

21st December 2016, Gothenburg

Letter from the Head of School

Dear Parents,

Gothenburg is aglow with festive lights providing colour and warmth to the season, and helping us get ready for the winter holidays. We have had a successful first term with many highlights in our classrooms, and in our community of life-long learners as well!

Winter Bazaar

One of the main highlights on our school calendar is the annual Winter Bazaar, which is organised by the PTA and was held on 20 November. It is the largest charity raising event for the school and it was again a fantastic event. A big thank you to the PTA, as well as all students, staff and parents who volunteered their time to make the Winter Bazaar a success, and help raise over 113,000 sek!

Lucia celebrations

The annual Lucia celebration is one of the most notable cultural traditions in Sweden, with distinct origins from the peasant communities of old and symbolic references to darkness and light, cold and warmth.



Along with the candles, crowns and choirs, celebrating

Lucia also includes ginger snaps and sweet, saffron-flavoured buns ('lussekatter') eaten with glögg or coffee!

At ISGR, Lucia celebrations were held for Guldheden campus at Annedal Church (Annedalskyrkan, pictured above) and for Göteborg campus, the Lucia concert was at Vasa Church (Vasakyrkan, pictured left).



Admissions Update

The end of term also brings for some families the end to their time in Gothenburg. This term we are farewelling approximately 25 students from the international section. The New Year also brings new starters, and we will welcome approximately 35 new students.

PYP Principal Recruitment process

Following a first round of interviews involving six candidates, the PYP Principal recruitment process is proceeding with three candidates for a second round of interviews in January. All of the remaining candidates have extensive experience in the PYP and also with accreditation processes. Two of the candidates are coming from other international school's abroad and one is an internal applicant. The interviews will take place at different dates during January. We are continuing to use the criteria from the job advertisement along with the criteria input collated from the parents to determine the best person for the position.

20th Anniversary Celebration

ISGR is still a relatively young school, but as well as growing in size, we are also 'growing up' in stature as we undertake our 20th year. We hope the current IB and CIS evaluations, culminating with visits by evaluation teams in January and February, will demonstrate our development, with confirmation of our quality through successful re-accreditation. 20th year anniversary celebrations will take place from week 19 (8-12 May, 2017) with further details to be provided early in the new year.

Renovation

Renovation work to improve the appearance and function inside Götaberg Campus will commence in January. The first priority will be painting and seating in the level 2 Reception area and the 'Student Hub' area outside the library (level 4). As previously explained, we are concentrating on creating student areas that reflect the needs of the older students of the middle and upper schools, while connecting with the look and feel of the renovations at Guldheden Campus.

I would like to thank you again for contributing to our School community this term. I wish everyone a fun and safe festive season, and we look forward to a prosperous Spring Term with school commencing on Tuesday, 10th January, 2017!

Kind regards,

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Head of School

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