



The Bear Essentials



The International School of Busan Weekly Newsletter

Friday 3rd June, 2022

Volume 3, Issue 34

CONTENTS

Featured Story
Whole School News
From the Head of School
From the Elementary Principal
From the Secondary Principal
Eco-Schools Activities Update
From the PTA

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 6th June - PYP Art Exhibition
Thursday 9th June - Grade 5 Transition Celebration
Friday 10th June to 11th June - ISB24
Thursday 16th June - Last Day of School for Summer Break
Thursday 16th June - School finishes at 12.00 pm
Monday 15th August - Orientation Day for new families
Tuesday 16th August - First day of school

PYP Sports Day



We all enjoyed the PYP Sports Day on Thursday! Children competed in their House Teams. The House Team system is organised in houses named after Korean mountains - Hallasan (Red), Jirisan (Blue), Gayasan (Green) and Seoraksan (Yellow). It was a very close competition but in the end, Gayasan were victorious! We would like to thank all of the parents who were able to join us to cheer on the students as they enjoyed a morning of fitness, fun and sunshine. Thanks also to the Secondary students from the Bears Club who helped to lead the activities and to Mr. Byrne for organising a great morning of sport.



ISB24 1 Week Countdown

This time next week everything will be in full swing as we take part in ISB24, our annual charity fundraiser walkathon! Between [healthy snack sales](#) at the Elementary School Sports Day, to the High School Eco-Club organizing a [Flea Market](#), a 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire' event and even a Car Wash, our students have been hard at work promoting, fundraising and supporting this fantastic cause.



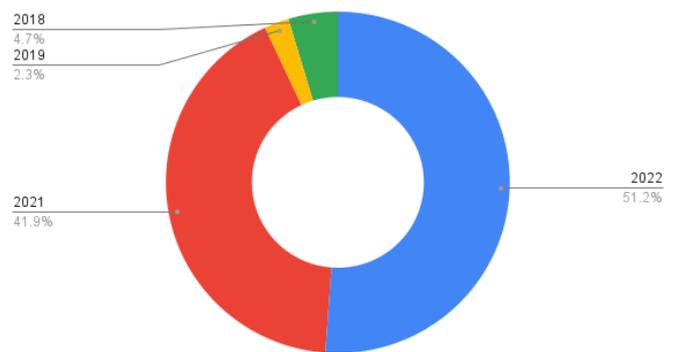
The new ISB24 shirts have arrived in the ISB Shop and are available for you to purchase. If you have entered the event but have not as yet paid your entry fee, please do so ASAP at the shop. At the same time you can collect your new shirt and begin proudly wearing it from now on! If you have not yet entered here is the [entry form](#). If you would like to simply buy a shirt, you can of course do that as well!

ISB Technology and Learning Innovation Devices Update

As we approach the end of the 2021-22 school year, the ISB Technology and Learning Innovation Department continues to make progress in meeting the device renewal benchmarks laid out in the [2020-2024 ISB EdTech Plan](#). A key component of this plan is making sure all ISB teachers are equipped with high-quality, up-to-date devices that enable them to maximise their creativity, efficiency and capacity while working with students. Aligning teacher devices also allows us to better organise our network, classroom infrastructure, and professional development offerings.



2022-2023 ISB Teacher Laptop Distribution



This year we are cycling out the 2017 Macbook Pro laptops on campus and replacing them with 2022 Apple Macbook Airls. These incredible devices come with the powerful new M1 chip which is substantially more powerful than the previous i5 chips. In total, 20 new devices will be going into rotation on campus and will be in service for the next 5 years. With these devices in use, a full 92% of ISB teachers will be on a laptop that is less than 2 years old.

Last Day of School

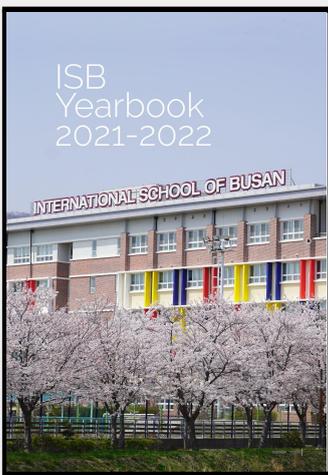
Please note that the last day of the school year is Thursday 16th June. The school day ends at 12.00 pm on this day. Buses will leave the school campus at 12.10 pm.

Cafeteria to Re-Open

During the Covid pandemic we have been offering a limited cafeteria service with individual packed lunches distributed to students. I am happy to announce that the cafeteria will resume normal service from Tuesday 16th August. Self-service meals will be provided for your child in the cafeteria. A range of hot meals and a sandwich and salad bar will be available. Menus for the cafeteria will be published on the school website before the start of the new school year.



Simon McCloskey



2022 ISB Yearbook

The ISB Yearbook will be sent home with children on the last day of school on Thursday 16th June. Each year the school provides one yearbook per family free of charge. The yearbook will be sent home with the oldest child in the family.

Families may purchase additional yearbooks if they wish to do so. Each additional yearbook costs 50,000 KRW. Please send an email to info@isbusan.org before Tuesday 14th June if you would like to buy additional yearbooks.



Soccer 7's Tournament at ISB

The Busan Soccer 7's Tournament concluded on Saturday with two exciting games for the ISB teams. The Girls Team finished in third place after beating St. Johnsbury Academy 3-0. The ISB Boys Team also secured third place after beating Busan Foreign School on penalties following a 1-1 draw.

We are proud of our teams who played some excellent football against some very challenging competition. We would like to thank Craig Wilson for organising the event and Charles Asante and Gearoid Byrne for coaching our teams. It was a great weekend of football!



From the Elementary Principal

This week we have enjoyed welcoming parents onto the campus for some special events. On Wednesday, parents visited the Grade 3 Art Exhibition and learned about the wonderful, creative inquiries and activities that have taken place during their recent 'How we Express Ourselves' Unit of Inquiry. On Thursday, we welcomed Early Years parents to watch the EY students share their learning and sing some songs in a lovely assembly followed by a visit to the classrooms. Meanwhile, parents were also actively involved in cheering on our Elementary athletes as they competed in the Sports Day on the field. It's great to have parents on campus again!



Kevin Smith

PYP Learning Focus

Grade 5 Hike

This week, Grade 5 was able to get ready to move up to middle school by moving up Jangsan mountain! Students had a great time hiking up Jangsan mountain; they climbed over 600 metres and were able to walk over 12 kilometres through the forest trails. Well done, Grade 5!



Grade 3 Art Exhibition

Grade 3 students presented their visual art exhibition to the PYP school this week as well as to their families. Students shared a variety of work connected to their ideas, feelings, beliefs, values, and nature, among others. Students shared their action pieces in which they wrote a story with illustrations, created a painting about an endangered animal, and shared how others can take action and help with conservation efforts. They did a beautiful job and were very knowledgeable about the elements of art they used. They were truly an inspiration to all who visited their exhibition. Congratulations Grade 3!





Early Years Celebration Assembly

The EY 1 and 2 students presented an assembly to their parents to share their learning. After the assembly, the students took their parents down to the classroom to show them their work. We want to say well done to the students for speaking, acting and singing on stage. Thank you to the parents for attending, it was very exciting for the students to have so many people in the audience.



Grade 5 MYP Information Session

On Monday, we hosted an information session for Grade 5 parents. Details about the transition from the PYP to the MYP were shared. We want to ensure that the transition from the Elementary School to the Secondary School is as smooth as possible for our grade 5 students. This session is part of a series of transition events and activities designed to support Grade 5 students as they move into the next phase of the IB Continuum.



PYP Sports Day

We all enjoyed the PYP Sports Day on Thursday! A big thanks again to all of the parents who were able to join us to cheer on the students as they enjoyed a morning of fitness, fun and sunshine!



A Message from Mr Byrne

I would like to thank everyone involved in the elementary sports day. It was such a fun day for the kids and they were very tired by the end of the day. Gayasan took victory in what was an incredibly close race. It was fantastic to have support from all areas of the school and something we will look to continue to do for next year. A big shout out to the **Bears Club** for supplying high school students to run the events. Another big thank you to **Anchored 4Life** for supplying healthy fruits and refreshments for the students in order to raise money for ISB24. Also, a big thank you to the **AV Club** for setting up the sound system and having music playing throughout the event, and for the elementary student council for setting up the movie day and popcorn sale! Finally, a big thank you to all the families who came to cheer us on!

Mr Gearoid Byrne



School Spirit Week in the Elementary

After the wonderful success of the Elementary School Sports Day, we're looking forward to lots more fun and enjoyable events as we wrap up the school year. The student council has been busy organising some excellent activities to raise school spirit even more. Check out the schedule:

- Monday 6th - Cultural Day
- Tuesday 7th - Wacky Day
- Wednesday 8th - Pyjama Day
- Thursday 9th - Game Day
- Friday 10th - Active Day

If you have any questions please contact mzink@isbusan.org or esoffice@isbusan.org



PYP Art Exhibition

On Monday 6th June, the PYP Art Exhibition will take place on the 2nd Floor of B Building until Friday 10th June. Students are welcome to visit the exhibition with their classes. Parents are also welcome to visit at any time during the day.

All PYP students from Kindergarten to Grade 5 are represented in the exhibition which includes artwork from the 2021-22 school year. A big thanks to Ms. Simona for

organising this exhibition. If parents or family members wish to attend please email the Elementary School Office esoffice@isbusan.org with your preferred time. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the elementary office.



From the Secondary Principal

Well we are nearly there! The end of the year beckons loudly. With reports due soon teachers and students are completing assessments, finishing assignments, completing tests and generally wrapping up the year.

As an essential part of that conclusion, the Grade 11 students have started their first set of end of year examinations as they prepare for the final year of their schooling.



Al Roland



Secondary Learning Focus

Grade 5 Transition

It was wonderful to welcome the students in Grade 5 to the Secondary school as part of their transition programme. This week students spent time with the Design, Maths, Science and Drama Teachers engaged in fun activities and 'ice breaking activities' as they head towards grade 6 next year.



Grade 6 Carwash

The students in grade 6 did a wonderful job yesterday and today at lunchtime as they washed cars for ISB24. Staff signed up during the week for a car wash. The students had a lot of fun washing the cars particularly as the main holder of the hose was Mr Johnson! No one was spared from the occasional spray with the hose.



Secondary Maths Department

Critical thinking, problem solving, reasoning and the ability to communicate mathematically are essential skills that students must have. In addition, applying learning to suggest solutions to and solve real world problems is integral to our MYP concept based learning model and is the foundation of mathematics instruction at our school. Below you can see how we explore this at various grade levels.

Grade 6 Mathematics

After calculating their personal carbon footprint, Grade 6 students then conducted an environmental audit of our school by interviewing the school principal and head of the school on sustainability and consumption at ISB. The students then produced information posters that are designed to raise awareness on what we can do to make our school 'greener'. Here are some of their posters which will be displayed around the school.



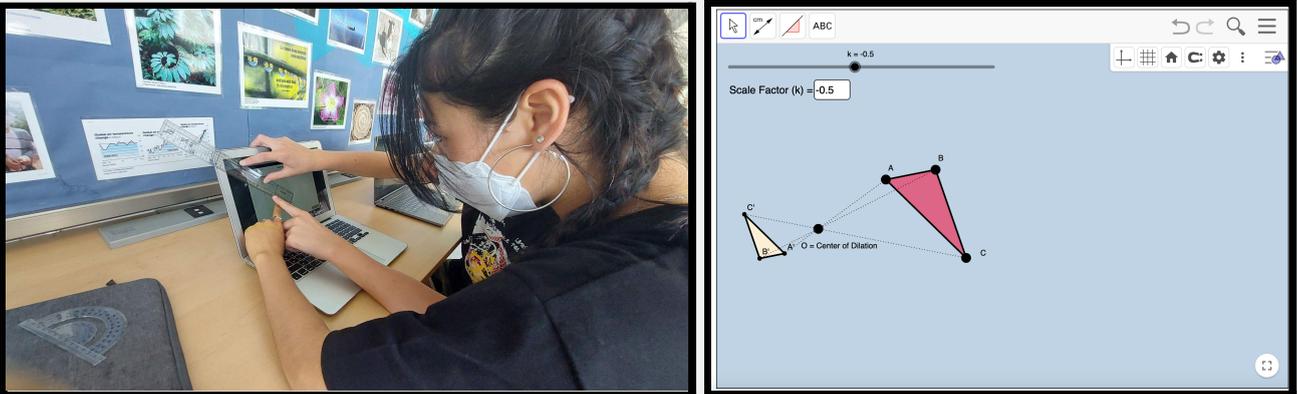
Grade 7 Mathematics

Grade 7 students have been looking at probability and as part of the learning process, students played online games that required them to work out outcomes, determine sample space and represent probability mathematically.



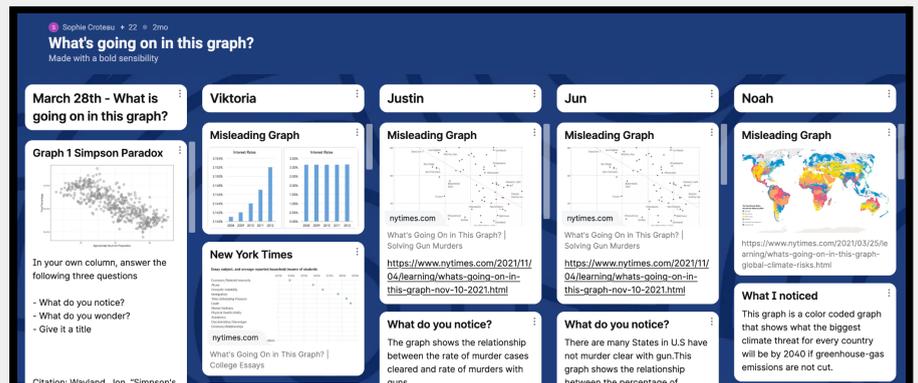
Grade 8 Mathematics

Students have been working on a challenging unit on linear functions during March and April. They have now moved onto a more interactive and hands-on unit for the end of the year where they are learning about the movement of shapes in space (translations, rotations, dilations, etc.). Students are enjoying using compasses, protractors and visualising where the image of these shapes goes after being transformed. They are using various tools to explore these new concepts and to support their understanding of how and why it works this way.



Grade 9 Mathematics

The Grade 9 students have just completed a unit on Statistics. Nowadays we are all inundated with statistics in the media, the news, or other online settings. The purpose of this unit is to give students the knowledge and confidence to read, analyse, and critique information that

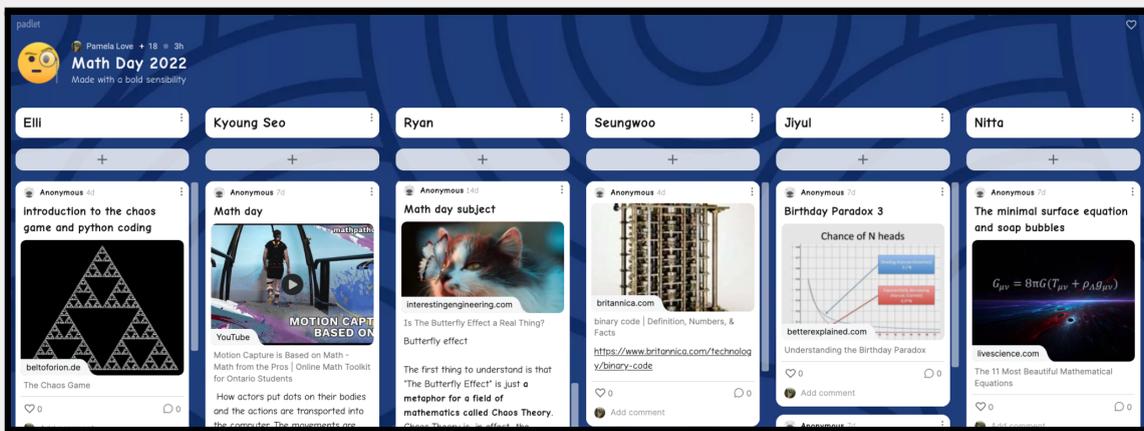


they run into in their daily lives.

Students have learned how to analyse data and draw conclusions from various graphs, tables, diagrams and pictures. Throughout the unit, we have emphasised the reliability and clarity of data so the students can question what they see and understand how numbers and graphs can be misleading or misrepresented in the media. Students concluded this unit by collecting and analysing their own data. It was a great opportunity for them to reflect on what real-life factors can influence data and when it is appropriate to interpolate and extrapolate.

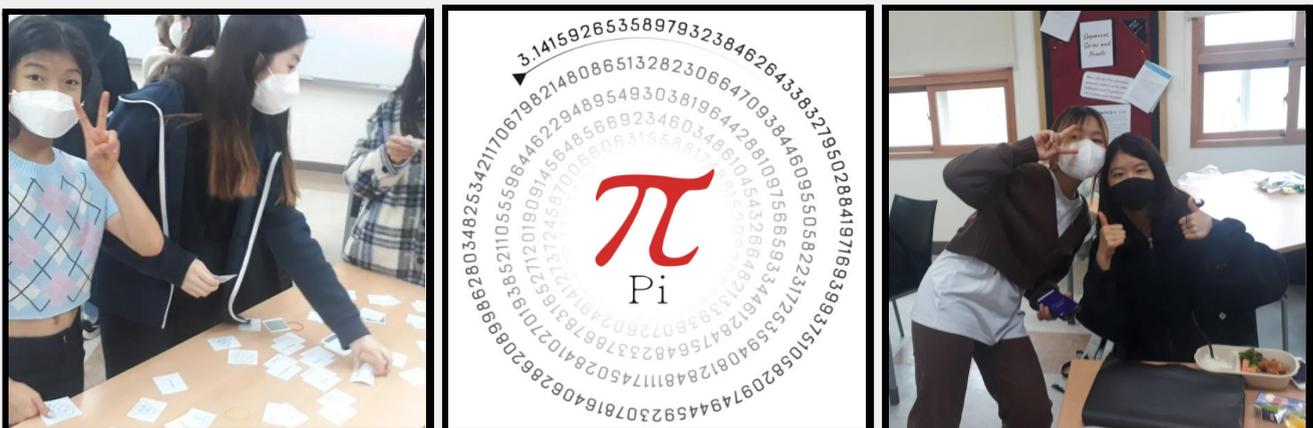
Grade 10 Mathematics

Grade 10 students have just finished reviewing maths content from the last few years in preparation for their e-assessments. Preparation for these tests took a lot of perseverance and diligence. Now it is time for a little fun. For the last task of the year students are writing a research paper on a maths topic of their choice. Topics range from the birthday paradox, to bubbles, to the butterfly effect. They will use their knowledge to plan activities for an Innovation Day on June 15th. We still have a lot of planning to do, but some ideas they have so far are exploring chaos theory, making string art, and learning about green screens.



Grade 11 Mathematics

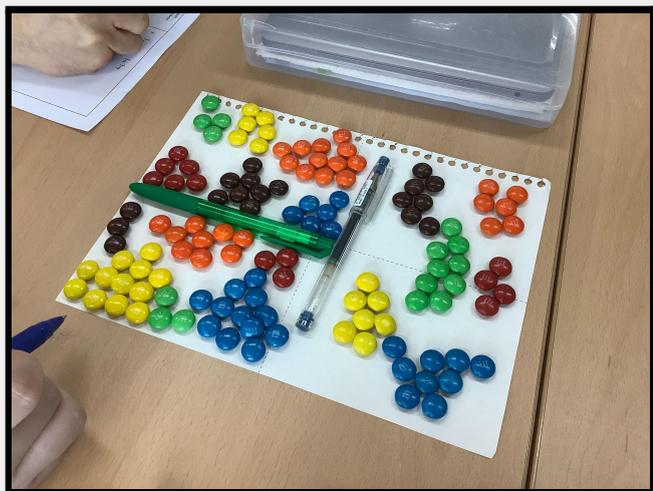
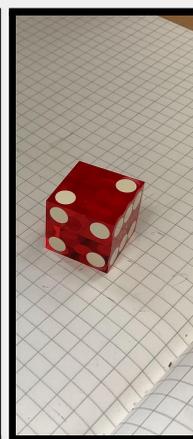
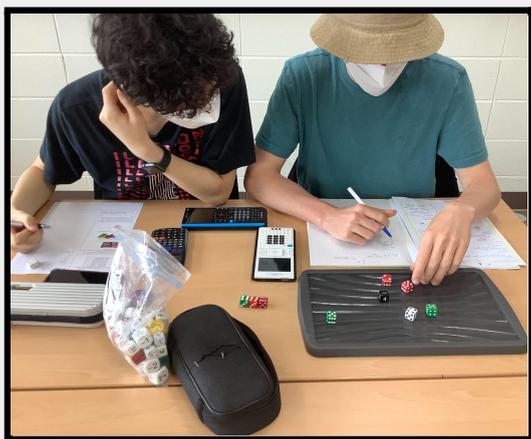
Students from Grade 11 have been working on different units in the AA and AI courses. From Trigonometry in AA to Hypothesis testing in AI, the students do not always have time to collaborate but they came together planning and organising activities for Pi Day during the week of March 14th. The students were able to find fun things to do involving maths (and Pi and the circle) that could involve the whole secondary school. Some students led quizzes, some prepared matching activities and others planned stations for the House Activities



Maths Applications

In Maths 11 we just finished our Statistics and Probability Units which includes Distributions and Hypothesis testing. This is a fun unit that allows students to ask and test interesting theories such as:

- Are professional dice more accurate than cheap dice?
- Do the DP scores follow a normal distribution?
- Does an athlete's birth month affect their professional athletic careers?
- Do M&M's packages follow the distribution advertised on their website?
- Does sugar intake affect reaction time?



ISB Eco-Schools Activities

Green Flag Award Application Submitted!

ISB's Green Flag Award application was officially submitted to the [Foundation for Environmental Education \(FEE\)](#), "the world's largest environmental education organisation, with over 100 member organisations in 81 countries" (FEE, 2022, Our Mission). They have 5 main educational programmes: Eco-Schools, Learning About Forests, and Young Reporters for the Environment to empower youth to take action, and the Green Key and Blue Flag programs for business sustainability practices. ISB's focus has been on Eco Schools and their commitment to environmental education through the Green Flag Award.



The Eco Steering Committee met on Tuesday, May 31st to discuss successes, areas of improvement, and an overall evaluation of ISB's Eco programs before the application was submitted.

Go green, keep it clean!

From the PTA



Well done on another week of learning ISB! It was a great week for some of the parents who got to join in on the PYP sports day. It felt great to meet face to face, lots of school spirit being shared with big cheers for the elementary athletes. Some of the mums, dads and teachers even got involved in their own races! Thank you to the whole school community for keeping up the great ISB energy all the way to the final weeks of the school year.