

Dear PYP Families,

We have started the year well with what seems to be a very successful PYP Evaluation. We received some very positive verbal feedback from our two visitors. Our school made a very good impression! Our students, staff and parents really show good support of the PYP programme. Our PYP leadership team is strong and well-defined. Our teachers make a very hard-working dedicated team. There are some excellent examples of PYP practice in our classes. The adoption of Managebac as a tool for documentation and communication has been positive.

We will of course be getting feedback about areas where we can improve and grow. We look forwards to this!

Last but not least, we congratulate Moragh Randall who will take over as Principal when I retire at the end of this school year.

Kind Regards,

Marilyn James
PYP Principal



Many Ways to Celebrate

Grade 1 students received a variety of special guest speakers while learning about How We Express Ourselves. They investigated the central idea: There are many ways to celebrate. Through participating in different cultural celebrations, hearing guest speakers and researching celebrations from around the world, students developed their appreciation of their own culture and that of others. Pictured above is former ISGR teacher Beth Andersson who came to talk to students about celebrating Hanukkah.

Dates for your Diary

- Feb. 1** Parent Council Meeting
*monthly
- Feb. 13-17** Sport Break (school closed)
- Feb. 27-March 10** Reading Weeks
- Feb. 27-March 3** CIS Evaluation Visit
- March 6-7** School Closed-Study Day
- March 11-** PTA hosted Disco
- March 16th** PYP Coffee Morning
- Week 14** Community Week
- Week 15** Spring Holiday (April 10-17)

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Our IB PYP curriculum is:

Inquiry-based: Our teaching methods build on learners' individual knowledge and interests, and emphasise learning how to learn and how to find out. Our inquiry incorporates local and global issues into the curriculum, asking learners to explore six related, transdisciplinary themes and to consider the links between them.

Integrated: The subject areas of maths, language, science, social studies, information technology, the arts, physical education and library are taught through transdisciplinary themes in order to help students make connections between the subjects, thereby facilitating more effective learning.

Individualised: Around the IB PYP framework we are developing a detailed program reflecting the diverse composition of our school population and work to tailor to the needs of each individual student.

ISGR Programme of Inquiry

*If you can contribute to a unit of inquiry, please contact a teacher from the grade level!
We highly value experts and guest speakers!*

Kindergarten	Central Idea How the World Works: There are many different ways to move objects.
Grade 1	Central Idea Sharing the planet: Physical spaces can be designed for different people to use.
Grade 2	Central Idea Sharing the Planet: Living things and their habitats are connected and affected by change.
Grade 3	Central Idea How We Express Ourselves: Through the arts people can creatively express ideas and feelings.
Grade 4	Central Idea How the World Works: The human body is a complex and versatile system.
Grade 5	Central Idea How the World Works: Energy is all around us and always changing.



Classroom Spotlight: Swedish

In Swedish, Advance, Intermediate and Beginners we started the year with discussions and reading text about what New Years is about. Then we discussed moving from 2016 to 2017, and repeated the months and seasons of the year.

In Kindergarten we started with exploring "Winter" and learned many new words about this time of year.

In grade 1 the students are learning about 'Transportation' and in grade 2 "Living things" which refers to many of the animals we see here in the Swedish Winter.

In Grade 3 we are discussing and working with all the different ways to express ourselves, such as how famous artists do it in art, music, literature.

In Grade 4 we are exploring 'The Human Body' in terms of the systems of the body.

In Grade 5 we are working with reading and writing a variety of texts, for example how to write a letter or create a newspaper report.



IB PYP Evaluation: What's Next?

Thank you to our school community for your contributions in a successful and insightful visit from the IB organization! The students were especially helpful in sharing their portfolios and giving the visitors a thorough tour of the school!

Next, we will receive feedback from the visitors in 4-6 weeks if there are any urgent matters to be addressed. Then, in June-July the IB will send the school an official report based on their observations during the visit. This will be shared with the school community through a coffee morning in Autumn 2017. The full report will be accessible on ManageBac.

Learner Profile of the Month:

Courageous!

Many students demonstrated being courageous on our ice skating outing last week!



Admissions

Withdrawals

The withdrawal deadline to avoid late withdrawal fees for the spring term is **April 30th**. Please submit a withdrawal form if you know you will not attend the New Academic Year 2017-2018 at ISGR. Withdrawal forms can be found on at:

<http://isgr.se/int/pdf/ISGR%2016-17%20pdf/ISGRPYPWITHD.pdf>

All forms should be sent to the admissions office or emailed to

admissions@isgr.se

PYP Coffee Morning

Our next PYP Coffee Morning will be on Thursday February 23rd the topic will be about the units of inquiry. We will dissect a unit and talk about all of the important parts that make up a unit of inquiry.



ManageBac and SchoolSoft

ManageBac - Curriculum & Communication: <https://isgr.managebac.com>

If you need assistance with ManageBac, please contact Ellen Trelles (ellen.trelles@isgr.se)

School Soft - Registry & Attendance: <https://sms6.schoolsoft.se/isgr>

If you need assistance with SchoolSoft, please contact Moragh Randall (moragh.randall@isgr.se)

ManageBac - Student Portfolio

This month we invite you to become more familiar with the **Student Portfolio** in your child's ManageBac account. In the portfolio, learning goals are recorded, messages and meetings can be shared, the report can be accessed (Reports Tab), and an overview of curriculum can be viewed (Summary Tab).

School Soft - Address and Telephone Update

If you have moved, changed your telephone number, or email address, please remember to update your contact details in School Soft. This is how we access information to contact you from the school. It is extremely important for the security and safety of your child that this information is kept up to date. **A helpful hint: Your School Soft username is the first three letters of your child's first and last name!**



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Embrace Diversity, Explore the World