

30 May 2016, Gothenburg

May update from the Head of School

Dear Parents,

It is officially summer in Sweden with temperatures reaching the 20s and long sunny evenings, followed by some rain of course! It is also nearing the end of the academic year, with much activity across all sections of the school.

The PYP5 Exhibition evening, which represents the culmination of the PYP, was held on Wednesday, 18th May. The key concepts of the projects were form and function with a focus on improving the School from this perspective. We plan to incorporate many of the ideas presented by PYP5 students at this year's exhibition, together with ideas from the broader student council groups, into our ongoing master plan for improving school facilities. The master plan for facilities will be presented to parents in the Fall term.



PYP5 students enjoy an appreciation video following their music performance (left) while (right) proud PYP5 teachers pose in front of a student stall

On Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June there will be increased traffic and activity around Göteborg Campus due to graduation celebrations at Hvitfeldtska and IHGR respectively. We recommend you do not try parking at Göteborg Campus on these days as road access will be restricted.

The ISGR Board has been constituted for the next year and is now in place (as of 3rd May) comprising the following members:

<u>Regular Members</u>	<u>Substitute Members</u>
<i>Chair</i> Carola Granell (S)	Solveig Hallin (S) Alexander Abenius (M)
<i>Vice Chair</i> Kristina Tharing (M)	Dennis Ljunggren (S) Evalotta Liljezin (M)
Johan Holmberg (S)	Pia Sundh (MP)
Johan Ahlsell (M)	Johanna Flanke (AB Volvo)
Karin Pleijel (MP)	Peter Elmfeldt (SKF Sverige AB)
Helene Odenjung (L)	
Thord Jansson (SD)	
Paul Wellander (Volvo Cars)	
Elisabeth Björk (Astra Zeneca)	

Strategic planning and school goals

The ISGR Leadership and Education Management teams conducted a strategy session on 13th May. The session concentrated on developing metrics for our School goals and identifying the links and dependencies between our focus areas. Our Strategic Plans were presented to parents in April and the next update will be provided early in the new academic year.

Accreditations Update

Work on the renewal of our CIS and IB accreditations is continuing.

Our CIS evaluation groups have been conducting the 'Self-Study' in their respective areas. Groups comprise staff, leadership, board and parent members. Also coming up on the 15th & 16th June is the critical teaching & Learning evaluation (Part 2 Section B), which includes a comprehensive analysis of the curriculum by teachers. The next phase of the CIS process is Part 3 - Strategies for Improvement. As CIS Coordinator Fredrik Wilen is now on parental leave, James Teasdale will be taking over coordination of the next phase of the CIS evaluation. Please feel free to contact James James.Teasdale@isgr.se with any questions about CIS.

For the IB, PYP evaluation, we are now concluding our Self-study processes and compiling results, ready for the creation of action plans. The next steps in the process are:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| May-June 2016 | - Parent Focus Group Reflection meeting |
| June 2016 | - Results & Summary shared in digital presentation |
| September 2016 | - Parent Focus Group meeting |
| September 2016 | - Results & Action Plans presented at PYP coffee morning |
| October > | - Action plans are implemented according to their timetable |
| January 2017 | - IB Visits ISGR |

For further information on the IB Evaluation process for PYP, please contact the PYP Coordinator: Ellen.Trelles@isgr.se

Open House meetings next term

In September each year the School holds “Open House” meetings for parents to learn about the education programmes and other aspects of ISGR. This year, the Leadership Team will also present the ownership, governance and funding structures. We are also translating documents to help parents to further understand the operating framework of the School.

Leadership at PYP

As previously advised, the recruitment process for a new PYP Principal will commence early in the new academic year. Information about the process and criteria will be provided at the first Parent Council and PTA meetings of the Fall term.

PTA

We recently said thank you and farewell to parents who have served on the PTA, as well as welcoming new members to what is one of the most important groups in the school community. One of the departing members is the Chair, Karen Celebuski, who will be greatly missed. We warmly welcome the new Chair, Danielle Landes-Campen, and continue to encourage parents from all parts of the school to help maintain the momentum of this amazing group. For further information about joining the PTA and it’s activities go to: www.isgr.se/PTA

Facilities update

At Guldheden Campus, the scaffolding for the brick works has now been erected on the playground side of B-Wing. Some painting has been completed on the school yard, including “The King’s Square” and the markings for the outdoor basketball court. Further playground developments are planned for next school year. The PTA and the Student Council will also meet on Tuesday to present the new outdoor playground equipment. A reminder that the schoolyard gates at Guldheden need to be kept closed. Please ensure that you close the gates behind you after passing through.

At Götaberg Campus, the outside work on the ‘Bamba’ building is continuing and will be completed before the start of the new school year. As mentioned above, a facilities master plan showing the development stages completed and the next stages to come, will be presented in the Fall term.

The end of term activities can be an exciting but also stressful time for our students. We encourage you to help them celebrate their many achievements, and to also support them as they contemplate the move to their next level of learning!

Kind regards,

Birgitta Sandström Barac

Head of School

birgitta.sandstrom.barac@isgr.se

T +46 (0)31 708 92 15

