



22nd February 2017, Gothenburg

Letter from the Head of School

Dear Parents,

Welcome back from 'Sportlov', the winter holiday in Sweden when skiing is a popular activity for families. From now we begin to notice the days getting a little brighter, but not yet much warmer, as the winter can linger in Gothenburg.

CIS Evaluation Visit

Our Council of International Schools (CIS) evaluation visit is happening from 25th February to 3rd March. A 13 member team will visit the School. You will easily recognise the CIS visitors by the ID badges that they will be wearing. This team evaluation visit is the culmination of the CIS reaccreditation process and follows the Self-Study (incorporating the Opinion Survey) and preparation of 14 Reports, which has occurred over the past two years. We are very grateful for the valuable contribution from many parents who have participated in the process, and who will meet with the CIS visiting team during the week.

Guldheden Playground

Plans to improve the playground areas at Guldheden Campus are continuing to be implemented. To the right of the PE Hall there will soon be a new artificial grass area. The existing sandpit will be extended and a new sandpit will be added. Outside of B-Wing there will be new tables with seats to form an 'Outside Classroom'. This area will also include a sunroof shelter. These playground improvements will be paid for by the School.

PYP Principal Appointed

As previously announced, Moragh Randall has been appointed as the new PYP Principal. Moragh will take over from Marilyn James in August 2017. The recruitment process began in September 2016. 28 candidates applied and 6 candidates were interviewed. Our internal candidate and 2 external candidates were then asked back for a second interview. These candidates were interviewed by the following groups: Student Group Teachers/Staff group Principals Group Recruitment Group (Made up of Board members) Each group was asked to present feedback and rate the candidates. The recruitment group then took this into consideration when working on the final decision. Marilyn and Moragh will begin the handover as of now to ensure a smooth transition. We are currently working on the process for appointing the Deputy and PYP Coordinator positions.

Götaberg Campus Student Center

A new staff member, Harry Sommarström, has been appointed to work in the Götaberg Campus Student Center. Harry will work in the Student Center on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Peter Bilek will continue in the Student Center on Thursdays. The Student Center is open every school day from 9.30am to 2.30pm.

'Friends' Social Media Sessions

On Wednesday 5th April there will be a workshop regarding students and social media, and what your role should be as a parent. This will be run by the 'Friends' organisation who work with schools on issues of well-being, bullying, and the increasing influence of social media in children's lives. There will be two meeting sessions held concurrently - one in Swedish at Hvitfeldtska Aula and one in English at our Götaberg Campus Aula - commencing at 6pm. All parents are encouraged to attend at the relevant meeting.

The next Head of School Letter will be in mid-March when amongst other things we will report on preparations for ISGR's 20th Anniversary celebrations planned for Week 19, beginning Monday, 8th May. Until then I hope you and all our students get back into the swing of Spring Term, with all the exciting activities ahead!

Kind regards,

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Head of School

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