



12th October 2016, Gothenburg

Letter from the Head of School

Dear Parents,

The season has suddenly turned, with cooler weather but also bringing some nice autumn colour. We are starting to realise that it's time to find a warm winter jacket and make sure our children have rain coats too - in Sweden we have a saying, there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing!

PYP Principal Recruitment process and feedback

We have received a good number of applications for the position of PYP Principal. Our task now is to go through the applications and develop a short-list of candidates. The next step will be to begin the first round of interviews to be conducted in early November by the recruitment group, which is made up of ISGR Board members (including representatives from the companies) and the Head of School.

We have received good feedback from parents about the criteria points that our parent community wish to be considered during the interview process. This information will be collated and discussed with the PYP Parent Council at a meeting on 20th October. A final parent criteria list will then be shared with the parent community at the end of October.

Facilities

Our plans to improve and upgrade our existing facilities are continuing. We are now focusing on the Götaberg Campus reception area (level 2) and the 'Student Hub' area outside the library (level 4). The plan is to have a similar look and feel to what has been created at Guldheden Campus, yet reflect the needs of the older students of the middle and upper schools. The improvements also include new lockers (on level 1, 2 and 5) and some new 'multi-purpose' furniture, as well as painting with some new colour in the corridors, as is being done at Guldheden Campus.

We are also planning improvements to the environment in the PE Hall and change room areas. We are installing new lockers in the change rooms and reviewing our routines for ensuring student well-being during physical education.

New premises

A group from the Board, including representatives from the companies - SKF, Volvo, and collaboration with our owner GR - is investigating options for new premises.

Currently there are two-three centrally located places being evaluated. We will keep you informed on a regular basis about the progress being made.

ISGR Website

We have recently made some improvements to the ISGR website to help you find the information you need and provide direction for concerns or queries.

Student or classroom based concerns should always be addressed to the Class Teacher or Advisor in the first instance. School-wide issues should be addressed through the Parent Council. If a problem cannot be resolved satisfactorily then we have a procedure to follow, which is detailed in the form: [Handling of Complaints](#).

Please take a look in the new *Parent Zone* for further informaton: www.isgr.se/parentzone

Included in the *Parent Zone* are our School Calendars. We are working towards more synchronized systems and 'single sign-on' not only to make it easier for parents, but also for school administrators to manage information. For now however, our website and *ManageBac* (IB) / *SchoolSoft* (Lgr) calendars are serving different purposes.

The website calendar is to promote events relevant to the whole school or more than one section (eg. in-service days), while the *ManageBac* / *SchoolSoft* calendar is meant for events relating to a specific programme (eg. PYP Coffee morning). If you have children in two sections, then you will see events for both sections in your *ManageBac* / *SchoolSoft* calendar.

PYP Videos

We have created two short videos to help promote the fantastic work being done in the Primary Years Programme and provide new perspectives on the teaching and learning process. Please take a moment to view them at the following links:

- [An insight into the PYP](#)
- [A 'behind the scenes' look at the PYP Exhibition](#)

Winter Bazaar

The annual Winter Bazaar will be held on 20th November and is one of our biggest and best events showcasing the rich diversity in our community. The ISGR PTA is looking for volunteers to help make this year's event as festive as possible. If you can help with preparations or during the event, please send an email to isgr.winterbazaar@gmail.com or contact a PTA representative.



My next letter is planned for mid-November so I will take this opportunity to wish you well for the coming weeks, and then a nice and relaxing term-break (Week 44, 31 October-6 November).

Kind regards,

Birgitta Sandström Barac

Head of School

birgitta.sandstrom.barac@isgr.se

T +46 (0)31 708 92 15

