



The Bear Essentials



The International School of Busan Weekly Newsletter

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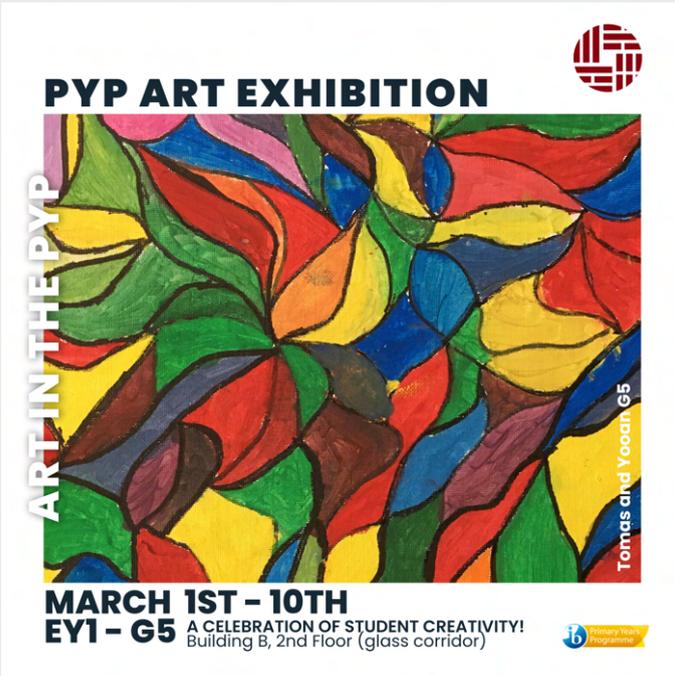
Monday 6th March - MYP Personal Project Showcase
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Tuesday 14th March - Pi Day
Friday 17th March - SKAC HS Basketball Final @ISB/BFS
Monday 20th March - Grade 12 Individual & group photo

Featured Story



Preparations are in full swing for the 40th Anniversary of the International School of Busan! Our official community-wide celebratory event will take place on Wednesday 27th September. In the run-up to the big birthday party we have added some additional 40th anniversary branding and signage to the campus. It looks great! We are proud to be the first IB World School in Busan, educating global citizens since 1983! Check out our [40th anniversary feature in the HAPS Korea Magazine!](#)

PYP & MYP Art Exhibitions

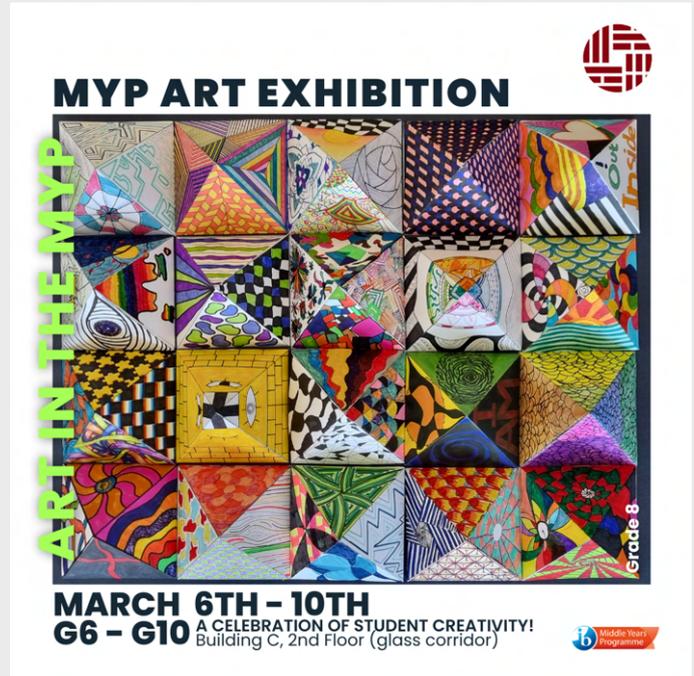


PYP ART EXHIBITION

MARCH 1ST - 10TH
EY1 - G5 A CELEBRATION OF STUDENT CREATIVITY!
 Building B, 2nd Floor (glass corridor)

Primary Years Programme

Tomas and Yeonah G5



MYP ART EXHIBITION

MARCH 6TH - 10TH
G6 - G10 A CELEBRATION OF STUDENT CREATIVITY!
 Building C, 2nd Floor (glass corridor)

Middle Years Programme

Grade 8

If you love art, you won't want to miss the amazing PYP and MYP art exhibitions featuring our talented young artists. Our students have created an incredible array of artwork, including colourful paintings, sculptures, photography, and more! The PYP exhibition showcases artwork from EY1 to G5, while the MYP exhibition features the work of G6 - G10 students. Come and check out our young artists' creativity and hard work before the exhibitions close on March 10th. Check the posters for details.

Spring Concert 2023 'Festival of Flowers' 

Spring has arrived and we are thrilled to invite you to the International School of Busan's Spring Concert, "Festival of Flowers"!
 Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of music, featuring the talented students of ISB. The concert will be held on March 23rd from 1:30pm in the ISB Gymnasium and promises to be full of beautiful melodies and captivating performances. Let the music transport you to another world, as we celebrate the arrival of Spring at ISB!



ISB
 2023 ISB SPRING CONCERT
Festival of Flowers
 March 23rd
 1:30PM / ISB GYMNASIUM
 1:30 to 2:10 Elementary Performers
 2:10 to 2:30 Intermission
 2:30 to 3:30 Secondary Performers & ISB Orchestra

From the School Shop

The ISB zip-up hoodies have finally arrived! We have all sizes so come in on Monday or Wednesday to purchase all your ISB essentials. You can also purchase online and your child can pick up your order at the school shop. The shop is still selling long sleeve burgundy ISB t-shirts. These are perfect for the cooler weather and can be worn under your child's PE uniform too. We continue to sell PE uniforms, House t-shirts and other school items. Come stop in to say hello every Monday and Wednesday from 8:30-4:00.



Student Parent Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all Students, Parents and Teachers for taking time out on Wednesday March 1st, a national holiday to honour the Independence Movement in South Korea, to better understand the learning taking place in the classrooms across the school. Students had a great time sharing some of the in-class activities that take place with mums, dads and grandparents.



These conferences are always a great success and act as an integral part of maintaining communication and mutual cooperation throughout the entire ISB community. We are very grateful to everyone involved for your dedication to healthy, happy learning!

MYP Personal Project Showcase

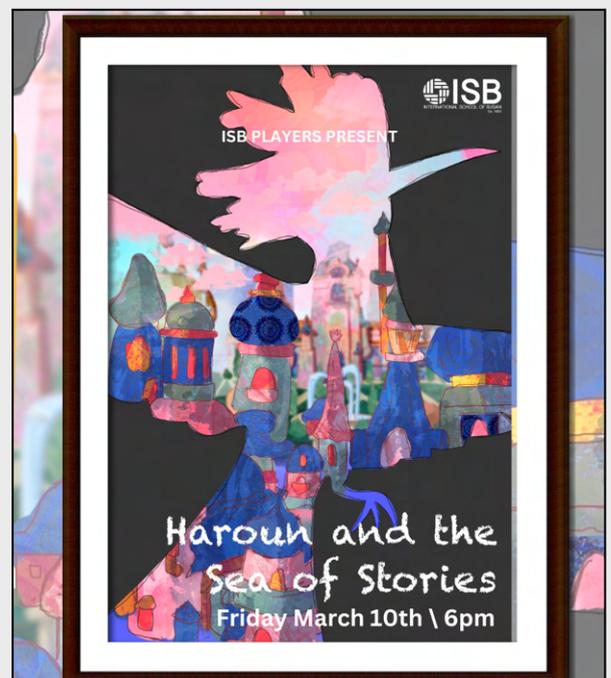
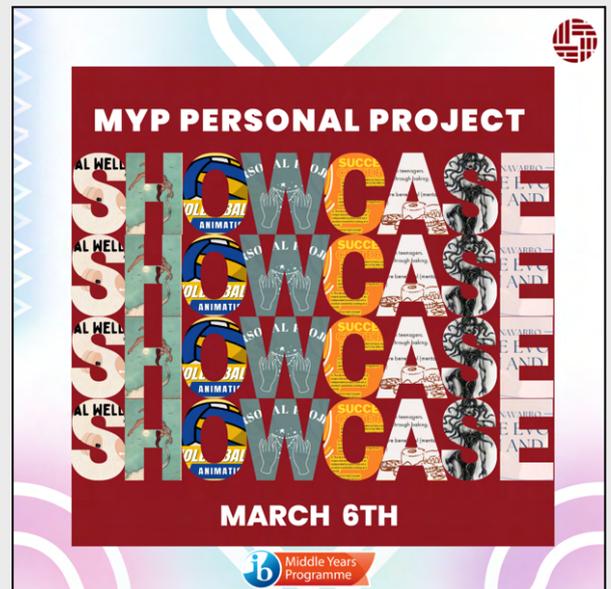
Welcome to the International School of Busan's MYP Personal Project Showcase 2023, where our students' hard work, creativity, and innovation are on display. The MYP Personal Project is a unique opportunity for students to pursue their passions, develop essential skills, and showcase their learning in a culminating project.

Our students have explored a wide range of topics, including aerial skills, health and wellbeing, sport, health, and community service, and created in-depth projects to showcase their learning. We are proud of our students' dedication, creativity, and resilience and grateful for our MYP teachers' support. Thank you for joining us in celebrating our students' achievements. The MYP PP Showcase will take place on March 6th in the Secondary Hall.

Secondary Drama Production

The International School of Busan is proud to announce its upcoming production of "Haroun and the Sea of Stories" by renowned author Salman Rushdie. The play will be performed by the school's talented students and promises to be an unforgettable experience for all who attend.

The performance is scheduled for 6.00pm on Friday 10th March and is expected to run for approximately 90 minutes. The play is appropriate for all ages, and admission is free, making it an ideal outing for families and anyone with a love for the arts. [Click here to reserve your seat!](#)



Healthy Eating at School

To support a healthy learning environment, we encourage our students to make healthy food choices. Food and drinks that fuel physical development increase students' ability to concentrate, leading to increased academic performance. We appreciate your support in sending healthy snack options to school, such as fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and proteins. **Sweets, chips, candies, chocolates and sugar-rich drinks are not appropriate and it is requested that they are not sent to school.** Please also note that ISB is a chewing gum free school. Thank you for helping to keep our campus a healthy, happy learning environment for all!



Simon McCloskey

Learning Focused Classrooms

This week our students were reminded that they should not be using mobile phones or wearing earbuds at school, they should not be eating junk food in lessons and they should not be wearing caps or have their hoodies up in class. We want students at ISB to be polite, respectful and focused on their learning without distractions. We would be very grateful if you could reinforce this message at home so that our teachers can focus on great teaching and learning, rather than reminding students about our expectations. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

School Improvement

One of the objectives listed in our [strategic plan](#) is...

“Ensure that the designated space, location and usage of all classroom and office space is appropriate for the needs of the current school population and reassign usage, as required, to meet the school’s needs”.

This is reflected in one of this year's [Whole School Goals](#)...

“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](#)”.



At the [Future Learning Retreat](#) in April 2022, students, teachers, parents and members of the leadership came together to envision and prototype the next generation of learning spaces on our campus. The thoughts and ideas stemming from these discussions have contributed to the ongoing design and development of our school. I am delighted to announce that the latest ISB development project will be initiated at the start of the Spring Break on Saturday 25th March (Room B4.10 and Room C4.10). Many of the concepts discussed in the retreat will feature in these designs. We are really excited about seeing these ideas brought to life and to seeing the new learning spaces in action!

New MYP Coordinator Transition Visit

Next week our new MYP Coordinator, [Solène Matsushita](#), will be visiting ISB for a transition visit prior to her arrival in August 2023. Please do say hello and welcome her to our community if you see her around school next week.

From the Elementary Principal

On Wednesday, the PYP classrooms were buzzing with excitement as students proudly took their parents (and sometimes grandparents) on a journey through their learning in the different subject areas.

Students and teachers put a tremendous amount of work into preparing for this important communication about learning with parents. We hope it was a positive experience for you. Please take a moment to fill in this survey (in [English](#), in [Korean](#)) to help us improve our SLCs for next year.



Kevin Smith



PYP Learning Focus

Cardboard Challenge

The Elementary School Cardboard Challenge [Outdoor Edition] is back!! Yesterday afternoon our PYP house teams got together to take part in the ISB Cardboard Challenge. Students are always excited to unleash their creativity and collaborate on these cardboard art and design projects, with free reign to let their imaginations run wild! From coffee shops to robots and even the Great Wall of cardboard, students brought their imaginations to life.



Not only do the students have lots of fun, the challenge demands teamwork, communication skills, cooperation, experimentation and problem solving skills, too. A fine example of why creativity is an essential part of learning. Thanks to our teachers and well done to our crafty teams! Go Bears!



Grade 2 Technology Skills

The Grade 2 students have been working very hard to develop their technology skills. In recent weeks they have learned to:

- share their learning by speaking on camera
- record high quality videos with different camera angles
- teach film-making skills to younger students
- complete an online Google form with option buttons and text entries
- choose from a range of QR codes to access websites
- begin to design their own e-books using Book Creator...and much, much more! Well done to all the children for being such great risk takers and inquirers. Also a big thank you to Mr Plotzki and his team for keeping our resources updated!



Grade 3 Science Museum Trip

Last week Grade 3 visited the Busan Children's Museum and the Busan Science Museum to experience and learn about forces, motion and simple machines. They had an absolute blast, using pulleys to do some fishing, nerf guns to experience the pushing force, metal slides to test out friction and so much more.



Through play and experimenting we tested out many forces and machines. They also had a chance to watch a planetarium show about the force of gravity and its role in the universe with references to Isaac Newton and Einstein. Grade 3 showed excellent self-management and social skills during the trip and made our school proud with their principled behaviour. We look forward to our next trip!

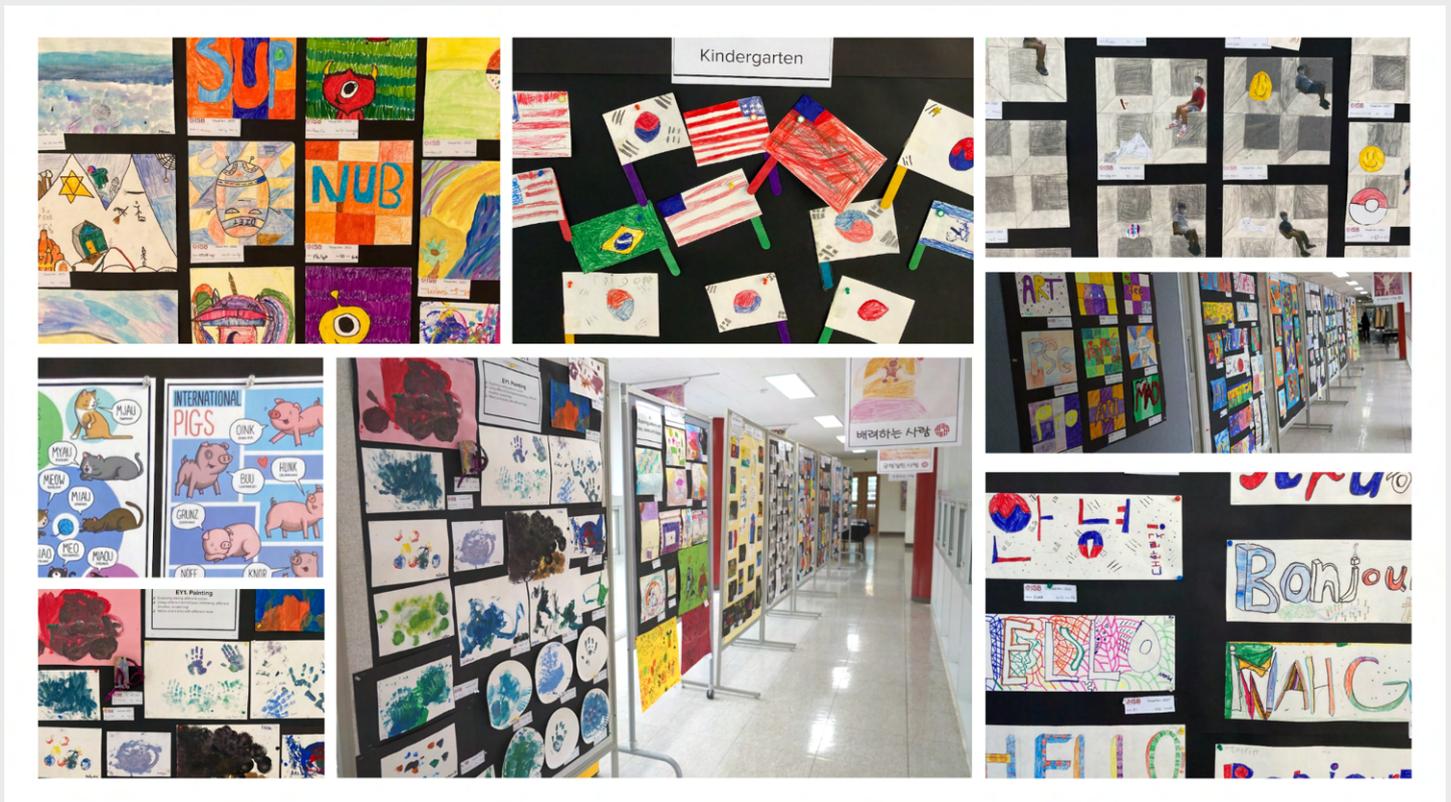
Grade 1 Shadow Puppets

Grade one students have been busy practising their shadow puppet shows and performing for their classmates. This experience has led to conversations about performance as well as experimentation with light.



PYP Art Exhibition

This week our students from EY1 to Grade 5 opened their PYP Art Exhibition. Their artworks are vibrant, full of colours, graphic elements, textures and show their amazing creative ideas. They are excellent. We kindly invite you to take time and visit the exhibition. The artworks are inspiring and meaningful. Here are some glimpses in pictures to have an idea. The exhibition is running until 10th of March 2023.



From the Secondary Principal

March started this week with our Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences. It was wonderful to be able to welcome many of you to campus. I trust you found the conferences informative and helpful in supporting your child in their learning. As we begin to celebrate the upcoming Spring season, we are also beginning to celebrate and exhibit many of the accomplishments of our students. March is full of events on campus where you are cordially invited to view the outstanding student work. Next week, the secondary school has its art exhibition and on Monday, Grade 10 students will show off their Personal Projects through the exhibition in the Secondary Hall from 9am to 3pm.



Gilles Buck

Exhibiting the projects and speaking about their work and the process to complete the project is very much part of the learning experience of the Personal Project. We welcome you to stop by and ask students questions. At the end of next week, we will host the Drama production and later this month the Spring Music Concert. Please check the posters in the Whole School section of the newsletter for more details.

For Grade 12 students, the Mock exams begin on Friday, March 10th. Although a stressful time because of the high stakes environment, students are often able to reflect on how much they have learned through the last two years of High School. I am always impressed with how well they manage the rigour of the exams and how they learn from the Mock exams to improve into the final push of the Diploma exams during the month of May.

Upcoming Secondary Events

- Secondary Art Exhibition - March 6th - 10th
- Personal Project Exhibition - March 6th, 9am to 3pm
- Secondary Drama Production - Friday, March 10th, 6 pm
- Spring Music Concert - Thursday, March 23rd, 1:30 pm

College Corner

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

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

Zumba

We are excited to report that our Grade 6, 8 and 9 students recently completed a Zumba unit in PE. The students were put into groups and tasked with creating their own Zumba routines, which required them to communicate effectively, collaborate to choreograph a routine, and support one another. The development of relationship and teamwork skills is a critical aspect of our PHE curriculum, and we are thrilled to see our students excelling in this area. They were able to use technology to research ideas and improve their performance during the unit.



We, as a PE department also incorporated videos, online resources and an outside Zumba instructor to help the students master the various dance moves and routines. The students were assessed on all four MYP IB criteria: A - Knowledge and Understanding, B - Planning for performance, C - Performing, and D - Reflection. The Zumba unit provided a unique opportunity for our students to explore a new form of exercise and develop their physical fitness and coordination skills. We are proud of their hard work and dedication to this unit and look forward to incorporating more technology into our PHE curriculum in the future.



As part of their final performance, the students were given the opportunity to express their identity through their clothing. The students were encouraged to wear their own clothing to the Zumba class, allowing them to showcase their unique personalities and interests. This not only allowed for individual expression but also created a sense of inclusivity and acceptance within the class. The inclusion of self-expression in the final performance is testament to our school's commitment to promoting a culture of acceptance and diversity.



Grade 7 Dance Music Video Creation

During our grade 7 movement competence unit our students focused on building a dance video with moves that they created by themselves. The students focus on building a plan which allows them to develop moves in synchronisation with their co-dancers. They also recorded their dances using handheld gimbals as a way to incorporate technology into our unit. The students made



really inspiring reflection videos using WeVideo which allowed for them to continuously document their progress and evolve their dances. These dances will be available for viewing very shortly. This is such a wonderful opportunity to participate in a student led unit where they are allowed to express and create movements freely. It also allows for students to develop their interpersonal skills which can translate into different areas of their learning.

Grade 10

Our Grade 10 students are currently hard at work on their PHE e-Portfolio as part of the MYP IB programme. This year, the focus is centred around the practice of yoga, which has proven to be a fantastic way for our students to develop physical fitness, mindfulness, and stress reduction skills. The students have to work as both coach and client to identify the components of fitness they need to improve upon.



Over a 6-week period, the students will design and execute a personalised training program aimed at improving their specific components of fitness they have identified. This project provides a unique opportunity for our students to develop their skills in coaching, communication, and critical thinking. By working closely with their peers, they will learn how to set measurable goals and develop strategies to achieve them.



Additionally, they will gain a deeper understanding of the different components of fitness and how they can be improved through targeted training programmes. We were fortunate enough to have professional yoga instructors come in and help our students with their performance for Criteria C. The instructors provided valuable guidance to our students, helping them work on technique and movements.

The students were thrilled to have the opportunity to learn from a professional and to apply what they've learned to their final project.



Introducing

Each week we interview someone from our learning community. This week we caught up with Ms Yuni Gysbers.

Qualification and certifications: Postgraduate Certificate in Library and Information Service Management , Postgraduate Certificate in Education (international), BSc in Environmental Science with Teaching Certification.

What is your role at ISB? PYP Librarian

Our community really is an international community! Where would you say you're from and where else have you lived? I am from Korea and I've lived in New Zealand, Canada, and China. I have also travelled around the world by myself, visiting 18 countries for 10 months

What inspired you to become a teacher? Teaching is all about constant learning - not only do I get to learn from my students, but we learn together. Seeing the unique perspectives and ideas they bring to the table is amazing, and those are the things that inspired me to become a teacher.

What is your educational philosophy? I believe that every student has unique talents, and interests, and needs, and that it is essential to create a safe learning environment that caters to these individual differences. As a librarian, I aim to cultivate a dynamic library space that fosters a love of reading and supports students in exploring their diverse interests to discover new possibilities for themselves. I also place a high value on creating a warm and caring environment where students feel valued, respected, and empowered to express themselves in meaningful ways.



What made you choose ISB? I like the fact that ISB is small, multicultural, and family-oriented. Also, I think Busan is a really beautiful and nice place to live.



What is the best part of your job? One of the best parts of my job is enjoying books with our students. It's really exciting to find a book, and read it together, discuss it and learn about the world. Reading is not only enjoyable but also an excellent way to gain new perspectives.

What are your hobbies and interests? I like to read books in a cosy place, and I enjoy baking and sharing food with my family and friends. I also love to travel and explore new places.

What is your favourite quote? "What doesn't kill me, makes me stronger." / "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr. Seuss / "Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world." - Malala Yousafzai

What is the impact you'd like to have on the world? It would be great if I could give the joy of reading to every student.