



# ISF Waterloo International School

Ignite a passion for learning



## Save the Date:

24 April - Exhibition of student's Battle of Waterloo Work- all welcome

28 April - Going Google Parent Presentation- 19:00-21:30

30 April - ISF Sports Day

1 May - No school

4 May - Primary Cambridge exams, Primary Parent/teacher evening

5 May - Teacher Appreciation Lunch- organised by the PTA

12 May - PTA meeting 14:30-15:30

14,15 May - No school

18 May - 14:00-15:30pm Mike Crumplin speaks about historic medicine and surgery- all welcome

## News from the Head of School

In February we launched our programme of Inspirational Presentations for parents and the public. For our first presentation we welcomed Daragh Comerford from BSB who discussed the role that technology plays in a young person's life today and the importance of teaching our children about E-Safety.



In March we welcomed an expert in multilingualism; Professor Piet Van De Craen who spoke about effective ways of learning languages and the effects on the brain. We thank both speakers for their thought provoking sessions.



This term we continue our programme, on Tuesday 26th April the ISF Google Certified team will demonstrate the apps of the Google platform through a practical hands on session to explain what it means to GO GOOGLE.



On May 18 during the afternoon we welcome Mick Crumplin; a British retired surgeon who is an expert in historic medicine and surgery. He will be giving a talk to Secondary students entitled: 'The Bloody Fields of Waterloo - Medical Support for Wellington's Greatest Battle.' All parents are welcome to attend.

**Belinda Yates**  
**Head of School**

### Technology Update Part 3:

One of our educational focus' this year was introducing the Google Platform at ISF. This introduction meant that all of our teachers and administrators needed training. I am proud to announce that 100 % of our staff are now officially Google Trained! Ms Orla Mc Loughlin, my assistant Mrs Sinead Mooney and myself have also followed more advanced Google courses and proud to say we are Google Certified Educators.

This newsletter I would like to highlight our use of TABLETS at ISF Waterloo.

#### What is a tablet?

A **tablet** is a wireless, portable personal computer with a touch screen instead of a keyboard.

As we are a Google for Education school we have chosen for Android tablets instead of ipads. We use both the Nexus 7 (small tablet) and Nexus 10. They are small, portable and make resources easily accessible and environmentally friendly as teachers no longer need to photocopy booklets. All classes from Pre-school to A Level use tablets.

#### What do we use tablets for at ISF?

- Research is at students fingertips
- Educational apps to practice mental maths, memorise the periodic table to seeing the anatomy of the human body, learning letters. As we differentiate our learning students can access a range of different apps to different apps according to their needs
- Teachers use tablets to maximize instruction during potentially wasted transitions between activities and encouraging independent learning
- Interactive Books- digital books allow children to hear a word being pronounced, see at a touch of the screen the meaning of the word or find a synonym
- as a Camera, filming and video conferencing
- as a digital translating device



## News from Middle Years

### Poetry and Descriptive Writing Assembly

During book week students throughout the school were busy with their creative writing. Our theme this year was the Battle of Waterloo. In Primary the students were busy creating various pieces of work, from narrative poems by class 7, read by Libby and Martine, Waterloo from Abba sung by Pre-school and Class 1 and a Drama/Musical piece from Class 6. Class 4 used bottles to create accompaniment to their work and classes 2 and 3 wrote a poem together presenting it each reading a line. In Class 5 the students wrote acrostic poems and then chose the best from their class. This was Noé and he read this, along with Salwa reading a piece about being a nurse on the battlefields.

In Secondary the students took part in our annual poetry competition and from this we chose our winners. These were: Aryan Bhagat MY 1, first, Stacey Lamptey A Levels, second and Al Brown, MY 3 third. Each of our winners read their poems out for the audience. We also had two other students read out their creative writing work, Alexis Dumelie IGCSE 1 and Tasnim Assiri MY 2. The assembly was brought to a close with a presentation by Noe Vagner-Clevenot in IGCSE 2, all about the Battle of Waterloo. An assembly showing many creative talents, and some students were appropriately attired in their hats, sashes and rosettes, well done to all!

**Mrs Hodges**  
Head of Middle Years

## History

### UNDERSTANDING SLAVERY

MY3 have been studying the institution of slavery as it existed during the height of the transatlantic slave trade. Considering the horrors of the slave experience, and the economic, political and social processes that led to the growth of this institution, and later the movements that developed to abolish and legislate against it has given ISF Waterloo students an historical context against which to consider modern forms of slavery in the world and an examination of modern historical document such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They ended this unit by using their chromebooks to design campaign posters against modern forms of slavery.



United Nations, Photo: iStockphoto, iStockphoto, iStockphoto, iStockphoto

## Project Management

In Project Management, MY3 students' project is to create two movies about our school. Our students have show a great interest on this project and are taking most of the decisions themselves. They write their script, choose the locations, set up the scenes, take the video, do the sound mixing and edit the movies. By doing so, they develop their skills in organisation, communication, planning, assigning tasks and respecting deadlines, but also enjoying the company of each other and having a great time sharing their creative ideas!



## Art

### **Artwork by Tasnim Assiri in MY 2**

Students in MY2 made their own mythological creatures, focusing on dream imagery, the subconscious, spontaneity and play.



## English

The following is the opening to a piece of narrative writing for English by Elsa Vermoesen in IGCSE 2.

### **The Truth Powder**

It was Sunday morning when it happened. The fog was hanging lower than usual and it was way too warm outside to be January. I was sitting by the kitchen table calmly reading an article in the newspaper about the new miracle polish.

Suddenly, in the middle of my sentence the bell rang. The jolly tune filled the house. I walked out the kitchen and went through the hallway towards the big brown door. I touched the cold door handle, which took me by surprise by how freezing it was, and I quickly withdrew my hand. I built up the courage to grab the handle, push it down and pull the massive door open.

The stranger at my door was huge. He had a patch of hair missing at the top of his head. The man resembled a bear, with humongous shoulders and big muscular arms. Due to his outfit, it was impossible to see whether or not he had one of those world famous American beer bellies. His costume seemed off but I couldn't place what was wrong with it. The collar wasn't straight and the black overcoat didn't close properly. He had a little black sample case with him.

I didn't want him here. I wanted to sit by the kitchen table and calmly read the newspaper but now he was here and I wasn't sure whether to invite him in or decline when he mumbled in a deep voice, "Can I show you what I'm selling?"

**Elsa Vermoesen**

## Drama

This month we have been very busy in the drama lessons preparing a special piece for the Summer Fair! All the MYs are working hard to create their own interpretation of the Battle of Waterloo- Watch this space!

## News from Secondary

On Thursday 26 March 2015, ISF Waterloo was very privileged to host Professor Van De Craen, one of the world's leading experts in brain development through multilingualism, for a well-attended talk on "The Learning Brain - Language learning in children - how do they do it?"

As our Head of School, Belinda Yates, said in her opening address, this topic is one that is very close to our hearts at ISF Waterloo International School. We provide education in the English language to a student body this year comprised of 38 different nationalities and 29 different language backgrounds and we believe that language learning is best fostered in an environment that respects and acknowledges the Mother Tongue languages of all of our students.

The Professor's talk was scholarly and entertaining in equal measure and it focused on the benefits of Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) methods of second language learning. Discussing how connections are made in the developing brain, Professor Van De Craen explained that, because it encourages implicit rather than explicit learning, the CLIL method creates better learners. In a similar way to music and chess, second language learning promotes better results for the target language but also has very interesting implications for learning more generally. And, very interestingly, research shows that the Mother Tongue (First Language) does not lose out!



The audience included: educators from other educational institutions and International Schools involved in multilingual learning in Belgium, journalists, the ISF Waterloo Board Director, board members, teachers and parents. At the close of the evening, over drinks and nibbles, guests had the chance to speak with Professor Van De Craen regarding their own students and children and found that any misconceptions and fears they may have had about multilingualism were addressed and alleviated.

It was a wonderful evening and so a huge thank you is due to Professor Van De Craen for an inspiring and interesting talk, and to Kaisa Sorjonen and Belinda Yates for organising this event!

**Kate Morrison**  
Head of High School

## Science Fair – The Human Body

The projects were as varied as the different parts of the human body and ranged from the importance of sleep and acupuncture to taste buds and the effect of caffeine on the human heart... to name only a few.



Although we did have one *human* skeleton, our very own Elvis, we had a few other (non-human) parts for demonstration purposes: cow eyes, pig hearts, and a cow tongue.

The projects were assessed based on both scientific knowledge and presentation.

All the projects were interesting and engaging and three top winners were chosen:

**1st prize:** Alexis Dumelie for his project on The Effect of Gaming on the Body

**2nd prize:** Patrick Levy, Al Brown and Sagar Singh for their project on The Human Brain

**3rd prize:** Samra Goraya for her project on The Human Skin

Adnan Alhou and Judy Alhou have also each received an Extra Effort Award.

Primary students and parents were also invited to come and attend the presentations.

Well done everyone!

## Revision Survival Guide

After the winter we are all looking forward to the springtime and sunnier weather! For many of the High School students the spring and early summer is also punctuated by their IGCSE and A-level examinations. Therefore, we felt that students might be able to use some help so that they can both develop good study habits and also not completely miss out on the start of the brighter spring weather as they contemplate their revision time in the weeks ahead! So for our examination students - this is for you:

### REVISION SURVIVAL GUIDE

It is the time of year where exams are looming and we know it can be stressful for all of you IGCSE and A-level students contemplating your work over the last 1-2 years; how you are going to remember it all and demonstrate what you have learned on examination day?

Well, with that in mind we are here to help! Here are some tips for ensuring that you can manage your time and your stress levels, and perform on exam day with confidence!

- **Start early.** Give yourself as much time as possible to review material. Make a timetable that prioritises subjects in the order that you will sit exams and plan what you are going to study, how you are going to study and when. Be realistic! Give yourself breaks and time off. Strike a balance so that you feel you have earned your breaks.
- **Mix It Up** - be honest about the subjects you prefer to study and place less enjoyable topics next to more enjoyable ones so that you cover them both fully!
- **Create a Study Zone.** Make sure that it gives you space, quiet and enough light. Get comfortable, but not too comfortable. Studying on a bed or sofa is not advisable. A desk or table with a comfortable chair is a good idea - a study zone that emulates the exam situation can be helpful for memory.
- **Don't Clock Watch.** Don't over focus on the time and remove external distractions and stimuli. Put mobile phones, computer games, televisions where they are less likely to tempt you. Set aside time as a reward in your timetable for contacting friends, playing a game or watching a show and try to do these activities away from your study zone.
- **Create Memory Aids:**
  - Key Word lists: create these for specific topics to remember the themes.
  - Colour is your friend: colourful posters, colour coded notes, coloured pens are good visual aids for remember details
  - Hear yourself: record yourself reading your notes and the play the track back. Hearing yourself speak the information can help!
  - Flashcards: condense notes, formula or topics and work with friends or family to test knowledge. Lined, rectangular note cards are good for this!
  - Post-it everywhere: write words, terms or equations on post-it notes and post them everywhere - bombard your brain with reminders!
  - Cambridge PAST PAPERS!!! [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk). You know this one already. Use them for every subject!
  - Revise Exam Skills: technique is important for IGCSE and AS/A-level. Properly read questions and consider what it is asking - you can lose marks for failing to answer a question correctly!

Finally, it is important to remember what we "SED" in this article about exam revision! Do I mean "said"? No, I meant, "SED"!

**SLEEP** - get enough, 8-10 hours for the teenage brain!

**EXERCISE** - an active body supports an active brain!

**DIET** - good, regular, nutritious meals and snacks for feeding that brain!!

**Good luck!**

**Kate Morrison**

**Head of High School**





## News from Primary

On Friday March 27th, ISF Waterloo organised an inter schools football tournament as part of our celebrations of the Bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo. Teams from BEPS International and St Paul's Primary were invited to our school to play in this very special tournament.

All the teams arrived early in the morning, full of excitement and anticipation. All were turned out in their school colours, ready to play, make new friends and have fun. Mr Thumwood started the day off by explaining the rules of the tournament, and then the matches began. We had our first set of matches in the school gym. There were supports from all three schools cheering on the teams and the ISF Cheerleaders cheered for their team but also encouraged the visiting teams too.

After break, the rest of the games were played on our Belle Alliance Sports Arena. There was a sense of excitement and nervousness as we reached the knockout stages. As each game was played, the losing teams were knocked out and we edged closer and closer to the final. The teams all showed a great sense of team spirit and fair play.

Finally the long anticipated final! Teams from BEPS International and St Paul's Primary played against each other to win the Battle of Waterloo Bicentenary Cup. BEPS were the victors winning by 3-0. The day ended with the prize giving. All the players received a medal for taking part and playing with enthusiasm. Our Cheerleaders were also rewarded with a medal for all their support. One player from each school received a 'Fair Play' award, these were given to students who showed a great sense of respect, fair play and team spirit, showing support for each other and encouraging each other to do well. Finally the cup was awarded to a very happy BEPS team; they were delighted with their well-deserved win.

It was a fantastic day and all the teams are ready to play again next year, giving us a chance to win back the cup. ISF Waterloo would like to thank the staff and students from BEPS and St Paul's for participating, Mr Thumwood for all his help organising the day, our own staff and students for their skills and support and many thanks to all the parents who attended from all three schools, your support and enthusiasm helped to make the day.

Now let's get training for next year!

**Orla Mc Loughlin**  
**Head of Primary**

## Pre-school

The Pre-school IPC Unit this term was 'Sand and Water'. This unit was packed with sensory experiences, group activities and many fun experiences. The students learned where sand and water are found and what you can do with them. They participated in a foamy treasure hunt, went fishing and played on a mini beach. They students also made many crafts and experimented with different crafts using salt, water, paint, paper towels and coloured rice. The students learned about teamwork and did an excellent job taking turns. Well done Pre-school!



## French

How exciting for preschool students to compose a puzzle! Each of them gets a turn, picks up two pieces and discovers one of his favorite



vegetables. At the end, when the puzzle is completed, we are almost ready for shopping with Mom and Dad. We might surprise them at the supermarket asking to buy some "choux de Bruxelles" or "des petits pois" for lunch.

## Class 1

As part of our IPC Unit 'Shopping', Class 1 visited Woluwe Shopping Centre to complete a Scavenger Hunt and also to help Winnie the class bear, shop for his birthday party. We all headed off in the morning on the school bus, which was very exciting. When we arrived at the shopping center, Ms Orla gave everyone a clipboard with a list of items that we had to find in different shops in the center. We got a sticker for every item we found. We found beds, curtains, lots of televisions, clothes, shoes, books, phones,



computers and so much more! We also had to find a chocolate shop and when we did the lady there gave us all a chocolate egg. Later we helped our class bear, Winnie, shop for his birthday party, he sat in the trolley and we pushed him around collecting all the items on his list. We were tired and hungry after all that shopping so we went to a Cafe and had a drink and a chocolate cake. It was delicious! Then we had to get back on the bus and head back to school. In the afternoon, we helped Winnie celebrate his birthday using all the items we bought in the shop. It was a fun day and we are now all super shoppers!



## Music



Here is Class 4 performing different kinds of rhythms with their music teacher Mr David.

The point is to manage to hear the contrast between Ternary Rhythms and Binary Rhythms... It is never obvious.

## Class 2

The 27th of February Class 2 went on a trip to the Kid's Factory. We had a quick lunch at school and we went to the school bus. Students were very excited and some of them, that had already been there, explained to their classmates all the amazing things they were going to do. When we arrived they had just opened so we had the entire area just for us! Students had great fun playing and running up and down. There were 3 different play areas with slides, bouncing beds and many other things. Around half time we stopped for a quick drink and



then continued playing until the end. Even Miss Arancha came in to play with us for a bit!

## Class 3

Within their IPC unit ***The Stories People Tell***, Class 3

students created their own stories.

They first brainstormed their ideas, and then gave a quick oral

presentation of what their stories would be about. They then wrote a rough draft of their stories, step by step, putting in writing a story from



beginning to end. All groups opted for fiction. And they came up with great ideas! But what Mrs Peeters was mostly proud of was



the children's ability to work in teams. Well done, Class 3!

## Class 4

In our IPC Unit 'Shaping Up' Class 4 has been learning about the human body. We first created a 'wordle' based on everything we knew about 'being in shape'.

After that, we did some research on the school tablets and found out that our skeleton is made up of 206 bones and that our bones are held together by joints, muscles, tendons and ligaments, and so much more!

We were excited to have Elvis (skeleton) visit our class and of course, we all wanted to take a closer look! After creating our own skeleton, we decided to find out more about the main organs in our body.

In groups we made a contour of one of our classmates and attached the main organs on our drawing. We are looking forward to learning much more in the coming weeks!



## Class 5

This month we have had a lot fun learning about the Egyptians. We made pyramids out of sugar blocks and later we brush painted them in gold. We learned that pyramids were used to bury the Pharaohs with all their treasures.



We have also learned to dissect fish. We wanted to learn the process of mummification and for this we took out the organs of the fish. I think that we will never forget this experience. It was very smelly!!



## Class 6

Class 6 has been working during the last number of weeks on Belgium's geography and history. Students have been also comparing their home countries with their host country. They have carried out loads of activities about it: worksheets, maps, arts for our display board and as an exit point, Class 6 visited the Belvue Museum in Brussels, where they were challenged to solve some mysteries in the 8 galleries that the Museum has. It was fun!



## Class 7

Having reached the completion of their I.P.C. unit on 'The Human Body' and as part of their unit Exit Point, Class 7 went on a field trip to Pass (Parc d'aventures scientifiques) in Frameries. Here the students got the opportunity to visit the 'My Body, My Health' exhibition as well as discover audio-visual techniques and make a TV news broadcast in a real television studio. They also viewed a film in 5D projection in a cubic theatre on sustainable development entitled 'Does the Future Have a Future?' Libby Aylward made the following comment after the trip. 'I really enjoyed getting to make our own TV broadcast because it was something very creative to do as a class. I also enjoyed looking at how a TV studio actually works and how everything has such detail'.





## French 1

During the month of March, students from Class 4 to 7 have discovered the use of different tenses through interactive games with the chromebooks.

It has turned out to be a fun way of learning that we will continue in the future, and not only for the tenses!

## French 2

In French 2 Classes 4-5-6-7 we speak this beautiful language learning a lot with the help of the new technology! They could use the headphones to listen the words while answering the interactive exercises.



Thank you for reading!

More news and exciting events in our next newsletter.

