



Thursday 14th March 2024

MARIA'S NOTES : **SHORT NEWSLETTER THIS WEEK**

It's been a crazy week in the Primary school, with Olympic fever taking over. There have been non-stop events...too many to even begin to list! If you want to see exactly what's been going on, head to your child's class team and check out the photos and videos! It's totally exhausting, but we're excited that the ISB Olympics continues next week too!!



Continuing with the Olympic news...Hot off the press - Miss Chris' son (G5 Teaching Assistant), Alex Baldoni, today qualified for this year's Olympic Games, and will represent Canada in C1 slalom canoeing. We are all so proud of him and can't wait to watch him in the Olympics!

<https://www.larepubliquedespyrenees.fr/sport/jeux-olympiques-le-bearnais-alex-baldoni-se-qualifie-pour-paris-2024-en-canoë-kayak-slalom-18960204.php>



Jeux Olympiques. Le Béarnais Alex Baldoni se qualifie pour Paris 2024 en canoë-kayak slalom !

L'Idronnais Alex Baldoni a remporté les qualifications olympiques panaméricaines pour le compte du Canada, dont il a la nationalité par sa mère.

www.larepubliquedespyrenees.fr



IMPORTANT DATES:

Monday 18th March: Grade 2 assembly 1440 (Parents of Grade 4 welcome!)

Wednesday 20th March: Grades 3-6 Olympic football tournament

Monday 1st April: School closed – Easter Monday (bank holiday)

Thursday 4th April: Reception Class trip to Pau

Monday 8th April: Grade 5 assembly, 1440 (Grade 5 parents welcome)

Wednesday 10th April: PTA Meeting 0900

PTA Bake sale (Grades 6 & 11 baking)

Friday 12th April: School closes for Easter holidays after clubs / Garderie

Monday 29th April: School reopens

Sunday 5th May: International Day



One of the most popular members of ISB staff has ‘retired’ from ISB:

ENYA born 11/03/2009 – 7/03/2024 is gone for ever.

Nearly 15 years of an incredible life with so much love.

She is now living in a special farm full of old dogs and cats and even unicorns...

Exam News

- Enrolments for the May/June examination session will be completed by the end of this week. Parents will receive copies of statements of entry and details of cost of the exams by the end of March.
- Our current Exams Officer, Mr Kirby, will retire at the end of March. From 1 April all inquiries and questions concerning external exams should be directed to the new Exams Officer, Marine Gonçalves. She can be contacted at marine.goncalves@isbearn.com

Reports

G7 – 10 Progress Reports should now be available on your Parent Portal.

Food Bank 23 March

Grade 10-13 students that have volunteered to do the Food Bank Collection on Saturday 23rd March **have been given Permission Slips with the time and supermarket that they will be attending. Please return these to Ms. Giogoux or Mrs Jackson by next Monday, 18th March.**

We thank parents in advance for helping the students to get too and from the supermarkets on time, and of course the students for volunteering. We hope that ISB can help to make this a very successful collection day for the Banque Alimentaire du Béarn.

ISB students will be at the following supermarkets throughout the day on Saturday 23rd March, if you would like to donate food and hygiene products please go along and see them.

Lidl MERMOZ, 230 Av. Jean Mermoz, 64000 Pau. (09:00-19:00)

Lidl JURANÇON, 1981 Av. du 18 Juin 1940, 64110 Jurançon (09:00-19:00)

Intermarché Express PAU, 5 Av. du Général de Gaulle, 64000 Pau (13:00-15:00)

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 17 March : G10-13 DofE day walk

23 March: Food Bank volunteering

Mon 25 March : Geography 'mountains' trip G12

Tuesday 26 March : G8 Options/Parents Evening

Sat 30 March : Prom G10 – 13

01 April : Easter Monday, school closed

Tuesday 02 April: 1 iGCSE **French and Spanish** oral exams start and run for the rest of the week

05 April: G11 – 13 reports published

Saturday 06 and Sun 07 April: Bronze & Silver DofE Practice expedition

09 April: A Level French orals all day

13 April: start of study leave for G11 - 13

14 April - 28 April Easter holidays

Please note: the first exams (AS and A Level) start in the second week of the Easter holiday.

Our Next Parent Evening 2024 – Grade 9 into G10 Options

Tuesday 2- March 16:00 – 18:00

Choosing GCSE Subjects

The majority of students will achieve 8 - 10 GCSE subjects; the recommended minimum is 8 since this is considered a requirement by many top UK universities.

There are 'core subjects' that everyone studies at GCSE and these will generally account for 5 or 6 of your GCSEs.

Core Subjects

These subjects are studied by all students:

Maths At Higher or Foundation Level

English Language Science There is an option of Second Language English if appropriate
This includes Biology/Chemistry/Physics iGCSE. You may study ALL THREE sciences; however, you MUST choose at least TWO sciences

French/Spanish You may study TWO languages; however, you MUST choose at least ONE language

Options

You will choose further GCSE subjects from the following list;

Art and Design

Business Studies

Computer Science

English Literature

Geography History

Please note that option courses will only run if a sufficient number of students opt for them.

You will receive FULL details of the options available in the Options Booklet that will be distributed on 26 March at the Parents Evening and at 16:00 a presentation will be given by the Head of Secondary outlining the Options process, and by Head of Core subjects; all of our staff will be available for appointments from 16:30 onwards. Booking forms will be sent out early next week.

Initial option choice forms must be returned to Mrs Byrne by Weds 03 April.

Discussions with individual students and either Ms Byrne and Mr Pearse will take place before and after the Easter, and parents will be informed of final confirmed option choices in May.

Revision – What to Avoid

Today, with 48 days until the first external exam, the G12 and 13s assembly focused on revision and in particular, what to avoid. The 4 main ‘avoid’ recommendations are:

1. Mobile phones
2. Listening to music, especially music with lyrics
3. Cramming revision as opposed to spacing it out and swapping between topics
4. Not getting enough sleep

If you would like to see the full PowerPoint with further details on each of these areas, it will be uploaded onto your Firefly parent dashboard on Monday.

***Have a nice week / Très Bonne Semaine
Maria Elias***