



The Bear Essentials



The International School of Busan Weekly Newsletter

Friday 16th December, 2022

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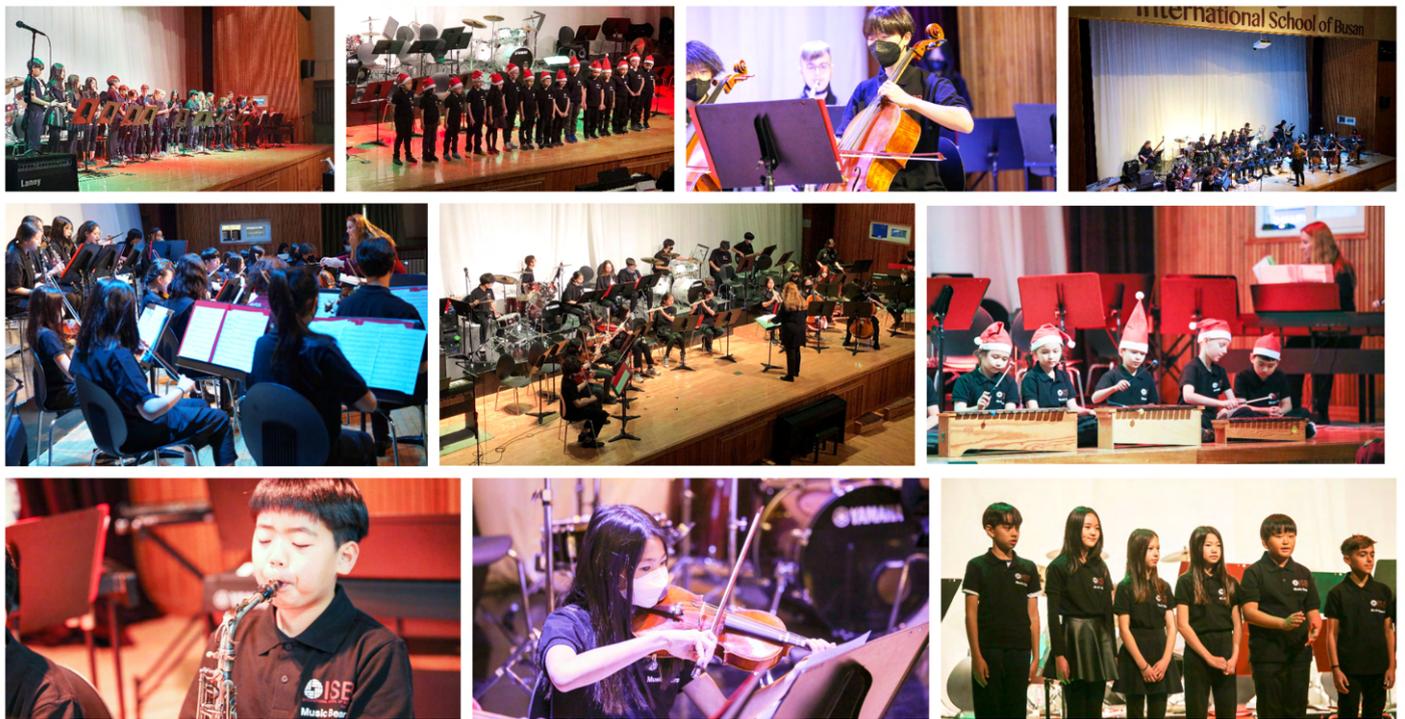
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IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 10th January - Students back to School
Tuesday 10th January - Welcome Morning for New Families
Friday 13th January - Middle School Winter Formal at 5.30 pm
Friday 13th January - High School Winter Formal at 8.00 pm
Wednesday 18th January - Grade 10 Course Selection Evening
Wednesday 18th December - SKAC MS Volleyball on Geoje
Monday 23rd January - Lunar New Year Holiday

Featured Story



We enjoyed a fabulous Winter Concert on Thursday which showcased the talents of our elementary and secondary school students. The ISB orchestra and our rock band also performed. The concert consisted of four movements and the repertoire was diverse, featuring music from across the globe. Congratulations to our wonderful musicians and a huge thank you to our Whole School Creative Arts Coordinator, Olga van Doorn who coordinated the event. It was wonderful to see children from across the school perform to an appreciative audience of parents, staff and students.

"Identify ways to further support the mental health and wellbeing of all learners on campus" is one of our whole school goals for this academic year. Our new outdoor fitness equipment will help to bring this goal to life! Installation was completed this week and the new gym will be open for students in January. Landscaping and gardening work will begin after the winter.



Semi-Annual School Fees Invoice

By now, parents should have received the 2nd Semi-Annual School Fees Invoice, which was sent out on 30th November. Please refer to the invoice schedule below:

1. 30th November: Invoice email sent
2. 1st December - 9th December: Invoice Correction Term
3. **13th January, 2023: Due date for payment of school fees**

If you have not received an invoice or if you have any further inquiries, please contact the finance office at 051 720 1138 or email at finance@isbusan.org.

From the Head of School

Students received a surprise as they arrived on campus this morning. They were greeted by teachers singing festive carols at the front of the school. It was a great way to start the day! We ended the semester with a Whole School Assembly in the Gymnasium. During the assembly we said some goodbyes to leaving students and reviewed some of the events and activities that have taken place during the past few months. We concluded the assembly by listening to our school orchestra perform. It was a great way to end 2022 at ISB! We look forward to seeing students rested, recharged and ready to learn on Tuesday 10th January, 2023!



Simon McCloskey



Our Whole School Assembly



Starting the day with some festive carols.

From the Elementary Principal

What a wonderful last week of Semester One! Grades One and Five have been preparing for the Winter Concert with rehearsals ready for the performance on Thursday. Meanwhile, Grade 1 students have presented their Literacy Learning to parents and made Gingerbread Houses! I've also seen lots of Reindeer and Santa hats as the children enjoy their play in the chilly weather. The holidays have arrived and I wish good health and happiness to our ISB Community. Enjoy the break, stay safe and see you on January 10th!



Kevin Smith

Semester 1 Reports

Written reports have been posted on Managebac. Please review and discuss these with your children. They provide an opportunity for goal setting in Semester 2.

PYP Learning Focus

Ice, Ice Baby!

Exciting times at ISB today when the children went outside for their morning break. The water in our fountain had frozen and there were thick sheets of ice! Of course this was a fantastic opportunity for outdoor learning, and investigating real life examples of freezing and melting. Our PYP students love being inquirers, risk-takers, and scientists!



Early Years 1: How We Express Ourselves

One learning centre was organised with different recycled materials to offer open-ended learning opportunities for the children to share ideas and use their imagination to make their own creations. Many of the children were able to work on their own numerous box projects. The children showed their creativity and knowledge to manipulate materials to design simple projects with their ideas. They also had opportunities to listen and look at what other friends had made. There was a special place to display all their projects just outside of the classroom and they were proud to show what they had made.



Kindergarten Construction

This week we inquired about the best way to stack the paper cups. We made a very tall 'castle' and had to climb up to reach the top.



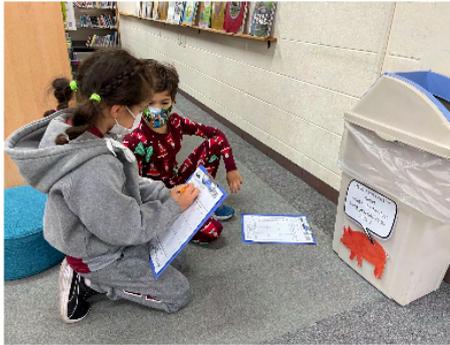
Grade 1 Celebration

Grade 1 held a Winter Celebration to share their learning with their parents. The morning included sharing a song, poem, and reading activity. Then students joined their parents in a STEM activity and built Gingerbread houses to resemble the different types of houses they have been researching from around the world. It was a perfect activity to end our unit, celebrate our learning, and share in the joy of the holiday season.



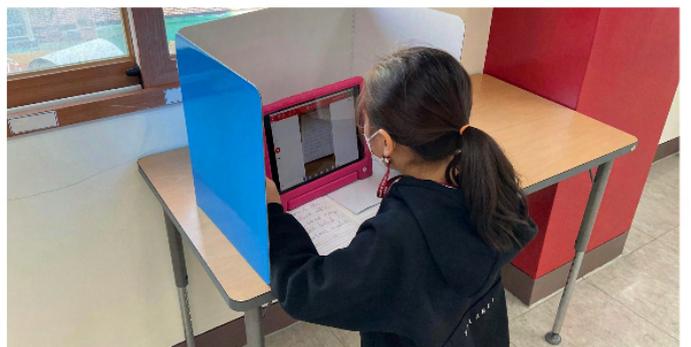
Grade 2 Communicators

In Grade 2, we work hard to improve our social and communication skills. We went with our Learning Partners on an animal safari around the library to find some interesting questions about ourselves. It was so much fun to find the questions, and then take turns in our conversation to discuss the answers. Talking and learning together is a great way to get to know each other and build new friendships.



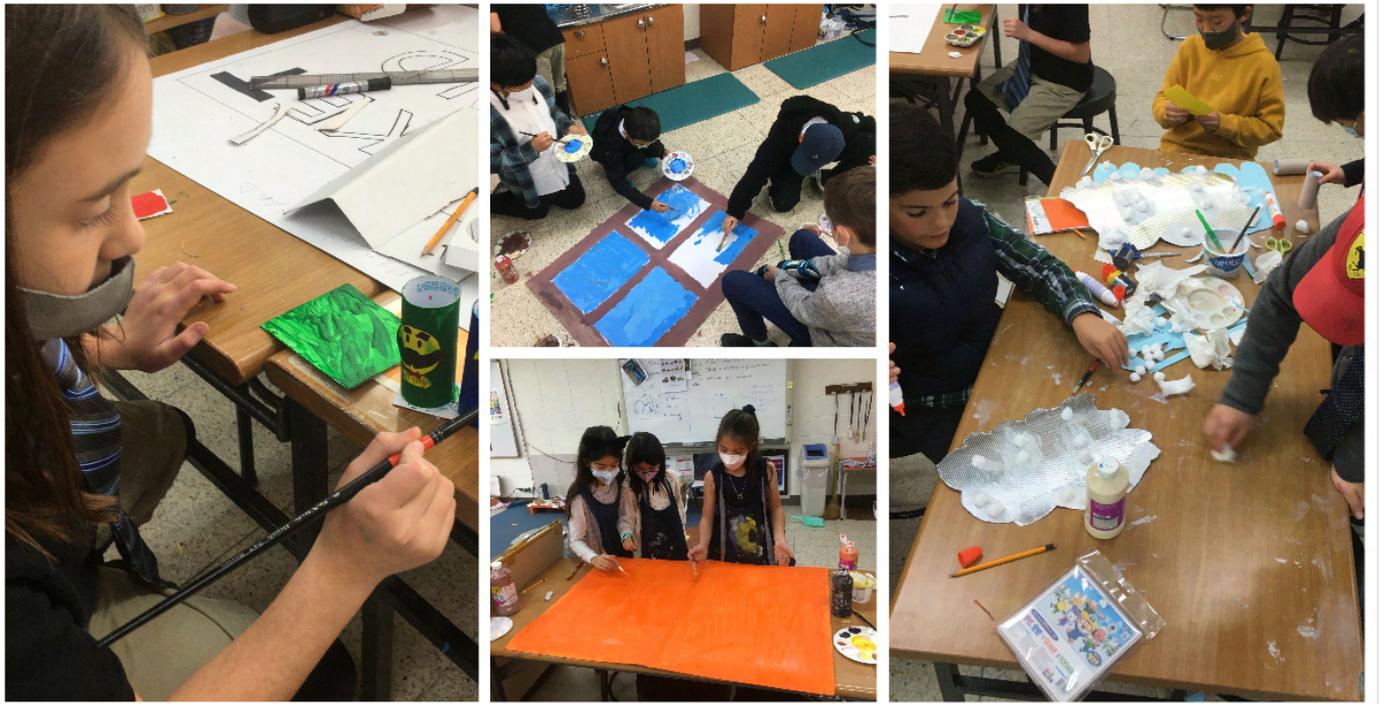
Grade 3 Explorers

Grade 3 students have been researching and learning about Explorers these past few weeks. This week they took their research notes and used them to write about the explorer they researched about. They have also been learning how to use technology for learning like searching for trustworthy images of their explorer on Britannica Image Quest. They also used the application iMovie and created theatrical trailers about their explorer using the images and information they found.



Grade 4 Art

In Art Class, G4 were collaboratively creating the set for their theatre play. They applied their knowledge of the elements of art: form, shape, colour, texture and line. Students were working enthusiastically in teams to create clouds, a market stand, a huge door and other elements.



From the Secondary Principal

Our final week of the semester was capped off with the wonderful performances at the winter concert. It was great seeing so many parents at the event to celebrate the musical accomplishments of our students. I want to give special thanks to Ms Joola Coke-Talbot for her work with the orchestra including the wonderful solo performance during the concert. Of course, our inspiring music teacher Ms. Olga Van Doorn needs to be commended for leading our students, developing their musical talents and putting on a fantastic show!



Gilles Buck

This Friday, we completed the semester with homeroom activities followed by the student council-led film event and a whole school assembly to wrap up the semester, say goodbye to a few students leaving our school and celebrate the many successes of the semester!

We trust that all of our students and their families will be able to enjoy the break and use the time to connect and recharge the batteries. We look forward to welcoming all of our students back on campus on Tuesday, 10th January for another great semester of learning.

Upcoming Parent Event:

Grade 10 Parent and Student Course Selection Evening

Wednesday, January 18 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM

A not-to-be missed opportunity to learn about programmes, our course offerings and how to make the best course choices for Grade 11 (and into Grade 12).

College Corner

Our College Counselor, GJ Johnson, will be updating College Counseling information in this section of the Newsletter every other week. Here is the last edition of the [College Counseling letter](#).

Secondary Learning Focus

From the Physical Education Department

Grade 6 - 8 students have been focusing on developing their striking and fielding skills during the most recent softball unit. To develop a comprehensive understanding of softball rules, each student has had the opportunity to umpire the game and make on-field decisions to ensure the game runs smoothly. Students have also had the opportunity to develop their interpersonal skills and learnt about the appropriate ways to communicate to ensure the team has every opportunity to be successful.



Grade 9 and 10 students have been applying their Football and Basketball skills to develop their knowledge and understanding of invasion games principles. The focus of these lessons has been to develop game specific skills and learn how to apply them in game scenarios. The overarching theme of this unit has been to focus on building relationships to ensure that individuals can work together within a system. Students researched different ways to establish strong relationships, with a common theme being;

- Respect and appreciate others
- Listen carefully to other people's ideas
- Accept support and be supportive
- Be positive

Once we return from the Winter Break, the grade 10 students will be the first group ever to do a PHE e-Portfolio at ISB. The e-Portfolio is comprised of four tasks;

Task 1 - Background Research (Criteria A - Knowing and Understanding)

Task 2 - Creating a training program - (Criteria B - Planning for Performance)

Task 3 - Three minute video performance - (Criteria C - Applying and Performing)

Task 4 - Reflection Task - (Criteria D - Reflecting and improving performance)



In the Design department

The Grade 10 Design class has been exploring graphic design for the first Semester - for the purpose of inspiring our own ISB Yearbooks this year. Their designs may or may not be used, however they certainly enjoyed and benefited from the process. Design projects at ISB are meant to be authentic, 'real-world', and purposeful. This project certainly could be of enormous value to Mr. Young (one of the Yearbook coordinating teachers) and his team. Aside from this strong purpose, the students enjoyed the inquiry into what makes good print design, what elements need to be considered, how to design for a community with relevant feedback, and what a yearbook communicates to the greater community with its design. Great job Grade 10s!

Each week we feature an ISB Teacher in our newsletter.

This week we interviewed **Jeni Lee**.

Qualification and certifications:

I have a Bachelor of Arts/Diploma of Education degree from Macquarie University Sydney, Australia.

What is your role at ISB?

I am the Elementary EAL/Learning Support Teacher.

Our community really is an international community! Where would you say you're from and where else have you lived?

I was born in Korea but moved to Sydney, Australia when I was 2 years old. Since then I have lived in Australia and moved to Busan in 2011.

What inspired you to become a teacher?

My grade 5 teacher was a real inspiration to me, and she was one of the major reasons why I pursued a teaching career. Her ability to guide students, her fairness, and her sense of justice made me aspire to bring these things to my classroom.

What is your educational philosophy?

My philosophy of teaching is to create classrooms that empower students to make decisions for themselves so they develop self-confidence and thinking skills. I believe students learn best when they learn through real-life problems, they discover the value in knowledge.

What made you choose ISB?

The welcoming environment created by the teacher and student community made me choose ISB.

What is the best part of your job?

I enjoy working with students and helping them wherever/whenever they need it. Also, seeing how students think. They have amazing ideas and perspectives. I learn something every day.

What are your hobbies and interests?

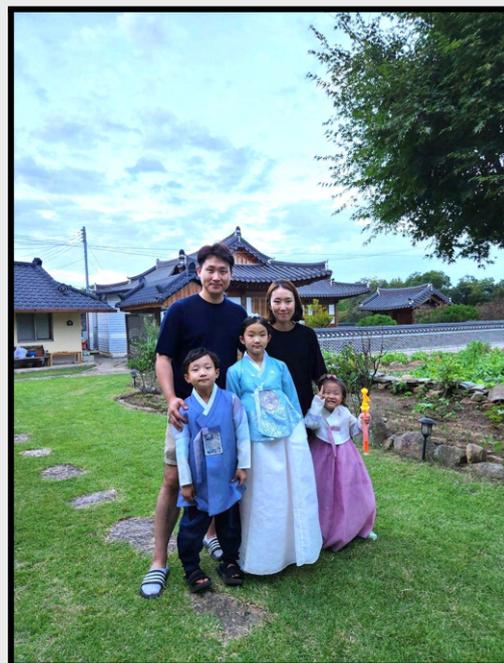
I enjoy cooking and baking. I love to try new dishes and make them myself.

What is your favourite quote?

"Every child has a different learning style and pace. Each child is unique, not only capable of learning but also capable of succeeding"-Robert John Meehan

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

I have a vision that inspires me. I believe that I play an important role in the life of my students. Being not only a teacher but also a role model, at least regarding values and attitudes toward life. For a better tomorrow, good teachers and role models are needed. I want to become a teacher who can contribute to a better future.



SECONDARY WINTER FORMAL

*4-5 parent
volunteers
needed*

**General
decorations and
picture back drop
creation & set up**

*Friday
January 13*

Secondary Winter Formal

If any parents are interested in helping out with the Secondary Winter Formal, please reach out to us at one of the links below. Happy Holidays!

Important Links:

- [ISB PTA Volunteer Kakao Chat](#)
- [PTA Facebook Page](#)



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