonably possible.

Also Congratulations are due to one of last year's Year 11 students. Shazaa Hafeez was given an award which was celebrated at the EDEXCEL High Achievers Award ceremony last Wednesday for scoring one of the highest marks in the world in GCSE Urdu, this would include many children taking the exam in Pakistan! Well done Shazaa.

- David Price, Head of Secondary

Deputy Head News

Secondary Mid-Year reports were issued at the end of last week and all parents should now be aware of the performance of their children. Please remember to see the calendar on our website and take notice of dates for the issuing of reports. Some children forgot to share theirs with parents! (Can't think why?) With this in mind you are kindly requested to be pro active in making sure your child shares their report. Please be reminded that parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for 2nd and 8th March but feel free to raise any concerns with your child's form tutor or subject teacher. Please be advised that there is a Key Stage 4 & 5 information evening on 10th February, designed to inform parents and students moving into our A Level Programme. All are welcome.

Study Skills

In the run up to Key Stage 4 and 5 exams in May, please be supportive and ensure that your child is doing the required amount of study at home. We suggest a quiet but shared family space so that actual work is monitored as opposed to the imagined work that goes on in bedrooms behind closed doors. Please contact your child's Key Stage Coordinator if you are in any doubt as to the required amount of hours. Together we can work to ensure that all our children fulfill their potentials and strive for success.

Uniform

We have an agreed uniform policy which can be viewed on our school website – page 26 of our hand-book. Most of our students adhere to the policy but some have decided to bring a flavour of 'Paris Fashion Week' to our corridors. Please support us with making sure that your son or daughter comes to school in the correct uniform. Thanks so much for your support.

Key Stage 5 News

Year 12 and 13 are having their mock exams which begin on Sunday 31st January. We wish everyone the best of luck. We look forward to grading work which shows the progress they have made! Please ensure that your son /daughter is working hard at home and **is attending school every day**. There is NO study leave before the mock exams.

Congratulations to Apurva Deshmuk Yr 13 who did well in resit examinations. Keep up the good work and keep reaching for the stars!

Ski Trip

The designated KS5 ski trip is happening as per our school calendar from the 24th February until Saturday 27th February. We are very excited about this trip and look forward to this activity as a forum for team building, responsibility, leadership and maturity. A letter is going out to students on Thursday.

- Mr. Carlo Murphy, Deputy Head of Pastoral Studies / KS5 Coordinator

Secondary News continues on Page 5

Primary Update 14 - What is Numeracy?

Numeracy is a skill, which involves confidence and competence with numbers and measures. It requires an understanding of the number system, a bank of computational skills and an ability to solve a variety of problems by using an assortment of methods or strategies. By the end of primary school, pupils should have mastered a wide-range of skills and concepts.

They should:

- have a sense of the size of a number and where it fits into the number system.
- know by heart number facts such as bonds, tables, doubles and halves.
- use what they know by heart to figure out answers mentally
- calculate accurately/efficiently, both mentally and with a pencil and paper, using a range of strategies.
- recognise when it is appropriate to use a calculator and how to use it.
- make sense of number problems and know what operations are needed to solve them.
- explain methods and reasoning using correct mathematical vocabulary.
- judge whether their answers are reasonable and have checking strategies.
- suggest suitable measuring units and make sensible estimates of measures.
- explain and make predictions from the numbers in graphs, diagrams charts and tables.

What are 'Numeracy' lessons like?

To ensure that there is adequate time for developing Numeracy skills, each class teacher is expected to provide a recommended minimum time for mathematics, which should be on average about 45 minutes per day in Key Stage 1 and 50 to 60 minutes in Key Stage 2.

A typical lesson will be structured like this:

- **Oral work and/or mental calculation:** (5-10 minutes) whole class work to rehearse, sharpen and develop mental and oral skills.
- **The main teaching activity:** (about 30-40 minutes) direct teaching and pupil activities. Work as a whole class, in groups, in pairs or as individuals.
- **A Plenary:** to round off the lesson (about 10-15 minutes) work with the whole class to sort out misconceptions and identify progress, to summarise key facts and ideas and what to remember, to make links to other work and discuss the next steps, and to set work to do at home.

What do we aim for in Numeracy?

At ICS we aim to share with the children, the joy and fun of learning; the understanding of mathematics and consequently increase their mathematical confidence and proficiency by using it as a powerful tool. In doing so your child will be:

- able to recall basic facts and have the ability to use them in a variety of contexts.
- able to think clearly and logically and to develop reasoning and communication skills.
- fostering positive attitudes towards mathematics by developing pupil confidence, independence, perseverance and co-operational skills.
- confident and proficient with numbers and measures, and have an ability to solve problems in a variety of contexts.

Opportunities will be used to draw mathematical experiences out of a range of activities in other subjects and to provide opportunities to apply and use maths in real life, problem-solving situations.

Maths will also contribute to other subjects in practical ways e.g. science – graphing/recording results from investigations; art – technical drawings and tessellating shapes; history – sequencing timelines; DT – calculating materials for projects; PE – timing events/measuring distances. The list is endless.

By the end of Year 2 the average child should have achieved Level 2b and by the end of Year 6 Level 4b.

Primary Update 14 (continued)

How can parents help to develop 'Numeracy' skills?

An easy way to boost your child's skills and motivation is by showing them how useful number skills are in almost everything we do. Children can have fun:

- measuring height and working out how much they've grown.
- on car journeys – playing number plate games; adding/subtracting with road signs; thinking about speed by dividing distance by time.
- at the shops – weighing fruit/vegetables; budgeting with pocket money; comparing prices/weights.
- in the kitchen – with weighing and measuring; temperature and timings.

Make a game out of putting little problems to your child and letting them reason things through, prompting as little as you can. Praise your child for trying, even if they get stuck or get things wrong. You can take advantage of the overlap between learning and enjoyment in almost any setting. New experiences and discoveries are always stimulating, and they don't have to be expensive or elaborate.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/work/primary/numeracy_and_science/index.shtml

This is a good website to visit and gives links to other valuable pages and sites.

We will be covering the different operations and new strategies that are used to teach children in subsequent newsletters.

Gill Tyrer, Head of Primary

PE News

The ICS school teams' practices next week will be according to the following programme:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Yr 4 & 5 Boys Football Team | Monday 2:00-3:00 | Thursday 2:00-3:00 |
| Yr 6 & 7 Boys Football Team | Sunday 2:00-3:00 | Tuesday 2:00-3:00 |
| Primary Swimming Team | Sunday 2:00-4:00 | |
| Secondary Swimming Team | Tuesday 2:00-4:00 | |
| Girls Track & Field Team | Sunday 2:00-3:00 | |
| Boys Track & Field team | Thursday 2:00-3:00 | |
| KS 4 Track and Field Team | Thursday 3:00-4:00 | |
| Girls Football Team | Sunday 2:00-3:00 | Tuesday 2:00-3:00 |
| Running Team - Dead 2 Red | Saturday, 9:00–10:30 at ICS | |
| Yr 5 & 6 Basketball Team | Tuesday 2:00-3:00 - Girls | Wednesday 2:00-3:00 - Boys |
| Secondary Girls Volleyball Team | Sunday 3:00-4:00 | |
| Secondary Boys Football team | Wednesday 3:00-4:00 | |

Football Match

The ICS football teams will play a friendly football match against the IRIS Academy teams this Saturday 30th January. The match will take place at the ICS according to the following schedule:

Year 6&7 Football team at 12 pm till 1 pm

Year 4&5 Football team at 1 pm till 2 pm

Running Team

Thank you to all parents and students who took part in the running sessions since the beginning of the year. Running will stop for next week. We plan to start the week after, but will confirm in the newsletter and with the students.

- Mohammed Awwad, on behalf of the PE team

Secondary News (continued)

Key Stage 4 News Mentoring Programme for Year 11

As parents of Year 11 students are aware, our individual weekly mentoring sessions are now underway. These sessions are designed to actively encourage our students to achieve their true academic potential within the given timescale.

Your child has been assigned a teacher who will hold weekly meetings with him/her to set targets which are realistic and measurable as well as reinforce the need for thorough revision and completion of all tasks set in school to the required standard for (I)GCSEs.

Your child's mentor will provide a letter of introduction and advice on how best to revise as well as some useful websites. We feel that it would be useful to look through this pack together with your child.

The Secondary School would appreciate any feedback you wish to give. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail: k.law@ics-amman.edu.jo

- Kath Law, KS4 Coordinator

CHARITY — HAITI FUNDRAISER



www.mercycorps.org.uk

25 Jan 2010

To all Students and Staff
International Community School
Umal Basarim
Amman
Jordan

Dear Friends

HAITI EARTHQUAKE

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your efforts in raising over JD2,815 to support our urgent response to the Haiti Earthquake.

The people of Haiti are living through a dreadful experience, and we are all working as hard as we can to do everything possible to help them through this experience.

Your action in making an effort to raise this huge sum is tremendous, and a shining example to students and staff in schools around the world.

We salute you, and thank you, and I can assure you that the money you have raised will certainly contribute to saving lives and rebuilding the future for many people in Haiti.

With my warmest best wishes

John Cunningham
Director of Corporate Development and Fundraising

Ed: Apologies for the quality of the above letter's text—it did not import well into the newsletter..

Activity News

Activity News

Bike Rush 2p – 3 pm students must hurry to the front gate at the start of club dawdling means less cycle time after safety gear has been fitted. Don't forget layers of suitable clothing and wet weather gear.

British Ballet Organization (Off Campus Club) Club on 5 Sheraton Hotel

To maintain our small class sizes we are adjusting the number of sessions available in certain levels. Attached is a new timetable. Call Miss Arabiya for registration 0777 212626

Dear Ballet Parents,

We hope you're all having wonderful start to the New Year!! Below is the latest Ballet timetable. Due to an increase in the number of students we have had to add some extra classes for certain grades.



| | | | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| SAT | Grade 4 (9:30-10:15) | Pre-Primary (10:15-11) | Pre-Syllabus (11-11:30) | Pre-Primary (11:30-12:15) | Primary (12:15-1) | Grade 1 (1-1:45) | Grade 6 (1:45-2:45) |
| SUN | | | | Grade 5 (6:30-7:30) | | | |
| MON | | | Pre-Primary (5:30-6:15) | Grade 2 (6:15-7) | | | |
| WED | | | Primary (5:15-6) | Grade 2 (6-6:45) | Grade 3 (6:45-7:30) | | |

In response to some enquiries we have had, the Ballet exam forms for the Annual BBO Amman Examinations will be distributed in February. Please keep warm and take care. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us: Edwina Issa 0777 202288 OR Arabiya Issa 0777 212626

Scouting

Thank you for responding to our requests to aid re-establishing the ICS Scouts. Your letters are being forwarded to Mr Ricardo Veloso.

Private Music Lessons

A number of students have absented themselves from their instrumental lessons over the last week. Do remember if you are absent you must inform the office or Mrs Jichi in advance. Any class where an apology is not forthcoming will be considered as taught, as quite often a teacher comes to the school for only one student. We trust in your consideration in this matter.

Drama, Art, Music, History Educational Visit Yrs 10 – 13

This exciting educational visit to London taking in Theatre, Performance Workshops, Practical Music, Galleries, Exhibitions and living archives is well underway in its planning. Final deposits by Thursday am of this week please from Years 10-13.

Walking Club

Weather permitting, the walking club will meet on Friday February 5th for a fairly easy wadi walk. It should take most of the day. Full details will be sent out to all those on the list, and will be published in next week's newsletter.

South Pacific

Mrs Tanjeer in conjunction with Mrs Lina Oweiss have been kind enough to coordinate the costuming of our show. We are currently seeking donations of floral blouses and army fatigues, if you have any unwanted clothes of this description we can re-cycle!

Edwina Issa, Activity Coordinator (e.issa@ics-amman.edu.jo)

Food Fair News (APRIL 16!!)

Hello again everyone.

In the last Newsletter I sent a lot of information concerning the Food Fair, the activities, the help and participation we need from you and the ICS staff and students. Very few responded and attended the open PSA meeting we had on Sunday 24th. We greatly appreciate their effort, ideas and contributions.

For those who did not respond or attend, allow me to express myself honestly: Please, please! DO NOT think that if you do not help someone else is bound to do it! It never works this way. This is a dangerous mindset; with enough people thinking this way we could end up with too few volunteers to make it work.

We all care about our children and the best way to help in their development is by example. One sure way is by showing them that volunteering and participating is a noble and desirable act. It might start with the PSA Food Fair and one day it might be helping in say, Haiti. They need to learn to care and be involved. You can instill this in them.

So here we go again!

We need people to bring Raffle Prizes. If you as a parent can get us something small we will not have to go around begging for prizes. The more prizes we have the more raffle tickets we can sell and the more money we will make to distribute to charity and to help with the school's Wish List. Last year we were able to buy a "baby grand piano".

We need people to bring a "bottle or jar". This could be from a bottle of ketchup to a perfume or an alcoholic beverage. These have to be new, full, not expired and clean please.

We need sponsors. If you know any company (or your own company) that might be interested in sponsoring the Food Fair, we have several levels which they can sponsor. We offer a lot of benefits to the sponsors - depending on the level of participation - and we would gladly send them an invitation letter specifying the levels, benefits and amounts involved. Please help with this. As a group, you know many more than I or any other one person can ever know.

Finally; There are about 48 different nationalities registered in the school. I expect this number to be higher if you account for the nationality of the spouses. The children are registered under the surname which tends to be the father's surname. This does not show the real picture. As an example, our daughter, Zoe, is registered as Greek after me. However, her mother is Welsh and in fact she participates in the Welsh Food Stall.

We have a person interested in a Latin American Food Stall. On her own she cannot handle it. Are there any Latin American parents who would like to join forces to have a stall? Other nationals might have the same problem. If your nationality is different than your husband's please indicate it to Gaynor at the reception desk.

PLEASE GIVE IT YOUR ALL!

Thank you,

Andre Peridakis
PSA Chairman & Food Fair coordinator

FOOD FAIR—16th APRIL 2010

How can I help?

Being involved in the food Fair is a lot of fun and there are many ways that you can contribute. Anything you can do, no matter how big or small, will be appreciated. Below is a list of activities we need help with:

Run an International Food Stall

Ask anyone who has done this, it takes a bit of effort, but it is a huge amount of fun on the day. If you are interested, please complete the attached form and send it to the school office.

Help on the Bottle Stall Any full bottle or jar is welcome for the bottle stall: perfumes, aftershave, Arak, wine, ketchup, shampoo, etc. (Just make sure it is new, and not expired.)

Bake cakes for the Cake Stall. Bake your favourite cake, muffin, slice or biscuits for the cake stall. These can be delivered the day before, or on the day.

Serve on a PSA stall on the day. The PSA/school has a lot of stalls, such as drinks, cakes, bottle stall and raffle stall where you can volunteer to serve for an hour on the day.

National Costume Parade. Does your child want to participate in his/her national costume? interested, please complete the attached form and send it to the school office.

Collect prizes big and small. We need lots of prizes for the Food Fair, from major prizes for the Grand Raffle to small children's prizes like sweets or stationery items, so if you can collect anything from contacts that you have, it would be great. Please ask when you are out and about in Amman for donations eg: at restaurants, jewelers, beauticians, etc. All items can be delivered to the school office.

National Flag Send us your flag. It will be hung on an outdoor wall with the others, and will be returned to you afterwards.

See you soon!

Andre Peridakis/PSA Chairman

Tel. 0777 200004

e-mail: andre@sadara.io

I would like to help for 1 or 2 hours on April 16th during the Food Fair

Name:

Telephone no.:

I am definitely interested in organizing a Food Stall at the Food Fair.

Name:

Telephone no.

Country:

I need help! Please connect me with parents of the same nationality to consider a food stall.

Name:

Telephone:

Country:

My child would like to take part in the National Costume Parade

Name of Child:

Class:

Country:

PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Food Fair Forms - Where and how can I help? Please complete and return to Gaynor or Hazel

| Areas you can help | Yes |
|--|-----|
| I can help with face painting | |
| I could help on the cake stall | |
| I can help in collecting raffle prizes | |
| On the day, I can spend a couple of hours working on (please check one or more): Selling entrance tickets _____ Selling games tickets _____ Selling drinks _____ Selling cakes _____ Other _____ I don't mind where I help _____ | |
| I am interested in coordinating: The parent help list _____ The handicraft stall _____ The children's games _____ The soft drinks stall _____ | |
| If you have any other skills that you think will be of help, please list them here: | |
| On the day of the Food Fair (April 16 th) I can come in early (at around 9.00am) to help coordinate things. | |
| Wait a minute, I can also help in getting: Cash sponsors Raffle Prizes | |

Name: _____

Tel: _____

E-Mail : _____

Nationality _____

Children _____

Year _____

Mrs Nasser's Charity Collection

Twice a year I organize a collection to help those in need. My first collection this year will be in January 2010. The boxes will be placed in the foyer of the administration building.

The following items are in demand:

Adult, child and baby clothing, shoes, toys, bedding, school bags and water bottles. Plain and lined paper and pencils. Arabic and English reading books - all ages.

All items should be in good clean condition.

Thank you for your support, Julie Nasser

Classifieds

Reputable international organisation is seeking ad-hoc interpreters from Dari, Farsi, various Kurdish dialects, Urdu and Sinhalese into English or Arabic. If interested please contact Madalena Hogg at 079 9782406

New or second-hand SOFA wanted: ring Mazen: 079 6651525

The Embassy of Japan in Jordan
In collaboration with Japan Foundation and
Japanese Community Association in Amman
Proudly Presents
"Piano Recital by Mari Kumamoto"
Ms Mari Kumamoto
At the Terra Sancta College
Wednesday 3rd February 2010 at 19.00

RSVP: Dima Goussous, Tel 5932005 ext 117

Winter Sunshine In Aqaba

Luxury Beach Apartment

Available over Christmas and New Year

Sleeps 4/6, huge private roof and balcony

See www.aqabaholidayhome.com or e-mail tudor@jemstone.net

Also for family tours of Wadi Rum see www.wadirumtours.com

Toys for sale - please contact Rikke Nielsen (079 645 9614)

| | |
|--|-------|
| Rollerblades, inliners incl. protection kit | 30 JD |
| Wooden train set from IKEA with 48 pieces | 15 JD |
| Wooden construction set with 58 pieces | 10 JD |
| Wooden puzzle Noah's ark | 10 JD |
| Wooden board game | 10 JD |
| Wooden Ravensburger animal game | 10 JD |
| 2 Domino games, a piece. | 2 JD |
| Puzzle with 100 pieces | 5 JD |
| Puzzle with 500 pieces | 5 JD |
| Disney puzzle ball princess | 5 JD |
| Djego mermaid puzzle with 36 big pieces (3+) | 10 JD |
| Dora Puppet playhouse book with sound | 5 JD |
| Pippi Longstocking puppet theatre with Pippi, the Monkey Hr. Nielsson and the horse | 5 JD |
| Doctor set | 5 JD |
| Tea set with lots of kitchen utensils and plates | 5 JD |
| Post office set | 5 JD |
| 2 Barbie size wardrobes, a piece | 5 JD |
| 3 My little ponies with brushes, trunk, mirror etc. | 10 JD |
| 4 sport timers, a piece | 5 JD |
| 2 bags for girls, a piece | 5 JD |
| Polly pocket car, with doll and a wardrobe | 10 JD |
| Cash register with microphone | 5 JD |
| 2 pilates balls, a piece | 5 JD |
| Mosquito net | 10 JD |
| Books in English, a piece | 3 JD |
| Sun parasol, beige | 15 JD |
| 2 green glass "book keeper" lamps, as a set | 20 JD |