

- Inspiring Global Citizens Since 1983 -



The Bear Essentials



The ISB Weekly Newsletter 2024/25

Friday 7th March, 2025

Volume 6, Issue 23

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IMPORTANT DATES

Monday March 10th - Grade 12 Mock Exams Begin
 Friday 14th March Isaac House Charity Football Match
 Monday March 17th - UK University Fair at ISB
 Monday March 17th - Season 3 ASAs Begin
 17th - 20th March - Grade 11 Exams
 Tuesday 18th March - ISB DP Art Exhibition (Art Space)
 Wednesday 19th March - G4 Camp
 Wednesday 19th March - Parent Workshop
 Friday 21st March - PD Day (no school for students)

ISB DP Art Exhibition Opening at Art Space



We are delighted to invite you to the Annual ISB DP Art Exhibition, taking place between March 18th and 28th at the Goun Art Space, in partnership with the Alliance Française de Busan. A total of 27 art works from three of our DP students will be exhibited, supported by pieces from grade 11 art students. This year's exhibition theme, "Temporal Distortions," showcases the incredible creativity, dedication, and technical skill of our talented artists as they explore personal and cultural narratives through their work, offering a rich visual experience that highlights the diverse talents within our ISB community.

We warmly encourage you to visit the exhibition and immerse yourself in the unique perspectives and voices of our students. The Goun Art Space is open from 10 AM to 7 PM Tuesday through Sunday, and admission is free. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate the artistic achievements of our students and the invaluable support of our educational and cultural partners.

Join the Charity Football Match for a Great Cause!

Our Secondary students have organized a special Charity Football Match to raise funds for one of our community partners, Isaac House, and we are inviting parents to join the teacher team as they take on our student players. The match will take place on Friday 14th March from 3:30 to 5:30 PM on the ISB Soccer Field.

This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community, enjoy some friendly competition, and support an important cause. Whether you are a seasoned player or just looking to be part of the excitement, we would love to have you on the field. All ability levels are welcome, and most importantly,

your participation will help make a meaningful impact. We hope to see many of you there, whether playing or cheering from the sidelines. If you are interested in joining the parent/teacher team, [please sign up here](#).

Thank you for your support! - On behalf of Patrick & Dave



ISB UK University Fair

At ISB, we believe in providing our students with opportunities that inspire their academic growth and future aspirations. On Monday, March 17, from 2:30 to 4:30 PM ISB will hold its annual UK University Fair, open to anyone interested in learning about further education opportunities in the UK. This event, hosted in the ISB Gym, is designed to expand our students' horizons by introducing them to diverse academic pathways and encouraging informed decision-making about their future studies.



This fair reflects our commitment to supporting students as they explore global educational opportunities, preparing them to be inspiring global citizens. If you would like to join, or you know someone who might, scan the QR code or [register with this link](#).

Campus Improvements

On Tuesday 18th March, we will begin the installation of a new 7-meter by 4-meter Ultra High Definition digital display in the gymnasium. This state-of-the-art screen will deliver vibrant, crystal-clear visuals with a brightness of 600 candelas, ensuring sharpness even in bright lighting. It will be perfect for concerts, presentations, assemblies, movie nights, and as a digital scorekeeping display for sporting events. The installation will be completed in time for the IB Asia Pacific Training Event. This new digital display will significantly enhance the experience for students during events and activities in the gym.



Simon McCloskey

ISB to Host IB Asia-Pacific Workshops Next Month

I am pleased to announce that ISB will be hosting the IB Asia-Pacific (IBAP) Workshops from April 11th-13th, 2025. Over 400 educators from across the region as well as 30 IB workshop leaders, and field representatives will gather with us for three days of collaborative learning and professional development. We are incredibly proud to have been selected by the International Baccalaureate to host this prestigious event. This is a significant moment for ISB, as it not only enhances our school's reputation but also positions Busan as a key centre for education in the region. As an IB World School, ISB remains committed to supporting the ongoing development of our teachers, ensuring we provide the highest standard of learning for our students. The workshops will cover a range of topics, including conceptual learning, assessment strategies, leadership development, and the growing role of AI in education. These sessions will strengthen ISB's IB Programmes and enhance teaching practices across the school. Hosting this event reflects our dedication to best practices in international education. It offers our educators a valuable opportunity to refine their teaching methods, exchange ideas with colleagues from across the region, and deepen their understanding of IB principles. It's also a great chance to further strengthen the innovative and dynamic learning environment we strive to cultivate at ISB. We are delighted to host such a significant gathering, and we are eager to see the positive impact it will have on both our school community and the wider region.



Eco-Committee Meeting: Advancing Sustainability at ISB

On Tuesday, the Eco-Committee met to discuss sustainability initiatives at ISB. Staff members were joined by students from the Secondary Eco-Club, who shared their recent efforts and ideas for future improvements. The Eco-Club presented several exciting proposals for sustainability, including the introduction of green plant walls, electric buses, energy-efficient hand dryers, and additional solar panels. During the meeting, we reviewed the proposed strategic plan, which has been shaped with input from the ISB community.

The plan will focus on advancing sustainability through curriculum integration, eco-friendly operational practices, and reducing ISB's environmental footprint. The Eco-Club has been tasked with developing a list of potential infrastructure improvements, complete with rationales, to be included in the action plan we are currently developing to operationalize our strategic objectives.

From the Elementary Principal

Another superb week in the Elementary School. We started the week with our student-led conferences and ended with a wonderful assembly. There are so many high points throughout the week here in ES it's hard to choose our favorite. We especially hope you enjoyed the recent Student-Led Conferences. Your feedback is important to us as we continuously strive to improve our conferences. Please take a moment to complete this survey to help us make future conferences even better.



Kevin Smith

The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

Click [here](#) to access the survey. Thank you for your time and input! Have a great weekend!

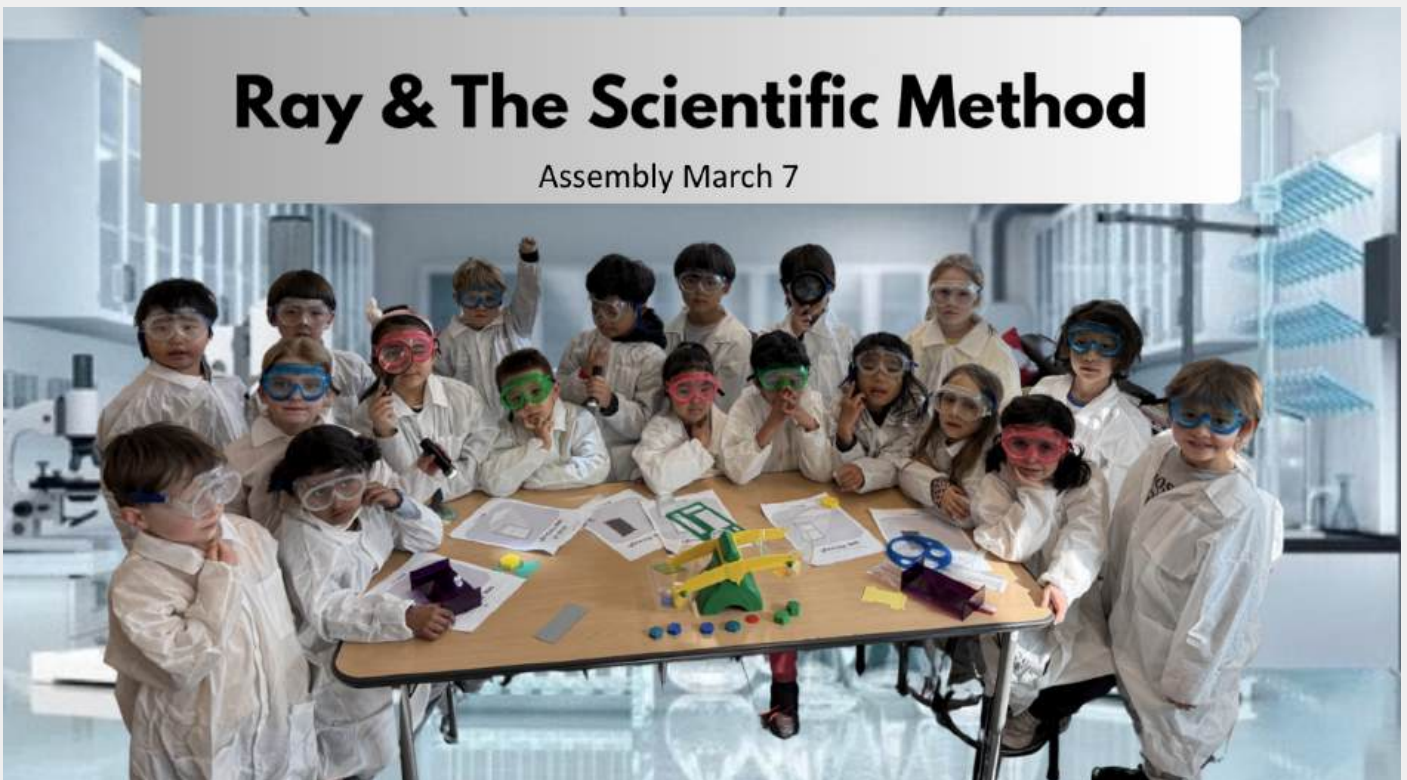
Elementary Learning Focus

Grade 1 Assembly

Ray and The Scientific Method is a performance and learning share produced by the Grade 1 students. The students have been learning about light and sound during our unit of inquiry on How the World Works. They have completed experiments using The Scientific Method. During our unit on How We Express Ourselves students have learned about different ways in which we can express ourselves creatively. Grade 1 students wrote a poem about The Dark and included how they feel in the dark. Students recorded videos of their science experiment and their shadow puppet shows. Our assembly was a combination of our learning in class as well as all of our specialist classes. We were so excited to share our hard work with the school.

Ray & The Scientific Method

Assembly March 7





EY 2 Inquiry into Healthy Choices and Agreements

Despite the rainy weather, we had a fantastic time shopping at Mega Mart on Tuesday! Before the trip, the EY2 children discussed what to buy, why we go to supermarkets, our agreements for the trip, and our responsibilities while shopping. They eagerly shared ideas and created a long shopping list!

At the store, they took responsibility for finding items, followed their agreements, and worked together. When they realized they didn't have enough money, they problem-solved, voted to adjust the shopping list, and prioritized what to buy. The next day, as they reviewed what they had purchased and decided to use the ingredients to create their own smoothie flavors. This shopping experience offered a meaningful connection to our inquiry into healthy choices and agreements, reinforcing decision-making and collaboration.

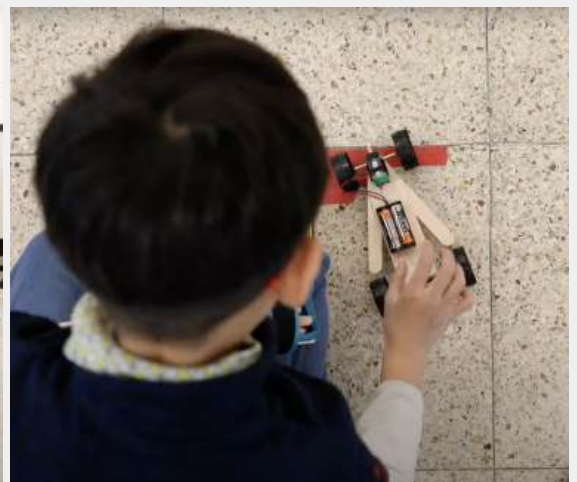




Grade 4 Car Race: Energy in Action

As part of our How the World Works unit, Grade 4 students explored energy transformation by designing and racing their own cars. Using elastic, wind, or electrical energy, they saw firsthand how stored energy converted into motion.

Through testing and redesigning, students learned how different energy sources affect speed and distance. It was a fun and hands-on way to see science in action! [Watch the race highlights here.](#)



Another fantastic week in the Secondary School!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences on Monday, March 3rd. It was wonderful to see so many parents engaged in discussions about their children's learning and growth. Thank you for taking the time to attend; your partnership is invaluable to our students' success. If you haven't already, please take a moment to share your feedback on the PTSC event through [this feedback form](#). Your insights help us improve and tailor future events to better meet your needs.



Gilles Buck

This Friday marked the beginning of Mock examinations for our Grade 12 students. These exams are designed to mirror the upcoming IB Diploma Programme exams and provide a valuable opportunity for students to assess their preparedness and fine-tune their study strategies. We wish our Grade 12 students the best of luck as they continue their Mock examinations next week. Your hard work and dedication are truly commendable!

It's clear that there's a great deal of positive energy and engagement across the secondary school, and I'm continually impressed by the dedication of our students and staff. Have a wonderful week! Read on for highlights from the Creative Arts!

Secondary News

From the Creative Arts department: Music

Creative Arts – Highlights from Mongolia!

During the coldest month of the year, 24 ISB students embarked on an exciting journey to Mongolia for an Arts Festival, where they had the opportunity to create, collaborate, and perform alongside talented artists, actors, and musicians from three international schools in Japan and Mongolia.



Before immersing themselves in the creative process, students explored Mongolia's rich cultural heritage. They attended a ballet performance, participated in a traditional instrument workshop, and met a renowned Mongolian artist. Their cultural adventure continued just outside of Ulaanbaatar, where they cooked and tasted traditional dishes, learned Mongolian calligraphy, tried on traditional clothing, and played folk games. One of the most memorable experiences was watching a breathtaking performance by Mongolian musicians, dancers, and acrobats, leaving a lasting impression on everyone.

For the main creative arts projects—music, drama, and visual arts—students collaborated intensively over two days. The festival culminated in a final showcase, where they presented their collective work.



In the music program, students participated in two subprojects: orchestra and choir. ISB instrumentalists worked closely with peers from other schools, refining a diverse musical repertoire. A standout moment of their performance was the orchestral arrangement of the traditional Korean song "Arirang." With heartfelt emotion and expressive artistry, the students delivered a truly moving performance, warming the hearts of the audience with the beauty of this timeless melody.

This unforgettable experience not only strengthened students' artistic skills but also deepened their appreciation for cultural exchange and collaboration through the arts!





Theatre

For their recent Theatre class unit on Contemporary Media, two students created travel vlogs about their experience being part of the EAISAC Arts Fest drama group. Please enjoy their videos, linked below.



[Click the image for Namuun's Travel Vlog](#)

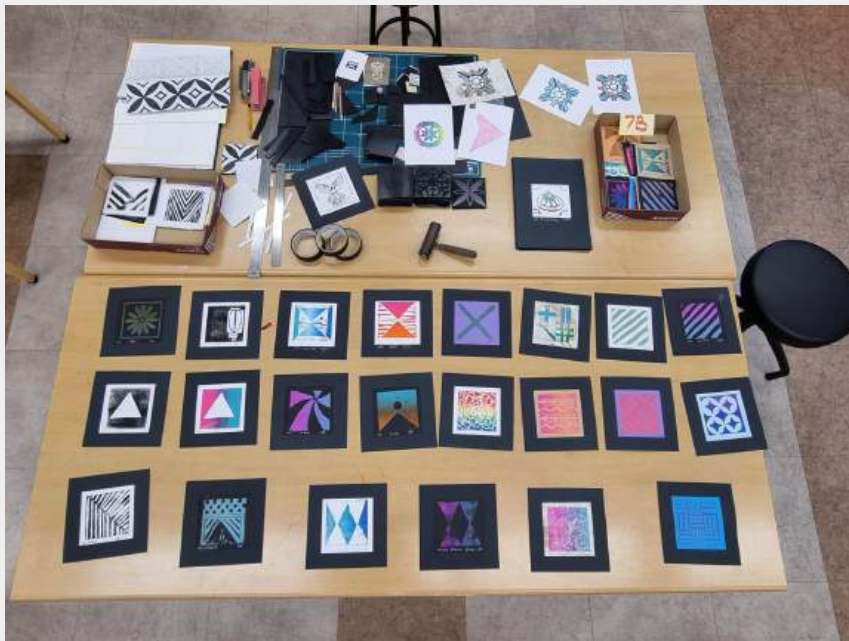


[Click the image for Nicole's Travel Vlog](#)

Visual Arts: Grade 7

Grade 7 students are now approaching the conclusion of their rotation in Visual Art, wrapping up an engaging and hands-on project in lino printmaking. Throughout this unit, they have explored cultural patterns, symbols, and motifs, using their research as inspiration to create unique and meaningful designs. It has been exciting to see how each student has interpreted their findings, incorporating elements from various cultures into their prints in a way that reflects both personal creativity and an appreciation for artistic traditions.

As they have progressed, students have practiced and refined their skills in lino printing, becoming more confident in the techniques required to produce well-resolved artworks of their own design. The process involves carefully carving intricate designs into the lino surface, applying ink, and then pressing paper onto the inked surface to transfer the image. The moment of lifting the paper to reveal the final print is always filled with anticipation, often leading to surprising and rewarding results. The unique textures, lines, and variations in ink application make each print one of a kind, adding an element of excitement to the creative process. This project has not only introduced students to the technical aspects of printmaking but has also encouraged them to think critically about artistic expression and cultural connections in their work.



Grade 8

Grade 8 art students have recently embarked on an exciting digital art project using the newly acquired iPads, which have only recently been purchased and set up for use in the Art department. This marks a significant step in integrating technology into their creative practice, offering them a fresh and dynamic approach to art-making. The first project they are undertaking is centered around the artwork of David Hockney and his innovative use of digital media. Students are closely examining his works, analyzing how he has embraced technology to push the boundaries of traditional artistic methods, particularly in his digital landscapes.



As part of their exploration, students are not only researching Hockney's digital techniques but also applying these insights to their own work. They are experimenting with digital brushes, layering, and color blending to create unique landscape compositions on their devices. It is inspiring to see them adapt so quickly to a medium they are already familiar with in everyday life but are now using in a completely new and artistic way. This project challenges them to think differently about digital tools, encouraging creativity and innovation while also allowing them to develop technical skills that bridge traditional and contemporary art practices. The enthusiasm and engagement in the classroom reflect the potential of digital art to expand artistic possibilities beyond what conventional media can offer.

Grade 9

Grade 9 students are currently engaged in the process of creating an acrylic painting on canvas, focusing on a Still Life composition that they have carefully arranged and planned. This project requires them to make thoughtful decisions about composition, lighting, and perspective, ensuring that their arrangement effectively captures depth, balance, and realism. The scale of this painting is significantly larger than their previous works,

presenting both a technical and conceptual challenge. As they work, students are developing their skills in color mixing, brush control, and layering techniques, all while refining their ability to observe and translate three-dimensional objects onto a two-dimensional surface. While the increased size and complexity demand patience and persistence, many students find the process rewarding as they see their artistic vision take shape. This project not only strengthens their painting techniques but also fosters confidence, creativity, and a deeper appreciation for the Still Life genre.

Grade 10

Grade 10 students have been actively engaged in an acrylic portrait painting project that challenges them to think creatively and conceptually. The task requires them to identify an intriguing element from a newspaper page—whether an image, a headline, or a piece of text—and reinterpret it to construct a completely new narrative. This narrative is then integrated into their artwork, painted directly onto the newspaper itself, merging traditional portraiture with contemporary mixed-media techniques. The process encourages students to explore storytelling through visual art, prompting them to consider themes such as identity, current events, and personal interpretation.



At this stage, students are critically reflecting on their work, analyzing their results to identify strengths and pinpoint areas that require further refinement. This self-evaluation process is essential for their artistic growth, as it allows them to make intentional decisions about composition, color application, and the clarity of their concept. Recently, they participated in a peer critique session, where they presented their work to classmates and received a diverse range of constructive feedback. This exchange of ideas not only provided them with valuable insights but also helped them develop the ability to articulate their artistic choices and respond to critique thoughtfully. Moving forward, students will use these reflections and peer comments to refine their artworks, enhancing both the technical execution and the strength of their visual narratives.



Grade 11

Grade 11 students have recently completed a mixed-media and acrylic portrait painting, showcasing their ability to combine various artistic techniques to create expressive and visually engaging works. Now, they have begun the process of refining their outcomes, focusing on enhancing details, strengthening compositions, and elevating their work to a more sophisticated level. This stage encourages them to critically assess their pieces, make thoughtful refinements, and push their technical and conceptual skills further.

These artworks will be featured in the upcoming IB Diploma Programme exhibition, marking an important milestone in their artistic journey. For many, this will be their first experience presenting their work in a gallery-style setting, where they will engage with an audience and consider how their pieces are perceived in a public space. This introduction to exhibitions and public presentations provides valuable insight into the professional art world, fostering confidence, curatorial awareness, and a deeper appreciation for the display and reception of visual art.



Grade 12

Grade 12 students are in the final stages of preparing for their highly anticipated IB Diploma Programme Exhibition. This event is a culmination of their artistic journey, where they carefully curate a selection of artworks created over the two-year Diploma course. Their body of work reflects the evolution of their skills, creative exploration, and the personal and conceptual themes they have investigated. The exhibition is not just a showcase of technical ability but a powerful representation of their growth as artists and thinkers.

This year, we are thrilled to host the exhibition at 'ARTSPACE' in Marine City, an exciting opportunity for students to present their work in a professional gallery setting. The event will take place on March 18th, offering students the invaluable experience of engaging with a broader audience outside of the school environment. As the date approaches, we share in the students' mix of excitement and nervous anticipation, eagerly looking forward to celebrating their achievements in what promises to be a truly inspiring and memorable event.



Welcome to the newest segment of our school newsletter - **ISB Nature Corner** - prepared and delivered by ISB teacher Ashraf Dean and his daughter River.



Ashraf & River Dean

Each week we will highlight the abundant flora and fauna found on and around our school campus, to remind us how lucky we are to be surrounded by the beauty of nature, and how important it is to take care of our environment. Let's see what we have this week!

- **Common Name:** Rock Dove (Common Pigeon)
- **Scientific Name:** *Columba livia*

- **Where to Find It:**

The Rock Dove, commonly known as the pigeon, is a familiar sight in urban areas worldwide, including Busan. These adaptable birds thrive in cities, often seen in parks, plazas, and building ledges. Their ability to nest in various structures has allowed them to flourish alongside human populations. This one was seen digging in the long grass next to the ISB parking lot.

- **Why It's Important:**

Rock Doves play a significant role in urban ecosystems. They aid in seed dispersal, contributing to plant diversity in city environments. Additionally, they serve as a food source for urban predators, such as falcons and hawks, helping to maintain ecological balance. Observing their behaviors can also offer insights into adaptation and survival in bustling human habitats.

- **Fun Fact:**

Rock Doves come in a variety of colors and patterns. While their wild ancestors were mostly bluish-gray with two dark wing bars, urban pigeons can display a mix of plumage types, including checkered patterns, pure white, rusty brown, and even black. This diversity in coloring is due to centuries of domestication and selective breeding.





🌱 Eco Warriors Update: Growing Strong! 🌱

Exciting news from our Eco Warriors project! Our onions and potatoes have sprouted and grown significantly taller in just a week. The onion shoots are standing strong, and our potato plants are thriving. It's incredible to see how much they've developed in such a short time!



Meanwhile, our vertical garden on the science floor is flourishing, with plants growing steadily in our innovative setup. This space-saving project allows us to observe plant growth up close while reinforcing our commitment to sustainable gardening.

If you would like to help grow the plants, please **feel free to water them for us!** You're also welcome to **check out the plants** we've nurtured during Season 2 of Eco Warriors. The **vertical garden** can be seen in the **hallway on the science (4th) floor of the C building**, while the **potato and onion plants** are in our **Eco Club teacher Mrs. Vaughan's room**. Have an exciting conversation with her and build your interest in contributing to greenifying our school!

Good news! For **Season 3**, we will have the **Eco Warriors ASA AGAIN!** We'll be doing more exciting activities, just like the vertical garden and plant projects from Season 2. If you're interested, please join us!



As we continue to care for our plants, we're excited to see how they progress in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for updates, and let's keep growing a greener school together! 🌱❤️

🌊 Monthly Beach Cleanup – March 9th! 🌊

After a rest during the two cold months, we're very excited to restart our monthly beach cleanups! **This Sunday, March 9th, at 10:00 AM**, we will head back to **Songjeong Beach** to continue our efforts in keeping our environment clean. Every small effort counts a lot in protecting our planet, and we hope to see many of you join us in this meaningful action. Please email ecoclub@isbusan.org if you have any questions about how to get involved!



Let's work together for a cleaner, greener world! 🌍❤️ - ISB Eco Club