



## International School Eastern Seaboard

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 11, 2009

### Dear ISE Community,

Welcome back to the 2009-2010 school year. We are off to a great start. We particularly welcome all the new students and their families to the ISE community.

### Open House

We were pleased to see so many families at the elementary and secondary open house programs. It is particularly important that parents attend to meet the teachers and learn more about the class requirements. If you have any comments or suggestions about the open house programs, please let Mrs. Naro or me know your thoughts.

### Progress Reports

The first quarter of the school year is almost half completed. Academic progress reports will go home on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure to ask your son/daughter for this report. If you have any questions on this, please contact Mrs. Fedoruk in the counseling office.

### MAP testing

Please see Mrs. Naro's note about the MAP testing that will begin today. The grade 6 and 7 students will take these achievement tests. MAP results will be available for parents on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 A.M. in the ISE auditorium. If you can not attend the meeting, the results will be sent home with your child on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

### In-service day

One of the goals in the secondary school is to develop a middle school philosophy. This will allow us to take a look at the programs and classes we offer to our grade six, seven and eight students. On September 21<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Steven Smith from the University of South Queensland, Australia will lead two workshops for our teachers to help them develop our middle school philosophy. There will be a number of other workshops as well. The teachers from St. Andrew's School will join the ISE teachers and staff on this day.

### Email contact

We will begin moving to electronic communications with our parents. We find that all parents have access to Email messages and that the best way to send important school information home will be through our website. We have asked all parents during the Open House programs to update their family data including their Email addresses. If you have not done this, please contact the school office to pass along the information. We will inform you later about details of this change. Next month the ISExpress will be sent home electronically.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank all the parents, students, faculty and staff who were so kind to send notes and flowers to me after my surgery in July. All is well and I'm recovering nicely. I will continue my cardiac rehabilitation for a few more months. I was disappointed to miss the opening of school, but am pleased to be back.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Brewitt  
Superintendent

### MS Student Council



## Dear Parents,

We are back hard at work and it is a joy to watch your children learn throughout the day. I would like to remind parents that it is very important for children to arrive at school well rested and having eaten a good breakfast. Often teachers will find that their students are low on energy and this is a direct result of not getting enough sleep or not having a good breakfast. Please keep in mind that Elementary School students should not be going to bed after 8:00pm and they should have a well-balanced breakfast that includes both fruit and protein.

## Open House

Thank you to all the parents for attending this year's Open House. It was nice to speak with many of the families and I look forward to getting to know the new families better.



## Book Fair

Our first book fair of the year was a huge success. Please mark your calendars for the next book fair on Dec 7-9. This next book fair will be with Foyles Educational Group.

## After School Activities

Today Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup> was the first day for elementary ASA's. Please remind your children to bring whatever they need for their activities. If you have not already paid, please send your payment to the elementary office as soon as possible.

## Conferences and Progress Reports

On Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> the Elementary School will be holding their first student led conferences of the year. On Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> parents will receive an

invitation from their child's teacher to attend the conference. As we have made changes to the conference and reporting system we are asking that parents please try to attend the conference at the preselected time and date. If you cannot attend on either the Wednesday or Friday please let the ES office know.

## MAP Result Meeting

The Measure of Academic Progress test results for students in grades 3-7 will be distributed at a parent meeting on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am in the cafeteria. At this meeting we will discuss the results and what it means for your child. If you are unable to attend the meeting, the results will be sent home with your child Friday afternoon.

## Parent Meeting

On Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> we will hold a parent meeting to learn more about the ise website and technology. Do you know how to send an email with an attachment? We will discuss all types of technology problems that you may face. Please come prepared with questions to ask. This will be a hands-on session. The group will meet at 8:30 am in the cafeteria and then break off into groups in the computer lab.

## Dates to Remember:

- |             |                                         |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Sept 11-16  | MAP tests                               |
| Sept 18     | ISE Holiday                             |
| Sept 21     | ISE In-service (no school for students) |
| Sept 30     | ES Birthday Table<br>Dress down day     |
| Oct 14 & 16 | Student led conferences                 |
| Oct 19-23   | Chulalongkorn Holiday                   |

Have a great weekend,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Naro". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Heather Naro  
Elementary School Principal

## Wai Kruu Ceremony



On Thursday, ISE held the annual Wai Kruu ceremony for students to pay respects to their teachers and request the teachers to accept them as their students. Teachers acknowledged this respect by accepting flowers and then asked the student to promise to be good students and citizens.



In Thai culture, the Wai Kruu ceremony expresses the importance of showing gratitude to teachers and is a vital part of the traditional Thai educational system. Thais believe that performing the Wai Kruu will bring students good luck and success in learning. This year, let us hope that the students of ISE study diligently, demonstrate good citizenship, and have a successful year.

### Elementary soccer

Please look for information concerning the elementary soccer program for this semester in your child's Friday folder. If you did not get a paper and your child is interested in playing soccer, please contact Kelley Potisit at [kpotisit@ise.ac.th](mailto:kpotisit@ise.ac.th) or contact the office to sign up for our after school soccer sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays. All of the games will be on Tuesdays

this semester. We are looking forward to a fun season.

### Eastern Seaboard Football Academy

Mr. Terry Dempsey, former Thai National Team assistant, has been doing special training football sessions at ISE as well as some of the other schools in the Eastern Seaboard. There are several extra opportunities this semester to train with Mr. Dempsey and with players from other schools. Below is the schedule:

Monday	4:45-6:00	Grades 4 to 8 at Regent's
Tuesday	4:30-6:00	Grades 4 to 8 at ISE
Weds.	3:30-5:00	Grades 4 to 8 at St. Andrew's
Thursday	4:45-6:00	Grades 6-12 at Regent's
Saturday	8:30-11:30 am	All ages at St. Andrew's

If you are interested in any of these extra sessions please see or email Ms. Kelley at [kpotisit@ise.ac.th](mailto:kpotisit@ise.ac.th).

### Why IB?

As our students become immersed in the rigors of the IB courses, this may be a good time to remind students and parents alike of the rewards of completing the diploma program. With that in mind, I have compiled an abbreviated list of these advantages for your consideration:

- The IB diploma program educates the whole person, emphasizing intellectual, personal, emotional and social growth.
- The program develops inquiry and thinking skills, and the capacity to reflect upon and to evaluate the world critically.
- The program provides a well-balanced course of studies, ensuring a broad academic exposure as well as opportunities for specialization.
- The program provides a curriculum which is uniform in structure throughout IB schools worldwide.
- The program provides an internationally accepted qualification for entry into higher education around the world.

- The diploma is a mark of distinction that shows an exceptional level of academic achievement.
- The IB exam results are a credential accepted for advanced credit by most US and many worldwide universities. Higher level exams are preferred.

To put it simply:

- The IB diploma is an outstanding pre-university program that will prepare students for the rigors of higher education.

Timothy Overacker  
IB Coordinator

### **ISE PTA General Meeting Wednesday, September 2, 2009**

President- Nena Meath opened the meeting at 12:05.

1. Introduction of Board Members .Being the first general meeting of the new school year and having only had one Board meeting this year, there are few items to discuss and announce. Some upcoming things are:
2. Family Fun Day- Held Nov 29, volunteers are needed as this is a huge event for the PTA. Nena passed around a signup sheet for those interested in assisting.
3. The PTA would like to have a Korean and an Indian representative on the Cafeteria committee. Please inform a Board member if you are interested.
4. Next General Meeting will be held in the cafeteria, November 11 at 8:30am.

#### **ES Principal- Ms. Naro**

Open house was a success last week.

1. Some changes requested per the survey sent out.

- a. Longer time with specialists (this will be implemented at next year's open house.)
2. ASA- notifications will be sent out Friday, Sept 4, as to which ASA your child is participating in.
3. MAP Testing schedule
  - a. Beginning September 11
  - b. Will test grades 3-7
4. Class Photos
  - a. As of now this will be done week of Sept 14. This date has been changed. Effective, Friday, September 4, class photos will be taken week of September 7.
5. No school September 21<sup>st</sup>. Teachers will attend an in-service day at ISE. St. Andrews staff has been invited to join the professional growth seminars held that day. A presenter from Australia will be here. Seminars on tech, reading and e-portfolios will be held, among other seminars.

#### **HS Principal- Dr. Brewitt**

PTA is very important group for our school. Building on Teacher- Student-Parent unit.

1. Email addresses update. During open house this afternoon, Secondary School parents will have a chance to update this information.
2. Open House
  - a. Today, Wednesday, Sept 2, beginning at 12:45 in the cafeteria.
  - b. Pick up your students schedule and begin rotation to visit with teachers
3. This school year, ISE Secondary School will be looking at Middle School philosophy and class offerings. Looking at changes that may need to be made for future years.
4. WASC Accreditation
  - a. Currently ISE has the maximum term allowed. Current accreditation ends March 2011. A lot of work to be done to

- prepare reports for ISE's next accreditation.
  - b. Teachers look over program
  - c. Parents will be asked for feedback through surveys
  - d. Reports are finished by June 2010, visit by WASC team March 2011.
5. Progress reports will be sent home for Secondary students, Thursday, September 17.
  6. College Application process
    - a. Grade 12 students
    - b. ½ of our 21 seniors are taking full IB course.
  7. MRISA (Mekong Region International Sports Association)
    - a. This also includes Cultural MRISA
    - b. Great turnout of students to participate and to be chosen for MRISA events.
  8. ASA (After School Activities)
    - a. This is open to Middle School students who were not chosen for a MRISA team.
  9. Nurse program
    - a. A letter from Dr. Brewitt and Ms. Naro will be sent home Friday, September 4 regarding screenings that will be tested on the students throughout the next few months. Scoliosis, eye testing, hearing, and height.
    - b. All this information is available to the parent after testing is complete.
    - c. If you wish for your child to not be tested in any of these programs, please inform Dr. Brewitt or Ms. Naro.
  10. Secondary School Open House begins directly after this general meeting.  
Please go to cafeteria.

Meeting closed by- Nena Meath at 12:35