

BaSICS NEWSLETTER

No. 27

Coffee with Leadership Review

Tim Kelley and Sarah Kupke met with some parents on Tuesday afternoon to talk about developments at BaSICS.

Strategic Developments:

The ISS Board is fully committed to the BaSICS expansion; there is continued demand for international students. It is not even a year since we moved into our current building and the move and development of the educational programme has been as challenging as it has been exciting. Since we came to Hallenser Straße in May last year, we have:

- Added 9th grade
- Added a second 3rd and 4th grade class
- Added a 3 year old group to the Early Learning Centre
- Increased our After School Activities Programme options
- Increased the number of students from 92 to 132

There will be further expansions in the next school year, which will be communicated in the coming weeks. In particular, we will try to indicate the new class combinations and teachers as soon as possible, so that students can prepare mentally for the year ahead. It is clear that the mobile populations of international schools mean that early planning may sometimes be adjusted in the summer months, but our intention is to provide as much information and transparency as possible.

Playground Development:

Conscious of the need for our students to have structured, meaningful play experiences, we are pleased to be moving forward with construction of short term, (climbing structure and see-saw) and mid-term – benches and slide) playground equipment. Please see newsletter no. 25.

Building Development:

Plans are in place for the summer break, to facilitate further expansion:

- A door will be cut out through to the upstairs corridor so all Middle and High students can move between classrooms inside the building, leaving the staircase for Early Years exclusively for the ELC
- The central space (currently the cafeteria) will become the library and music room
- Treffpunkt Learning will be used as the cafeteria and still a multi-purpose, performance area
- The science laboratory will be invested in to further enhance the science program

(cont. next page)

MYP Curriculum Development

You will have read recently, about the developments in the **International Baccalaureate, Middle Years Programme**. BaSICS is currently applying for candidate status with the MYP, which will be administered and managed by Rebecca Jones-Bürk. Sarah Kupke is attending MYP training for school Heads this weekend. By striving towards MYP authorisation for modification we will achieve the following goals:

- The Middle Years programme will be the same on both campuses
- We will be retaining the integrity of the dual language approach to support the mother tongue learning of our students
- Both ISS campuses will move towards moderation of the MYP, that will be given recognition by the KMK (Kultusministerium Konferenz), as equivalent to the *Mittlerereife*, providing we fulfill certain requirements. ISS is one of only 7 schools in Germany that have been offered this opportunity at this stage.

Preparing our Middle Years Students for their continued learning journey:

Our 8th and 9th graders are the pioneers of our school. They have always been the oldest students in school, paving the way for those in the lower grade levels. To help them to envisage their educational pathway, we are putting a number of initiatives in place including:

- Mary-Jane Martin and Brent MacAvoy (Degerloch) led an evening information meeting for teachers and students earlier this year
- Rebecca Jones-Bürk (BaSICS Director of Academics) led a session with 8th and 9th graders today, describing the structure of the International Baccalaureate, Middle Years Programme and how it leads to the choices for the Diploma programme
- Mary-Jane Martin (Degerloch High School Principal) and Matthias Krusch (Degerloch Middle School Principal) will work with 8th and 9th graders on Tuesday afternoon next week, to further develop the profile of a middle school student and the transition from Middle School to High School expectations for learning
- A past ISS student (Jan Bürk) will speak to the Middle Years students about his experiences in his *soziales Jahr* (Gap year work experience)
- We will be inviting various people to talk about their careers, to give our students an impression of what qualifications and professional attributes they need to work in different interesting jobs. (Parent presenters also welcome)
- We will be preparing students for a work-experience / internship week in 10th Grade
- We will be picking up from the skills that are being introduced on our campus through the "Flexible Friday" activities, to refine and improve upon research and independent working skills that will be necessary for the Grade 10 *Personal Project*.

Behavioural Issues in School:

We are working intensively on the behavioural expectations of our students at this time, focusing again on the particular philosophy of our school with respect to discipline. Essentially, there are two approaches we can take:

1) The formulaic model, which has rules and regulations that are determined by behavior and punishments

OR

2) A Case by case model, which is fairer to the child but of course open to criticism for not treating everyone the same way.

On both campuses at ISS we favour the 2nd of these models, by teaching the student that we each take responsibility for our own responses to situations. Making positive and responsible choices is not always easy, but part of the character development that we strive to model and support in the students.

Many thanks to the parents who attended the meeting.

With best wishes,
Sarah Kupke

LIBRARY NEWS

Dear Parents,

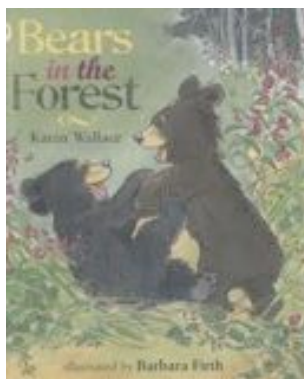
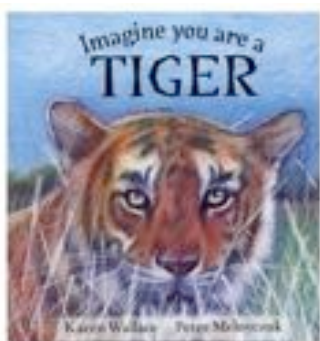
The children enjoyed listening and interacting with the visiting author Karen Wallace on Wednesday morning. They asked her a lot of great questions and were excited to buy books signed by the author.

Some students have reserved some books but not paid yet. You will be receiving e mails from the class teachers of how much they need to pay. Some of these books need to be ordered yet but they will have the author's signature on them. If you want these books, please send in the money by the end of this week. If you have any questions, please write to me at danielj@issev.de

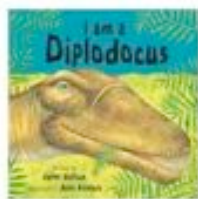
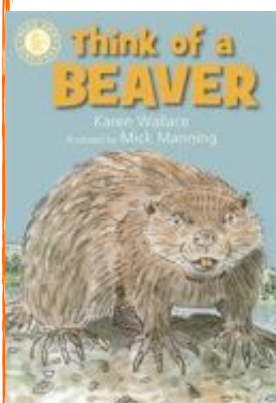
The Scholastic orders are now closed and the orders will be put in by me this week. Thank you for ordering which enables us to get more bonus points for new books for the library.

We still have a few books left over from the author visit for sale (see below). They are all signed by the author. If you are interested in buying them come by the library on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays. One of the library volunteers or myself will be glad to assist you.

Ages 5 – 7, 8.00 Euros Ages 5-7, 8.00 Euros Ages 5-7, 8.00 Euros

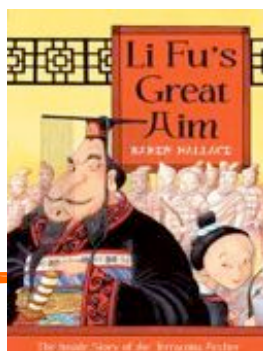


Ages 5-7, 5.00 Euros Ages 5-7, 14.50 Euros Ages 7-9, 6.50 Euros Ages 9-12, 7.50 Euros



Ages 7-9, 6.50 Euros

Ages 7-9, 6.00 Euros



Thank you PTG!

The staff of BaSICS would like to wholeheartedly thank the members of the PTG involved with organizing the beautiful Staff Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday. We so appreciated being appreciated! Thank you to all parents who contributed dishes (everything was delicious!).

Positive Parenting Meeting

The next meeting is on **Tuesday, 27th March at 8.30**. We will have a special guest, Valerie Lang, who is a counsellor. She works with adults in many aspects of counseling and particularly in the area of "Transitions and Adapting to new Cultures" as well as grievance counseling. All parents are warmly invited to attend.

GRADE 8 Parables

As part of a Humanities unit analyzing the causes and consequences of war, Grade 8 students wrote parables to explain their understanding of the unfortunate circumstances that lead to war and some of the circumstances that lead to the end of the conflict. These parables can be viewed by accessing the Grade 8 Humanities page through the BaSICS portal. We hope you have an opportunity to view the students ideas and creativity in understanding the nature of conflicts.

GERMAN LESSONS FOR PARENTS

The lesson will be held once a week on Mondays **from 8.30 to 9.30 am in school (cafeteria)**.

The cost will be Euro 60 per group per hour, so it would be great to have 10 participants (6 Euro per hour for each participant).

Our current group is already advanced, but we welcome every new student (beginners as well!).

The lessons will include conversation, grammar, pronunciation, listening and comprehension, German traditions, etc.

You will need to buy the books

Aussichten A1
Deutsch als Fremdsprache für Erwachsene
Kursbuch mit 2 Audio-CDs
Klett Verlag
and the Exercise book, Euro 14.99 each.

The nice thing about the books is that every lesson can be reviewed at home according to the CDs.

On top of that I will hand out exercise sheets, short poems, stories etc.

We hope to see you soon and welcome you in our German class.

Heidi Trollmann-Häberle, hgh@trollberle.de
German teacher

NEW CRICKET CLUB IN STUTTGART

Jeden Sonntag 11:00-13:00 Uhr
am Universität Stuttgart-Vaihingen

If you might be interested, contact Mrs. Cracroft from BaSICS at
samanthacracroft@hotmail.co.uk.

Parent-Child Open Heart Workshops

On the following pages of the newsletter, please review the possibilities for meditation workshops for parents and children offered at the BaSICS campus.

PARENT-CHILD OPEN HEART WORKSHOP PROGRAM OUTLINE



PROGRAM OUTLINE

SESSION 1

- Objectives for Parents
- Strengthening Your Heart

SESSION 2

- Showing Affection from the Heart
- Strengthening Your Heart with Children

SESSION 3

- Sharing Session
- Interacting from the Heart

SESSION 4

- Review Day and Sharing
- Open Heart Meditation
- Using the Heart in Daily Life

Objectives of Parent-Child Open Heart Workshop

For Parents:

- being here and now enjoying spending time with family members more wholeheartedly
- expressing affection with Love from the heart
- interacting with children without emotional baggage
- disciplining children with Love still radiating out of our heart

For Children

- being here and now, enjoying and appreciating your parents
- listening and obeying your parents joyfully
- interacting with mom and dad without being emotional
- expressing your love for your parents with Love from your heart

PARENT-CHILD OPEN HEART WORKSHOP



Parent-Child Open Heart workshop offers an opportunity for family members to start interacting with one another using their hearts.

Everyone will be guided to be here and now, interacting with one another with less emotion and with more joy.

Presented in three 1.5-hour sessions (with a 1.5 hour introduction session only for the parents), family members will be guided to recognize the wonderful feeling from the heart through Strengthening of the Heart exercises.

Open Heart Meditation will also be introduced, to help family members surrender all negative emotions from their hearts effortlessly.

Typical parent-child situations will be simulated to practice the use of the heart to directly experience the beauty of interacting with each other from the heart.

Venue

BaSICS : Hallenserstr. 2

Times Fridays, 15.45-17.15

April 20th (parents only)

April 27th

May 4th

May 11th

RSVP: infobasics@issev.de

2011 SPECIALS Workshop Fee: € 160 for one parent + one child (ages 7 – 15)

Additional € 60 per child (ages 7 - 15)

If you are enrolling three siblings, they must be accompanied by two adults (combo of parent/grandparent/uncle/aunt is OK) - preferably those living in the same household/have regular interactions with the children.

Additional €80 per adult

We ask that there is a maximum of two adults accompanying each child - no more than two adults per child enrolled please.

The International School of Stuttgart presents...

The 25th Annual Putnam County



Musical Director:
Ian Jamieson
Choreographer:
Adrian Turner
Costumes, Set & Direction:
Christina Sussman

Book by:
Rachel Sheinkin
Music and Lyrics by:
William Finn
Featuring music by:
Ian Jamieson,
Orlin Zlatarsky,
Cat Gapper
& Andrew Duncan

March 26, 27, & 28, 2012 at 7 pm

International School of Stuttgart Aula
Tickets are 5€ each and can be purchased at the door
General Seating Admission

PTG NEWS

Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Thank you to all the parents and PTG team who made the Teacher Appreciation Lunch a joyful function. Our teachers provide a lot of guidance in our children's formation. It is fun to give our teachers something in return. It was tasty food, beautiful flowers, and a fun atmosphere.

Healthy Breakfast

PTG will be serving Healthy Breakfast on March 30 during snack. Please remember to bring your .50 Euro.

International May Festival/ Multikulturelles Maifest at BaSICS

When: Saturday, May 12, 2012

Time: 2pm to 5pm

Location: BaSICS Cafeteria

We are preparing for our Annual International May Festival. This is a fun event for the entire family and friends. This year, it will be enjoyable talking about some of the themes that bring us together as a culture and school. These themes include music, art, story telling, games, food, light, and dance. We hope you will join this celebration by contributing some of your talents. If you can cook, bring a dish to taste. If you can dance or can tell a story, come perform. If you can sing or play an instrument, come play. And lastly, if you are crafty, come show us how to make something. If you are interested, please do not hesitate to email me at : karlamarroquin@yahoo.com.

Mark your calendars.

PTG meetings are held from 8:30am to 9:30 am at BaSICS. All parents are welcome.

April 25, 2012

May 09, 2012

May 23, 2012

June 13, 2012

June 27, 2012

