



19th January, 2016

A warm welcome to the Spring Term 2016!

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to ISGR and a special welcome to new families joining us for the Spring term! I hope that you enjoyed a rejuvenating time during the winter holiday and New Year period, and that our students are all settling back into the new school term.

A major focus for this term is our continued work on both the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IB) and the Council of International Schools (CIS) accreditation processes, to ensure we keep on target to be renewed in 2017. The areas of focus are linked to our School vision and goals, including differentiation in the classroom, working with new technology for learning, and to utilize the advantages we have with two sections and many cultures. We will shortly be seeking parent involvement in these processes and encourage interested parents to participate.

This January we have 19 new students in PYP and 12 new students in MYP. The majority started last week and we have a few late arrivals joining ISGR in the weeks to come. We had introduction meetings for the parents and students at both campuses on their first day of school. The meetings gave families the opportunity to learn more about the PYP and MYP programmes and to ask questions.

Our student numbers in the International section are now at 335 students in PYP and 211 students in MYP. In total we have 546 students in the International section.

In the Swedish National section we have 13 new students, making a total of 434 students for this term.

We also welcome some new members of staff, mainly joining the Pre and After-school Learning (PAL) and PYP teams.

In the Head of School letter at the end of last term, some new safety and security procedures were outlined. Given the various incidents that have affected communities around the world, we continue to work closely with our procedures and develop measures to be implemented.

A summary version of our Crisis Plan is now available in each Reception for parents and short term, substitute staff to review. New emergency cards, with quick reference information, have also been developed, and will be available to visitors to the school. These documents are linked to our 'Internal Alarm' procedure, and designed to help our response to threatening situations.

Please also be reminded that we have centralised our school entrances so that they can be surveyed from the Reception areas, and side and back entrances to the school have been upgraded with alarmed doors. We ask that all parents use the main entrances and report to reception to register and obtain identification badges, before proceeding through the school. Please support this process by remembering to display the badge that you obtain, and use the appropriate main entrances to the school. We are also investigating further access controls, including extensions to our 'swipe' card system for passing through certain doorways. If you are in any doubt about the correct procedure, please ask a staff member.

We are looking forward to the many highlights this term holds for us, including the reading and culture weeks, and various exhibitions of student work - please regularly check the school calendars online in the "Parent Zone" of our website for the latest information on coming events: www.isgr.se/calendar

We wish all parents and students 'god fortsättning' - continued success in the Spring Term!

Yours faithfully,

Head of School

Birgitta Sandström Barac

Birgitta.Sandstrom.Barac@isgr.se