



# The Bear Essentials



*The International School of Busan Weekly Newsletter*

Friday 19th August, 2022

Volume 4, Issue 1

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## IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 22nd August- MYP Information Night  
Thursday 25th to 26th August - G11 DP Welcome Conferences  
Thursday 25th to 26th August - PYP Welcome Conferences  
Saturday 27th August - SAT  
Saturday 27th August - Board of Governors Training Day  
Monday 29th August - Season 1 ASAs begin  
Wednesday 31st August - Parent Workshop & PTA Meeting

**Welcome Back!**



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2022!



## IB Diploma Results



School Average 35.25



World Average 31.98

**100% Pass Rate**

Our graduating Grade 12 students recently received their International Baccalaureate Diploma examination results. We are delighted to announce that our IB Diploma students achieved a 100% pass rate with an average score of 35.25 points (compared to the World Average of 31.98 points). Over 60% of our students were also awarded the prestigious Bilingual Diploma. We are extremely proud of our graduating students and we wish them every success for the future. We would like to thank our IB Diploma teachers for all of the support and guidance they provided for our graduating students. Congratulations Class of 2022!



It was wonderful to welcome our school community back to campus for the start of the new school year! At the end of our first day we came together for a Whole School Assembly. Our Head of School, Simon McCloskey, welcomed new staff and students to ISB. He also reviewed the school's guiding statements and talked about the goals for the year. We also reviewed some important health and safety information. It was great to be back at school and to get together as a community!



We're back! After two long years of Covid restrictions, we have finally been able to reopen our cafeteria. Perspex dividers have been installed on tables (as per BMCOE recommendations) to help keep children Covid-safe. We are once again enjoying a range of healthy, nutritious meals together with a self-service salad and sandwich bar. Everyone is enjoying being back together for lunch times! Please note that the monthly menu is available to download from the school website ([www.isbusan.org/lunch-services](http://www.isbusan.org/lunch-services)).



On Monday we welcomed over fifty new students to the Elementary and Secondary New Family Orientation Sessions. Parents and students were welcomed to the school before being taken on a tour of the campus by our Student Ambassadors, Coordinators and Principals. Families were also able to connect with representatives from the PTA, cafeteria, transport, finance and technology teams. It was great to finally meet so many students arriving from countries across the globe. We would like to thank our fabulous Admissions Staff for organising this event. We would also like to thank our Student Ambassadors for giving up their time to welcome new students to our learning community.



### ECIS Child Protection Certification

We believe that safeguarding and protecting the children in our care is our most important job. We know that learning itself depends on a child feeling safe. This month at ISB, we have committed to ensuring that every employee completes a training course leading to the award of the ECIS Child Protection Certificate. The content for the course was developed by Farrer & Co, a legal firm with a child protection practice and the courses are aligned to standards set by the International Task Force on Child Protection. The course contains embedded assessments leading to an internationally recognized certification. The training will ensure that all of our community members are able to understand and apply the best safeguarding practices and behaviours.

You can find out more about our [safeguarding and child protection practices here](#).

## Whole School News

Our new Black Box Drama Studio is now being thoroughly enjoyed by students! The studio was completed over the summer break and is the new home for MYP Drama and DP Drama and Theatre Studies. We are looking forward to some fabulous performances over the coming months!



We are proud to offer a wide range of after school activities (ASA's) at ISB, with over 40 activities being offered across the school during Season 1. ASA Season 1 Sign-up will open on **Friday 19th August at 3.00pm**. To familiarise yourself with the SchoolsBuddy login and sign-up process, please click on the [ASA Parent Demo Video](#). This video is a step-by-step guide and will show you everything you need to know to sign your child up for an ASA. If students or parents need to meet with our Athletics and Activities Director, Mark Howarth, please note that he is based in the PE Office on the ground floor of C Building.



You will find a link to the SchoolsBuddy Login page on the [ISB Website](#) at the bottom of every page.

 <p>INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF BUSAN Est. 1983</p>	<p><b>Contact Us</b></p> <p>International School of Busan 50 Gijang-daero, Gijang-eup, Gijang-gun, Busan, South Korea 46081 부산국제외국인학교 부산광역시 기장군 기장읍 기장대로 50 46081 Phone: +82 51 742 3332 Fax: +82 51 742 3375 Email: <a href="mailto:info@isbusan.org">info@isbusan.org</a></p>	<p><b>For Current Parents</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">ISB ManageBac Login</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Seesaw Family App Login</a></li><li>• <a href="#">ManageBac Tutorial</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Parent Handbook</a></li><li>• <a href="#">SchoolsBuddy Login</a></li></ul>	<p><b>Calendars</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">School Calendar (Google Calendar)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">2022-2023 School Calendar (PDF)</a></li></ul>
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**“Future of Education”**  
Korea Google for Education Summit

Educator Level 1 Bootcamp: November 18, 2022 (Fri)  
Educator Level 2 Bootcamp: November 18, 2022 (Fri)  
Google Summit: November 19-20, 2022 (Sat & Sun)  
Hosted by: International School of Busan



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Est. 1983

This semester, ISB will host an amazing educational event; the [Future of Education – Korea Google for Education Summit](#). This is going to be an exceptional professional development opportunity that is going to bring together talented teachers from around east asia to the ISB campus. It will be one of the first major face-to-face international school conferences in the region since the start of the pandemic. For ISB, this is a chance to highlight our amazing

school, teachers and pedagogy on a world stage! The focus of the event is ‘The Future of Education’; taking the lessons from the pandemic and applying them to the new vision of teaching and learning for the future. Keynoting the event is the head of Agora schools, Rob Houben, who will be laying out a bold vision for increasing student engagement, agency and authenticity in school. Attending teachers will spend 3 days diving deep into training around Google Workspace for Education tools, hearing inspiring keynotes from world-class educators, and sharing their practice in engaging, hands-on workshops. And of course, there will be some networking and socialising at some amazing events around Busan!

The Future of Education – Korea Google for Education Summit will be taking place on campus from November 18th to 20th and is sure to be a highlight of the professional development year at ISB.

### Campus Improvements

Welcome back to a new school year! Our team at school has been very busy over the summer break with a whole range of projects to upgrade and improve the learning areas on campus. Improvement projects include - creating a new black box drama studio, refurbishing the counselling room, installing new energy efficient air conditioners in the Gym, carpeting the Elementary Hall, planting new cherry blossom trees on the concourse, painting the outside of the Gymnasium, painting all exterior handrails, installing covid-safe perspex dividers in the cafeteria, adding additional external signage, repainting the cafeteria and completing the refurbishment of the DP lounge (installing glass whiteboards and a giant flatscreen TV).



Simon McCloskey

### Goals for 2022-2023

This year we will continue to focus on ways that we can develop and improve our school to provide the best possible learning environment for the students in our care. Our ongoing progress and development is driven by our [Guiding Statements](#) which align with the [2020-24 Strategic Plan](#). Our Strategic Plan is operationalised with a Whole School Action Plan and each year our staff focus on goals taken from this plan. The goals provide a clear connection between our guiding statements and the way that we resource and staff our school. The ISB goals for 2022-23 are as follows:

1. Implement sustainable communities of practice that will improve learning and teaching at our school.
2. Redevelop our learning spaces to ensure that they best meet the needs of our learners and support our stated aims as outlined in the ISB Guiding Statements.
3. Embed meaningful and authentic service learning opportunities into our whole-school curriculum.
4. Develop strategies to ensure that the school promotes inclusion, diversity, equity and anti-racism.
5. Collaboratively develop an engaging and contextually appropriate definition of global citizenship and intercultural learning to guide our practice.
6. Ensure that whole-school collaboration is formalised and documented to enhance continuous improvement of the whole school initiatives, objectives and actions.
7. Ensure that all learners have access to a balanced programme of sports and creative arts that includes opportunities to represent the school locally, nationally and internationally.
8. Identify ways to further support the mental health and wellbeing of all learners on campus.
9. Comprehensively review all Health, Safety and Security policies and procedures, ensuring that they are aligned with best practice and statutory requirements.
10. To review and update all mandated IB School Policy Documents.

### Covid-19 Update for ISB Parents

We will continue to inform you by email if there is a confirmed case of Covid-19 in your child's year group. If you receive notification from us, please monitor your child for the symptoms of Covid 19, keep them at home and arrange a Covid test before returning to school. **Please note that we will be providing each child with a Rapid Flow Test kit free of charge to take home on Monday to help keep our school Covid safe.**

## From the Elementary Principal

We have had a fantastic start to the new school year! We have welcomed 36 new students and have been busy learning new routines and discovering our new learning environments. Despite the rainy start, students have enjoyed their break times, exploring the different play options available. We are very happy to be using the school cafeteria again and have been learning new routines to make the process of choosing, eating and clearing away, as smooth as possible. It has been wonderful to see the campus alive with excited and curious students again!



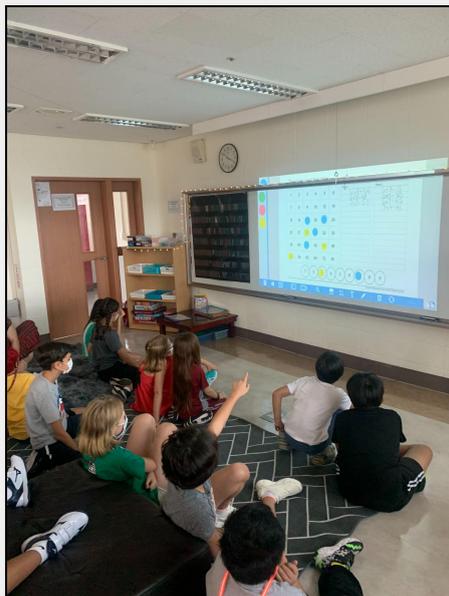
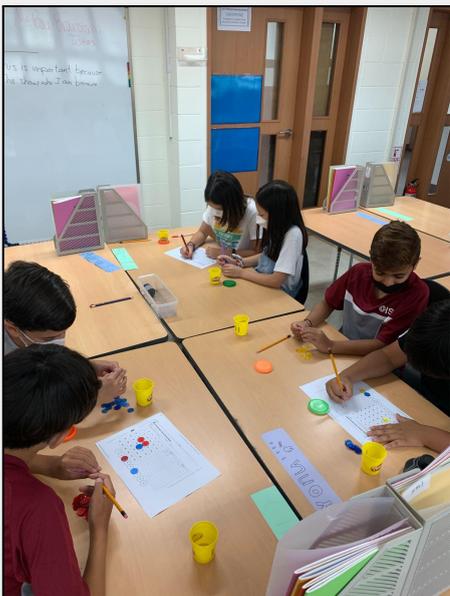
Kevin Smith



## Elementary School Update

### Grade 5 Mathematics Inquiry

This week, Grade 5 jumped right into our learning by developing agreements, playing together, and sharing observations about different mathematical patterns. We learned a new workplace game called the Product Game where students created multiplication equations to try to get four products in a row. Students were discussing, sharing strategies, and celebrating each other in this fun activity.



## Early Years: Back to School

Early Years children have settled down well into the routines and are adjusting to the new school environment this week. The children enjoyed exploring different learning areas, getting to know teachers and friends as well as the routines and school environment. Our EY teachers are very proud of each and every one of them!



## Grade One Skills Focus

Grade one students are busy developing their social and communication skills this week. We are building our understanding that our class is a family.



There is nothing like the start of a new school year! We love welcoming our students back to campus. There is a buzz around school with happy faces (and some tired faces in the morning!) eager to spend time with their friends and meet their teachers.



Gilles Buck

Our outstanding teachers have been welcoming and working hard to have meaningful activities prepared in each and every class. It has been a pleasure to visit classrooms and see engaged students working on a large variety of learning activities.

After a wet start to the week, students and teachers alike were very happy to have the sun shining so that we could spend our breaks and lunch outdoors.



### Relationships, Relationships, Relationships!

*'No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship'*

(Comer 1995)

Secondary School Faculty has focused on establishing relationships, working on subject area relevant ice breakers and orienting all of their students to their class.

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We welcomed 16 new students to the secondary school on Monday, August 15th. We were fortunate to have a wonderful group of Student Ambassadors to guide our new families around campus and welcome our new students to ISB.

On our first day of school, we ran a modified schedule in order to accommodate an extra homeroom to start the day. We wanted to ensure that we had a pastoral touch point with our students in order to orient them to the new school year. Students then visited each of their Tuesday classes but for a shorter 45 minutes. We finished the day with a whole school assembly to celebrate our first day of our new school year!

On Wednesday evening, we welcomed parents to the Secondary School Information Night. It was great to see many of you at our first parent event of the school year. Thank you. We look forward to seeing you at future events around school. Our heads of departments, student support educators and coordinators did an outstanding job of explaining their subject areas, how they support students and how it all ties to our school's mission.

### Upcoming Parent Events!

We have a number of upcoming events to help you better understand the programs in secondary school.

- MYP Information Night: August 22nd 6-7 PM
  - Grade 11 DP Parent Welcome Zoom Conferences: August 25th and 26th
  - DP and College Information evening: August 27th 6-7 PM
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The first event is the MYP Information Night which will take place next Monday, August 22nd from 6 to 7 PM and will be led by Ms. Montague. Ms Montague, our MYP Coordinator, will highlight the unique features of the MYP and give you a glimpse of what it looks like in action. Topics will include curriculum design, teaching and learning strategies, and assessment. The last part of the evening will be dedicated to Grade 10 and will cover the MYP Personal Project and Grade 10 IB MYP eAssessments. If you are NOT able to attend, please feel free to email Ms Montague with any questions at [jmontague@isbusan.org](mailto:jmontague@isbusan.org). You can also find more information on Managebac and in the following documents: [Quick Introduction to the MYP](#) and [How Assessment Works](#).

PLEASE NOTE: This is a parent information evening, your child is not required to attend.

In order to better prepare and tailor our presentations to our parental community, please RSVP using [this form](#) if you plan to attend. Thank you.

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The second event is the Grade 11 parent welcome Zoom conferences. These will be held on Thursday August 25 and Friday August 26 via Zoom. Dr. GJ Johnson (College Counsellor) and Ms Shenstone (DP Coordinator) enjoy this opportunity to learn more about our Grade 11 students by listening to their parents. Please sign up [here](#) for a conference. Dr Johnson will translate for Korean-speaking parents.

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The third event is the DP and College Information Evening which will be held on Monday, August 29th from 6 to 7 PM and will be led by Ms. Shenstone and Dr. Johnson. GJ Johnson is our College Counselor and Ms. Shenstone is our DP coordinator. This session will provide information about the IB Diploma Programme at ISB as well as an overview of the college counselling process in Grades 11 and 12. There will also be a question and answer section of the evening.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a parent information evening, your child is not required to attend.

In order to better prepare and tailor our presentations to our parental community, please RSVP using [this form](#) if you plan to attend. Thank you.

Welcome back and what a fabulous first week! We're slowly getting to know names and faces of our new students, teachers and families, and it's been great getting to connect with everyone through the events and meetings on campus! Here's some 'not-to-be-missed' information to help you stay connected to the PTA and all the events, news updates and more we have in store for you this year! Go Bears!!

Join the ISB PTA [Facebook page](#) and the [Kakao Chat Group for ISB PTA Volunteers](#) here.

SAVE THE DATES

**ISB**  
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**PARENT WORKSHOP**  
& PTA Coffee Morning  
Wednesday, 31st August  
More Info Soon!

HEALTHY HAPPY LEARNING

Networking & Learning  
**THE PYP AT ISB**  
08:45 - 10:00am

ib  
COLLEGIO DEL MONDO • WORLD SCHOOL • ÉCOLE DU MONDE

**ISB INTERNATIONAL DAY**  
**October 15th 2022**

ISB

If you have any questions or want to get in touch with the PTA, please email [PTA@isbusan.org](mailto:PTA@isbusan.org).



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