



# The Bear Essentials



*The International School of Busan Weekly Newsletter*

Friday 17th February, 2023

Volume 4, Issue 22

## CONTENTS

Featured Story  
Whole School News  
From the Head of School  
From the Elementary Principal  
PYP learning Focus  
From the Secondary Principal  
Secondary Learning Focus  
Introducing Simon McCloskey  
From the PTA

## IMPORTANT DATES

20th - 24th February - Home and Family Languages Week  
Tuesday 21st February - SKAC ES Volleyball Final at AIS  
Wednesday 22nd February - Parent Workshop  
Friday 24th February - End of Season 2 After School Activities  
Wednesday 1st March - Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Friday 3rd March - Teachers vs Parents 7-a-Side Soccer Match  
Monday 6th March - MYP Personal Project Showcase  
6th - 10th March - Secondary Art Exhibition

## Featured Story



It was an exciting first day for all teams taking part in the Middle School KISAC Volleyball tournaments. The Girls teams played fiercely here in Busan, while the boys teams were in Jeju for their matches. We are proud of all our athletes, and are looking forward to cheering our teams on over the weekend! A big 'thank-you' to Athletics and Activities Director, Mark Howarth, for organising the tournament here at ISB and to all our coaches who have been training and supporting the teams. Go Bears!

### Safeguarding and Child Protection

At ISB, we take safeguarding and child protection very seriously. We believe that schools fill a special institutional role in society as protectors of children. ISB has a comprehensive [Child Protection Policy](#) in place and all staff receive formal safeguarding training. Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Programme includes the following:

- Training for all employees to recognise signs of suspected abuse and to follow appropriate protocol for responding and reporting.
- A focus on prevention with age-appropriate lessons provided to educate students on personal safety.
- Criminal background checks for all employees prior to hiring.
- A safe recruitment policy which stipulates a requirement for written and verbal reference checks from previous direct supervisors for all employees.
- A Code of Conduct signed by all staff that guides interactions between adults and children.
- Compliance with Korean law (ISB is mandated by Korean law to report suspected cases of child abuse to the relevant authorities).



The School uses a security company (ADT) to ensure the safety of students and CCTV is installed at strategic locations across the campus. All ISB Staff and Faculty complete the [ECIS Child Protection Certification Course](#) and all subcontracted staff complete an online Child Protection course in Korean provided by [Childsafeguarding.com](#). ISB has been [recognized for its commitment to protecting children](#) through Child Safeguarding Awareness training of its employees and staff.



# RECOGNIZED SCHOOL

## International School of Busan

Has been recognized for its commitment to protecting children through Child Safeguarding Awareness training of its employees and staff.

The Designated Child Protection Officer at ISB is Amanda Illeperumaarachchi ([amandai@isbusan.org](mailto:amandai@isbusan.org)).



## MUN in Jeju

After many months of behind the scenes preparations and after school meetings, the day has finally arrived for the GECMUN Conference in Jeju. This is a great opportunity for our student delegates to meet with, debate, discuss and make new connections with their counterparts from other schools in the country and region. Our 14 delegates, who are in different committees, are busy presenting their opening speeches and position papers. They will then debate these over the next two days and formulate and agree on resolutions. There is an air of excitement and purpose and our delegates are representing their school professionally. The many months of preparation have paid off!



In preparation to win the bid for the 2030 World Expo, one of the goals for the current Mayor is to make Busan more convenient for international visitors. They are enlisting international residents to take part in civic activities to make Busan an English-friendly city!

As one of the largest international resident populations in the city, we have a great opportunity to voice our opinions on how Busan should keep enhancing its infrastructure and services for the convenience of the international community.

If you would like to get involved, please see the attached poster and apply through the Busan Foundation for International Cooperation (BFIC) by scanning the QR codes on the poster.

The First to the Future  
Green Smart City, Busan

## The recruitment of **civil activists** for the 2023 Busan **English-friendly city**

**When**  
APPLICATION PERIOD : **FEBRUARY 6 (MON) TO FEBRUARY 28 (TUE)**  
SELECTION DATE : MARCH 13 (MON)  
ACTIVITY PERIOD : MARCH TO DECEMBER 2023

**Who**  
**40 Activist!** (20 Korean and 20 foreign residents)

**What**  
Participate in promoting the city as an English-friendly destination

**How**  
Applications can be found by scanning the QR code on the poster and Submitting the form online

**Benefits include**  
- Receiving a certificate  
- Commendation from the mayor

Activities will involve the presentation of policy proposals, promotion through social media and other channels, attending events, and more.

Participants will be selected through a document review and interview process (results March 13).

**For more information,**  
Contact the Busan Global Center Call Center(1577-7716) or  
The Global Citizen Support Department of the BFIC(051-711-6847)

Application Form(Korean) Application Form(English)



Special Menu

# Mexican Food

Wednesday, 22nd FEB, 2023

## Salad

Mexican Corn Salad  
Lime and Chili Cucumber Salad  
Mexican Chicken and Rice Salad  
Mexican Meatball Salad

## Hot Items

Mexican Rice  
Mexican Pork Chops  
Chili Con Carne  
Corn Chip with Chicken, Pork Pastor, Beef Bistek  
Burritos with Chicken, Pork Pastor, Beef Bistek

## Sauce

Pineapple Salsa, Cucumber Salsa, Avocado Salsa  
Black bean Salsa, Chili Salsa, Tomato Salsa  
Sour Cream, Avocado Guacamole  
Cheese Sauce, Coriander & Chili Pesto

## Soup

Spicy Corn and Crab Chowder

## Dessert

Flan (Mexican Cream Custard)



At ISB we believe that technology can enhance the teaching and learning of all subjects. Technology supports a student-centred classroom, frequent formative assessment, feedback, differentiated instruction, collaborative learning, access to varied resources, and authentic audiences for students. We strive to ensure that teachers and students have the skills to utilise technology to enhance learning.

**There are times in the day however, when we believe that it is important for students to socialise, chat, play and learn how to interact without devices.**



Simon McCloskey

It is for this reason that **we ask all students to keep mobile phones and smart watches in bags or lockers while on campus. Students using phones or smart watches in class, during lunch time or at break time will be asked to put their devices away. Repeated use of phones will result in confiscation of the phone for the day.** The exception to this may be when a teacher asks students to use their device during the school day for the purpose of learning or when a student asks a supervising adult to use their phone for a specific purpose. Should you need to contact your child in case of emergency during the school day, please get in touch with the Elementary or Secondary Secretary using the school phone number (+82 51 742 3332). We would be very grateful if you could help us implement this policy by speaking to your child to remind them that they should not be using their phone during the school day.

# A.I.@ISB

## Community Retreat

Come join the discussion and help shape the future adoption of Artificial Intelligence at ISB.

**Where:** ES Hall B5.1  
**When:** 12:45pm-4:00pm Fri Mar 10th  
**Who:** Teachers, Students, Admin and Parents  
**What to Bring:** Charged Laptop & Phone

 QR Code or Mini URL to sign up!  
**[bit.ly/AIatISB](https://bit.ly/AIatISB)**



Dall-E2 Prompt:  
A Korean student thinking about the future of education, how will AI balance technology and tradition. Styles: positive, Korean traditional art, technology, futuristic. Colours: Burgundy, Grey, White, Black

### AI@ISB Community Retreat

On Friday 10th March, ISB students, teachers, administrators and parents will be coming together for a very special event. The AI@ISB Community Retreat is a chance for all stakeholders to share their ideas around the emerging world of Artificial Intelligence in education. As this new technology will undoubtedly have an immense impact on the way students gather, make sense of and share their learning, it's important that we as a school engage in a conversation now on the appropriate use of this technology for our unique environment. Through a series of engaging discussions, thinking activities and by experimenting with the tools themselves, we will begin to outline the parameters of use around generative AI at ISB in a way that is safe, responsible and respectful. We will be sure to share a recap of the event and its end products at a later date! [Click here if you would like to be a part of this discussion.](#)

## From the Elementary Principal

In our assembly this week, students learned about the importance of multilingualism and the sustained development of their Home and Family languages.

This was the launch of our Home and Family Language Week which runs for the whole of next week, incorporating the UN International Mother Language Day on February 21st.



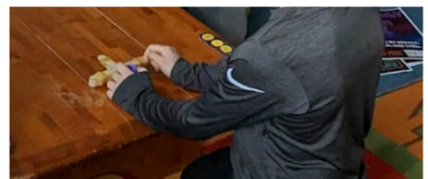
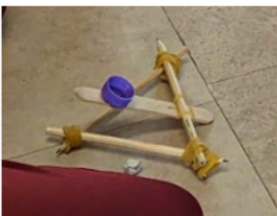
Kevin Smith

International Mother Language Day recognizes that languages and multilingualism can support inclusion. UNESCO encourages and promotes multilingual education based on mother tongue or first language. Multilingualism contributes to the development of inclusive societies that allow multiple cultures, worldviews and knowledge systems to coexist and enrich each other. Next week, we will have a variety of activities for the students to experience, learn about and appreciate some of the rich home languages used at ISB. More news coming in next week's newsletter.

## PYP Learning Focus

### Grade 4 investigate Catapults

To explore the relationship between potential and kinetic energy students designed and developed games using elastic energy. Students took turns, playing each other's games and offering constructive feedback.

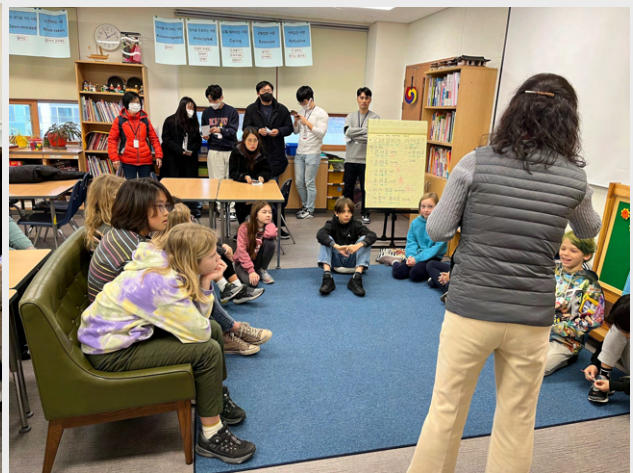




## Youngson Elementary School Visit

We hosted 28 educators from Daegu's Youngson Elementary School on Monday 13th February to share our experience with the PYP. This state school is newly authorized with the IB and wanted to come and speak with our teachers about their planning and practice with the programme. During their visit they were welcomed and introduced to our school by Mr. Simon McCloskey, with a translation provided by Ms. Helene Won.

The visiting teachers then observed lessons throughout the Elementary School to see the PYP in action. At the end of the day we held job-alike meetings in which our teachers were able to discuss with the visiting team issues and practicalities of planning for and implementing the PYP. It was a wonderful learning opportunity for all involved and we feel most fortunate to have been able to build our relationship with another PYP school in our region.



## Grade 6 Designs for Grade 1

Grade 6 design students delivered their wonderful products to the grade 1 students who had dreamed them up as part of their How We Organize Ourselves Unit. Both grades learned that we follow the design cycle when we are working on large projects. Grade 6 shared the process they followed from the beginning through delivering the products. Grade 1 shared how they followed this same process when creating their shadow puppet shows. See more pictures below!







## Home and Family Languages Assembly

The students launched the upcoming celebration of Home and Family Languages Week at our assembly on Thursday. Students heard poems in other languages and had an opportunity to share their home languages with their peers, adding them to a large world map. We have 39 countries and 28 languages represented at ISB! A big thank you to the following students for sharing poems with us in one of their home languages:



Korean - Melina Grade 4

Japanese - Rina, Grade 3 and Kona, Grade 11

Chinese - Mina, Grade 4

Tagalog - Xian, Grade 5

Portuguese - Pedro, Grade 11

French - Angie, Grade 5

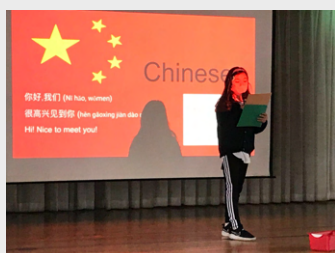
German - Aubrey, Grade 5

Spanish - Gael, Grade 4

Norwegian - Ingvor, Grade 5

Russian - Iakov, Grade 5

We look forward to welcoming our parent readers next week. If you missed the sign up for this in last week's newsletter and would really like to take part, please [complete this form](#) as soon as possible (before Monday).





### **Student Led Conferences: March 1st, Save The Date!**

Student-led conferences (SLC) will take place on Wednesday 1st March. These conferences empower students to take responsibility for their learning and be active promoters of their own achievement, efforts and attitudes in school. The SLC gives students an opportunity to show ownership of the learning process by taking the lead as parents listen and ask questions. The student-led conference is one form of reporting used in our school. For more information about the SLC, please [read this document](#). We will be sending out a link to sign up for your child's SLC next week.

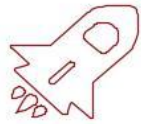
### **Grade 2 & 4 Share the Learning**

This week, the Grade 2 and Grade 5 buddies shared some of their recent learning engagements. The older students demonstrated their 'bouncy eggs' which had been treated with vinegar to cause a chemical reaction. It was very exciting to see which eggs bounced and which eggs squished!

Then the younger students taught a maths game 'Race to 100' to their Grade 5 buddies. This was a great way to practise their communication skills and also good preparation for our upcoming Student-led Conferences.





[illegible]



This was a very busy week for Secondary. Gilles Buck went to Hong Kong as part of a CIS accreditation team. On Monday, the Anchored For Life students hosted a new student mixer complete with treats, fun games and a chance for new students to ask their peers questions about life in Busan and ISB. On Tuesday, the student council raised money with Candy Grams. Wednesday, the weather confused us all. Thursday, the MUN students went to a conference in Jeju. The MS boys volleyball team also traveled to Jeju on Thursday to compete in a tournament at NCLS, and today and tomorrow ISB is hosting the MS girls volleyball team tournament.



Gilles Buck

A special thanks to all those teachers making these events possible: Mustak Nakhwa, Gearoid Byrne, Amanda Illeperumaarachchi, Brent Johnson, and Chris Marzouk.

Last Friday, the Assembly Club got everyone off to a great weekend with a fun-filled assembly. Hannah and Kyeong-Min astonished everyone with their musical knowledge and winning rounds against student and teacher teams.

A. KISAC PUBLIC SCHOOLS (KPS)									
TIME	COURT	HOME	AWAY	TIME	COURT	HOME	AWAY	TIME	COURT
8:00 am	1	ISB	ISB	9:00 am	2	ISB	ISB	10:00 am	3
9:00 am	2	ISB	ISB	9:00 am	3	ISB	ISB	10:00 am	4
10:00 am	3	ISB	ISB	10:00 am	4	ISB	ISB	11:00 am	5
11:00 am	4	ISB	ISB	11:00 am	5	ISB	ISB	12:00 pm	6
12:00 pm	5	ISB	ISB	12:00 pm	6	ISB	ISB	1:00 pm	7
1:00 pm	6	ISB	ISB	1:00 pm	7	ISB	ISB	2:00 pm	8
2:00 pm	7	ISB	ISB	2:00 pm	8	ISB	ISB	3:00 pm	9
3:00 pm	8	ISB	ISB	3:00 pm	9	ISB	ISB	4:00 pm	10
4:00 pm	10	ISB	ISB	4:00 pm	11	ISB	ISB	5:00 pm	12

B. KISAC PRIVATE SCHOOLS (KPS)									
TIME	COURT	HOME	AWAY	TIME	COURT	HOME	AWAY	TIME	COURT
8:00 am	1	ISB	ISB	9:00 am	2	ISB	ISB	10:00 am	3
9:00 am	2	ISB	ISB	9:00 am	3	ISB	ISB	10:00 am	4
10:00 am	3	ISB	ISB	10:00 am	4	ISB	ISB	11:00 am	5
11:00 am	4	ISB	ISB	11:00 am	5	ISB	ISB	12:00 pm	6
12:00 pm	5	ISB	ISB	12:00 pm	6	ISB	ISB	1:00 pm	7
1:00 pm	6	ISB	ISB	1:00 pm	7	ISB	ISB	2:00 pm	8
2:00 pm	7	ISB	ISB	2:00 pm	8	ISB	ISB	3:00 pm	9
3:00 pm	8	ISB	ISB	3:00 pm	9	ISB	ISB	4:00 pm	10
4:00 pm	10	ISB	ISB	4:00 pm	11	ISB	ISB	5:00 pm	12

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
 - The above is a tentative schedule. The actual schedule will be subject to change depending on the date of the tournament.  
 - Please check the schedule for any changes and updates on the day of the tournament.

Today, House Activities started the weekend for us with mixed teams of Grade 6-12 students working together in a friendly competition for house points. Events included Trivia Challenge, Spyfall, Pictionary, Just Dance, Flasketball, Ultimate Jenga and Charades. We wish the MS boys and girls volleyball team great success!!







MUN Delegation Heading for Jeju Island



MS Boys Volleyball Team Heading for Jeju Island



A4L Student Mixer



A4L Student Mixer Presenter H'sia Johnson



A4L Team building Activities



A4L Team building Activities





### Season 3 ASA Sign-up Information

We are pleased to share that the list of activities on offer during Season 3 ASA's has now been finalised. If you signed up for ASA's during Season 1 or 2, you will be familiar with the SchoolsBuddy login and ASA sign-up process. However, if you have recently joined the ISB community, please watch this [ASA Parent Demo video](#) to familiarise yourself with the SchoolsBuddy login and sign-up process. This video is a step-by-step guide and will show you everything you need to know to sign your child up to an ASA.



If you have not logged into SchoolsBuddy yet, please note that it is crucial to use the email address you shared with the school, or your ISB manageBac credentials to log into SchoolsBuddy. Should you wish to log into SchoolsBuddy, please [click on this link](#).

SchoolsBuddy operates using a preference based sign-up model as opposed to using a first come, first served model. This means that SchoolsBuddy will do its best to provide everyone with their first choices. If the first choice is oversubscribed, the algorithm will automatically place the student into their second choice or, very rarely, their third choice.

You may log into your SchoolsBuddy parent account now, but Season 3 ASA sign-ups do not open until Monday 20th February at 3pm and will close at midnight on Monday 27th February. Season 3 will start on Monday 13th March and will run until Friday 2nd June.

If you would like to see a Season 3 ASA activity overview, please [click here](#). This overview is designed to initiate family discussions regarding which ASA's your child may be interested in signing up to. Please note a detailed description will accompany each activity, which you will be able to view once SchoolsBuddy sign-up goes live at 3pm on Monday 20th February.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me at [mhowarth@isbusan.org](mailto:mhowarth@isbusan.org)

Mark Howarth / Athletics and Activities Director



## Visual Arts

### Grade 7 Paper Mache Mask



Grade 7 art students are in the process of creating the masks that they designed, using paper mache. They have been focusing on shape, colour and pattern and apply these to the masks in order to represent the cultures that they have invented.

### Grade 8 Portraits



Grade 8 art students are currently working on a portrait unit. They are undertaking a series of tasks to develop an understanding of the techniques artists use to create accurate representations of the human face. These experiments focus on proportions and facial features. They learn concepts such as scaling up and breaking down a complicated image into smaller, more manageable parts.

### Grade 9 Still Life Acrylic painting



Grade 9 art students are in the final stages of completing their still life paintings using acrylic. These compositions have been arranged using food, traditions and ceremonies from their home cultures.

### Grade 10 Portrait Mixed media





Portraits also feature with the grade 10 art class. This mixed media artwork incorporates acrylic painting as well as other materials that the students choose. They have experimented with a range of media, such as newspaper, tissue, oil pastel, markers, collage, and then made selections that best represent the concepts that are communicating through their composition.

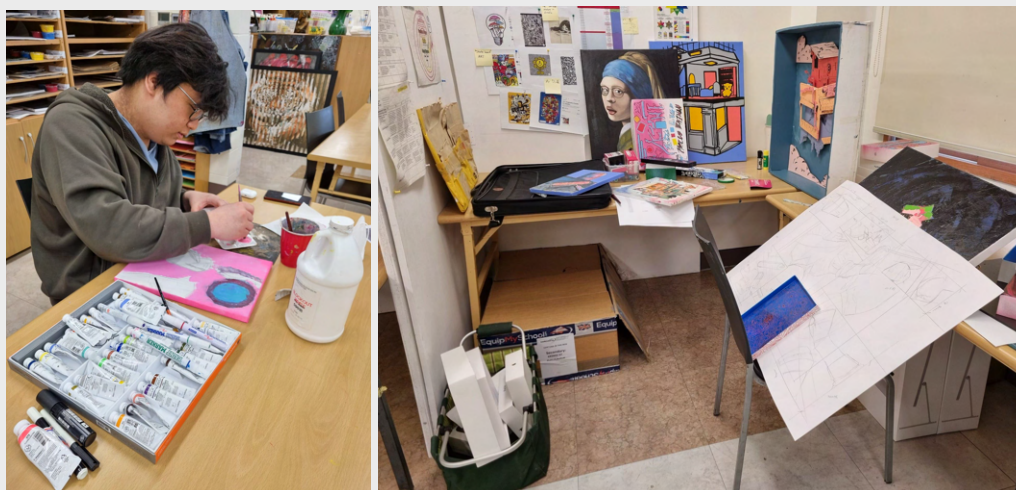
## Grade 11

### Printmaking, Drypoint etching & Relief printing



Grade 11 is the first year of the Diploma and these students are undertaking projects that will expose them to a wide range of media, techniques and styles. The current project is printmaking, where they have been working on drypoint etching and lino relief printmaking techniques.

### Grade 12 Exhibition Preparation: Watch this space.....



The focus for grade 12 in DP art is the final exhibition. This will be held on the 23rd March and is a selection and arrangement of all the artworks created over the course of grades 11 & 12.

Once this is presented to the school community it is then submitted to the IB as the final internally assessed component of the course.

## Music

This term, the middle school musicians are working on Unit 'Play Through Expression'. There is a significant distinction between playing technically well and playing technically well with passionate expression. The expressive play comes through understanding music genre or style, historical era and culture, composer's idea, and emotional component of the piece.





During the learning process, students answer conceptual and debatable questions: How would you describe expressive performance? What is more important- technical accuracy or expressive play, and why? How does the understanding of music genre/style, historical era and culture, composer's ideas help to feel the emotional part of the piece?



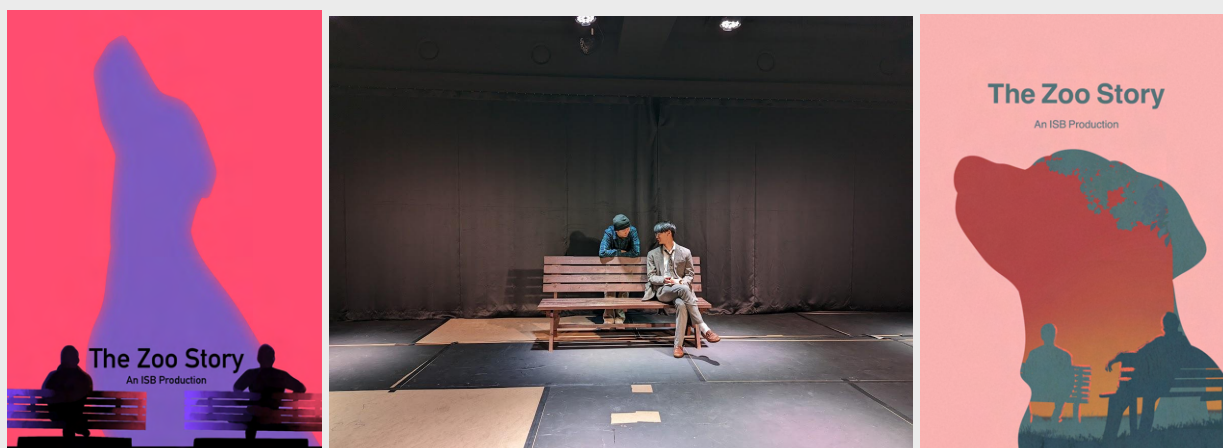
## DP Music Grade 12

This term is a very busy part of Grade 12 students' life. Deadlines for many subjects are around the corner, and in music there are two big projects to be completed: Exploring Music in Context and Experimenting with Music. Each project contains three components- written work, performance, and creation. Our Grade 12 musicians, Joseph and Zane, are celebrating successful completion of their works. Well done!



## Drama

Grade 11 have successfully completed their performance of The Zoo Story by Edward Albee to great acclaim from all of their three different audiences. It was an accomplished and detailed piece of performance work, and one they should be very proud of as budding young actors!





Grades 9 and 10 are deep in the process of writing their own plays. They've workshopped characters, and are now devising interesting scenes to put them in, using popular idioms as their inspiration.

Grade 7 are approaching the end of their dystopia performance, starting to think about supporting their performance and script with lighting and sound. We hope to share it with the wider school soon.

Grade 8 have now successfully finished their excellent commedia plays, creating big comedic characters and clear comedic plotting with gesture and voice. They managed to amuse each other consistently throughout the performances.



Grade 6 are soon to compete in their improvisation olympics, having now mastered all the different challenges that will make up the games. Lots of strong imagination and team work needed to win this one!



### **Design Technology Parent Survey Request**

My name is Alex and I'm in Grade 11 Design Technology. I am in need of parent survey responses for my Design IA project and I would like to kindly ask you if you could spend 5 minutes to fill out this survey to help with my IA project. This survey is about convenience inside the bathroom, specifically inside the shower room. Whatever data I can gather will be very beneficial for my IA project and will be greatly appreciated.

[Design Survey for Parents](#) Thanks very much and have a great weekend!

This week we interviewed Head of School, Simon McCloskey, for the school newsletter.

**Name:** Simon McCloskey

**Qualification and certifications:** BA (Hons) from Lancaster University, PGCE from the University of Plymouth and a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from Endicott College. I am currently completing an NPQH (a school leadership qualification accredited by the Department for Education in the UK). I'm also a PADI certified Divemaster.



**What is your role at ISB?** I'm the Head of School.

**Our community really is an international community! Where would you say you're from and where else have you lived?** I'm originally from Devon in the UK, but I've worked in international education for over 20 years (Bangladesh, Tanzania, Malawi, Thailand, Sudan, India and South Korea).

**What inspired you to become a teacher?**

My parents were both teachers. They believed it was the best job in the world. After working in the construction industry and then in hospitality, I decided to follow their advice.

**What is your educational philosophy?**

Create a happy, safe and supportive atmosphere, in an inclusive learning environment, that provides all children and young people with the opportunity to thrive.

**What made you choose ISB?**

It's a not-for-profit, internationally accredited, IB World School with talented and experienced teachers who are committed to providing great opportunities for students. It has a supportive board of governors who are dedicated to fulfilling the mission and vision of the school. Busan is also a great city with plenty to see and do.

**What is the best part of your job?**

I love visiting classrooms to see great learning and teaching in action. It's brilliant to be able to see the progression of learning in classrooms from Early Years to Grade 12.

**What are your hobbies and interests?**

I run (slowly), hike and scuba dive (when the water's warm). I'm also a long suffering fan of Arsenal FC, Exeter City FC (my local team) and more recently Busan iPark.

**What is your favourite quote?**

"If you're not prepared to be wrong, you'll never come up with anything original." - Ken Robinson

**What is the impact you'd like to have on the world?**

To play some part in the process of making good humans who will create a better and more peaceful world.



## From the School Counselor

Dear ISB Parents,

I hope that you are well. A reminder that we have a list of resources on the [ISB Health and Wellbeing Resources page](#) that you can access at any time, when you are looking for reliable information to support yourself and your family members. The categories that you can currently find are listed below. If you have helpful resources that you use yourself that we could possibly add to the list to be able to share them with other parents, please email me with your suggestions, I would love to hear from you!



- Breathing and Mindfulness: (for general wellbeing and stress prevention)
- Exercise
- Health and Child and Adolescent Development: Physical, Emotional and Behavioral Topics
- Nutrition
- Resources for LGBTQ+ youth and their families
- Sleep
- Technology/Digital Literacy
- Time Management
- Transitions/Nomadic Lifestyle

We also have an excellent selection of Parenting books that can be found in our Elementary Library. There are many titles for both Elementary and Secondary parents. Please visit the [following link](#) to browse through the titles. You are welcome to contact Ms. Yuni Gysbers, our expert Elementary Librarian, at [ygybers@isbusan.org](mailto:ygybers@isbusan.org) if you have any questions about accessing these titles. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at [ehibon@isbusan.org](mailto:ehibon@isbusan.org) if you have any questions.

Warm regards, Ellenore Hibon / Whole School Counselor

## From the PTA

Hello Everyone! Here are some upcoming events that need some super PTA volunteers!

- Friday February 24th - Volleyball Finals Concessions Stand
- Friday March 17th - Boys Basketball Final Concession Stand
- Wednesday March 22nd PTA Meeting: Google Suite Training (Registration will open soon)
- Wednesday March 22nd - Spring Send Off
- 

Please email [pta@isbusan.org](mailto:pta@isbusan.org) if you are interested in volunteering for any of the above events.

If you haven't already joined the PTA on Facebook and Kakaotalk, now is your chance! [Click the link to facebook](#) or scan the QR codes to the Facebook Group and KakaoTalk Group Chat Room!



Please note that the next Parent Workshop and PTA Coffee Morning is on **Wednesday 22nd February**.