



13th June 2017, Gothenburg

End of Academic Year Letter from the Head of School

Dear Parents,

We are nearing the conclusion of the academic year, with the many activities, celebrations and ceremonies occurring across all sections of the school, as well as some important final assessments. Collectively it is a busy but exciting time for students and teachers.

The end of year assemblies and graduations will also be particular highlight. Guldheden Campus will have its final assembly on Wednesday 14th June from 8.45am-9.30am and will feature a PYP/LgrP Choir performance and graduation ceremony for our PYP5 and Lgr5 students. The graduation assembly for MYP and LgrM will be from 11:00am-12:30pm on Wednesday 14th June in the Hvitfeldtska aula (adjacent to Götaberg Campus) and will include valedictory speeches and the presentation of academic achievement awards.

Accreditations Update

This academic year involved significant work on our accreditations and was also a year in which we hosted two evaluation visits. We are very grateful to all the parents, staff and students involved not only during the visits, but also for contributions throughout the ongoing evaluation processes.

The IB evaluation visit for PYP occurred from January 23rd to 25th, and involved assessing and reflecting on our practices, particularly concerning our implementation of the Primary Years Programme. The report from this evaluation has been received and pleasingly, all standards were rated by the IB as showing 'satisfactory development', with no specific 'matters to be addressed'.

Our Council of International Schools (CIS) evaluation visit, involving a team of 13 members from international schools all around the world, took place from 25th February to 3rd March. The CIS visitors complimented the ISGR community for its positive school spirit, commended progress made since the last evaluation, and determined areas for further development. The report from this evaluation has now been received outlining some major commendations and also some recommendations, including some specific 'matters to be addressed'. The matters will be addressed in two phases, the first of which involves components of safety procedures,

including CIS's enhanced emphasis on child protection policies, which is prevalent in the new CIS standards. The second phase focuses on the documentation of alignment in our curriculum, both in terms of sequence within the programmes and alignment across sections of the school.

As always, the ISGR Leadership team will continue to integrate findings and development recommendations from our various evaluations and accreditation bodies into our overall strategic planning process. Our aim is for continuous improvement which supports the achievement of our School vision, mission, goals and newly launched values!

Parent Council and PTA

Thank you to those parents who have served on our Parent Councils and provided essential support and constructive feedback to the School. The Parent Councils play a pivotal role in ongoing improvements in the operations of the School and we are grateful for the contribution you have made.

And another big thank you to our amazing parents in the PTA, who are not only vital to School but also to the vibrancy of the international community here in Gothenburg. Each year, the PTA events get even better and truly demonstrate the ISGR values of diversity and community.

This year the PTA also branched out into ISGR clothing including hats and hoodies, which were particularly popular amongst my own family:



For information about joining the PTA and its activities go to: www.isgr.se/PTA

Key dates for 2017-18 Academic Year

PYP 1-5 Newcomers' Day: Tuesday, 15th of August, 8.30am - 10.30am

MYP Newcomers' Day: Tuesday, 15th of August, 11.00am - 12.15pm

PYPK Individual talks for parents & students: Thursday 17th & Friday 18th August

First day of Fall Term (new academic year): Thursday, 17th August, 2017

Fall term break: ('Week 44'), 30th October 2017 to 5th November 2017

Last day of Fall Term: Thursday 21st December, 2017

First day of 2017-18 Spring Term: Tuesday, 9th January, 2018

ISGR 20th Anniversary Celebrations

A highlight of this year has been the celebration of ISGR's 20th Anniversary! A number of events were held to commemorate the milestone in the School's history, including many student activities and excursions, as well as a dinner for teachers, staff and board members. Attached you will find my Head of School speech delivered on the evening, which documents the sentiment of what ISGR has come to represent for members of the ISGR community.



*Students release
biodegradable balloons
at Guldheden Campus
to mark
20 years of ISGR!*

Thank you to the whole ISGR community for contributing to what has been a memorable year for ISGR year. Our students have completed major steps in their education and prepared for their next phase of learning. As always for an international school like ISGR, for some students this means moving on to new schools as families relocate for new living and learning experiences.

A special farewell to our PYP Principal Marilyn James, who is retiring from ISGR after 20 years of service! Marilyn has played a significant role in the the School's development and will be greatly missed.

I wish everyone a wonderful and safe summer break, and for those continuing at ISGR, we look forward to welcoming you back in August.

Kind regards,

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Head of School

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