



Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## MARIA'S NOTES



The school **photographer** will come to school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. He will take class photos and individual photos. Can I ask all parents to be sure that their child is wearing **perfect uniform** (polo shirt, sweat shirt, trousers or skirt, grey or white socks and dark leather brown or black shoes) from Reception to Grade 11. Grade 12 & 13 should wear nice, appropriate clothes. Many thanks.

We started our week with assembly on Monday afternoon. In the assembly, we looked at a photograph of a pearl, and a few children explained how pearls are formed – a pearl is made when a tiny piece of grit settles inside an oyster. This is very annoying to the oyster (a bit like when we get a pip stuck in our teeth) so it makes a liquid (a bit like saliva in our mouths) to cover the grit and make it more comfortable. Over time, this builds up around the piece of grit and it becomes coated in a strong, shiny coat and turns into a pearl.



We then read a story about a girl called Pearl, who sometimes found it hard to make the right behaviour choices, and because of that the other children started to leave her out of games and be a bit mean to her. This made Pearl really sad.

The class teacher had an idea and the whole class agreed that if someone was making a bad choice, instead of getting annoyed with them, they would encourage them to think again and make the right choice. They also agreed to congratulate each other when a good behaviour choice had been made.

Very quickly, Pearl realized that she loved to receive compliments and started to try harder to make the correct choices. As Pearl's class were trying their best to congratulate positive behaviour choices, the whole class started to feel more positive, and the playground games became much more inclusive. Pearl was so happy, and although she still sometimes made mistakes, like we all do, she began to love school again!

We realized at the end, that Pearl in the story was a little bit like a piece of grit and hadn't found her potential, but through kind words and actions she changed, just like a real pearl changes from grit into a precious object in the ocean.

This week we are going to try especially hard to think about the feelings of others and be kind to each other, even if it's difficult sometimes. Perhaps then we can all be pearls?

We ended the assembly with some more Ultra-inspiring uniforms – You can see the full video on **TeamISB2023**



Here is the impeccably dress Emanuela from Grade 4

Although the primary school has been very quiet since Wednesday, whilst most of the children and teachers are away on their adventures to the coast, in the EYFS, it's been business as usual! Reception class has especially enjoyed exploring the classrooms that they don't normally go in, and taking over the main playground during playtimes!



We can't wait to hear all about the trips when the grade 1-6 children return! In the meantime, here are a few piccies of what they have been getting up to (More photos can be found on TeamISB2023).







## IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October - School photographer  
 Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October (15.30 -17.15)- EYFS & Primary school Open Evening  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October (1435) – Grade 6 assembly (Grade 6 parents welcome)  
 Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - MUFTI DAY (Non-uniform)

We have continued our work on painting in style of Alma Thomas. **Early Years** loved painting on paper lanterns which we are going to use to decorate our classroom.



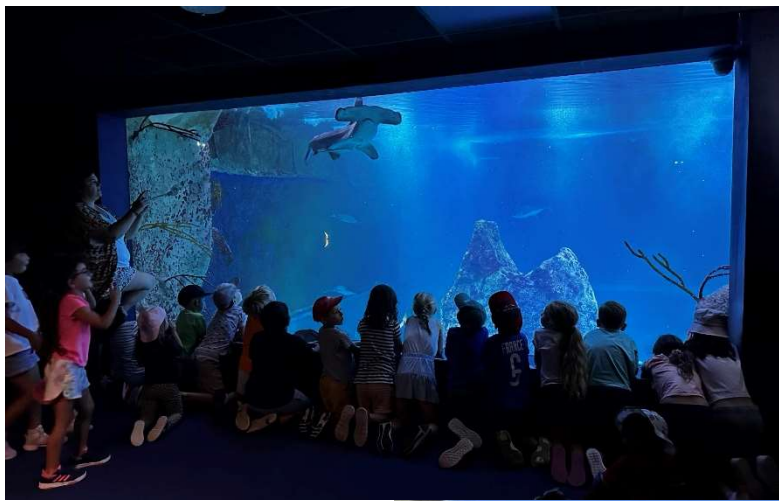
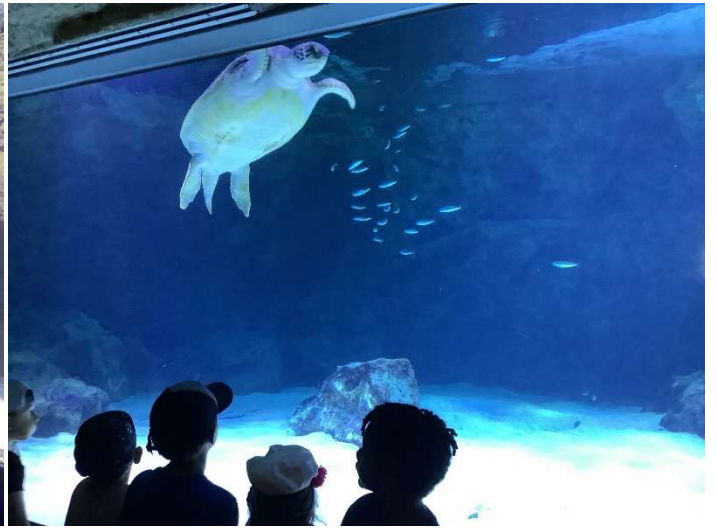




**Grades 1, 2 and 3** went in a 2 days trip to Socoa







**Grades 4, 5 and 6** went in a 3 days surf trip in Seignosse (Cap Océan)







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Grades 7 and 8 playing rugby during their PE session





In PSHE, **Grade 7** have done some bonding activities in which they have displayed great drawing skills !



The **Grade 12**, in Chemistry, had their first core practical this year. They were investigating the molar volume of a gas.





In **Physics**, Fred (**Grade 13**), is showing an example of centripetal (circular) motion. The water stays at the bottom of the bucket, because of inertia.



## Secondary Update

28 Sept 2023

### Author Visit

A visit by the author, Qiu Xiaolong has been organised by Miss Nathalie Lacoste on Friday, Sept. 29, from 14.30 to 15.40 for the classes of Grade 11 and some students of Grade 12 and 13.

Qiu Xiaolong is a crime novelist, English-language poet, literary translator, critic, and academic, who lives in St. Louis. The following link gives you a little more detail about the writer, his life and his publications: <https://www.fantasticfiction.com/q/qiu-xiaolong/>



### FireFly

After the start of year trips, school-life is settling into a rhythm, and assessments in various subjects are either underway, or will soon be underway. Please check your son/daughter's progress on FireFly regularly, and if you need any help with this, please drop myself or Mr Pearse ([james.pearse@isbearn.com](mailto:james.pearse@isbearn.com)) an email.

### Revision Strategies

Many students do not really know how to revise effectively. For all students, understanding some basic facts such as:

- Retrieval (recall) is the key to effective revision
- We commit information to long term memory by repetition

Although subject areas will often discuss revision strategies during lessons, we thought that our Secondary Update should focus on this key area for a couple of weeks, and present some useful strategies so that parents can better understand the resources available, and the ways in which you can support your child in revising.



## Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10 October: Key Stage 3 (Grades 7, 8 and 9) Parents Information Session

The session is aimed at parents of G7,8,9 students who want to learn more about the curriculum and subjects that your child follows. The session will start in the Hall at 16:00 with a general presentation about Key Stage 3, followed by a brief overview of each subject that will be presented by the class teacher. These presentations will be followed by time to speak to subject teachers in their classrooms.

Thursday 16 November:

Progress Reports will be published to parents. These are grade-only reports with no teacher comments; their purpose is to give a simple overview of your son/daughter's academic performance.

Dec 04 to Dec 16: **Mock exams** for Grades 11, 12 and 13

Dec 18 and 19: PSHE and careers days for G10, 11, 12 and 13. Attendance is compulsory.

Ann Byrne  
Head of Secondary

**Grades 12 and 13** have decided to paint the STUDY ROOM and their COMMON ROOM



**GREAT WORK !**

*Have a nice week  
Très Bonne Semaine  
Maria Elias*