



Friday 03<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

## MARIA'S NOTES :

### PRIMARY NEWS

### John-Mark Hanrahan

Grades 1 and 2 hit the ground running on Monday morning, with a visit from Science Odyssey, Pau. Miss Susie, the Primary Science Coordinator, had organised a surprise Bubble Extravaganza for the two classes. It was so fun to spend an hour and a half discovering the science of bubbles with an expert scientist from Science Odyssey!



In the afternoon, we had our usual **assembly**.

We started off, as usual, by breathing deeply whilst Mr Hanrahan (who was wearing a beret?) rang the chime and we all tried to think about our favourite thing about France. Mr Hanrahan then seemed to get distracted and sprayed some of his favourite French aftershave on himself, before continuing with the assembly (he doesn't usually do this?).

He then asked us to share our ideas – and there were loads! Of course, lots of us like the food! Some of us said we liked learning the language; Disney Land Paris; the mountains; the weather; making new friends...the list was endless.

Mr Hanrahan then asked us why we thought he was wearing a beret, spraying his favourite French aftershave and asking us what we liked about France. Lots of us knew the answer straight away – because this Friday was going to be the famous ISB French Day!

As there are quite a few new children at the school, Mr Hanrahan asked some of us to share what we liked best about French Day, before reminding us that we all need to come to school on Friday, dressed in blue, white and red!

Mr Hanrahan then invited some of the **Student Council** to the front, because they had asked if they could speak to everyone. Unfortunately, they had some bad news to share...During their lunchtime, they had asked Mr Hanrahan if they could pick up litter from around the playground and grass areas and were shocked and saddened by how much there was.

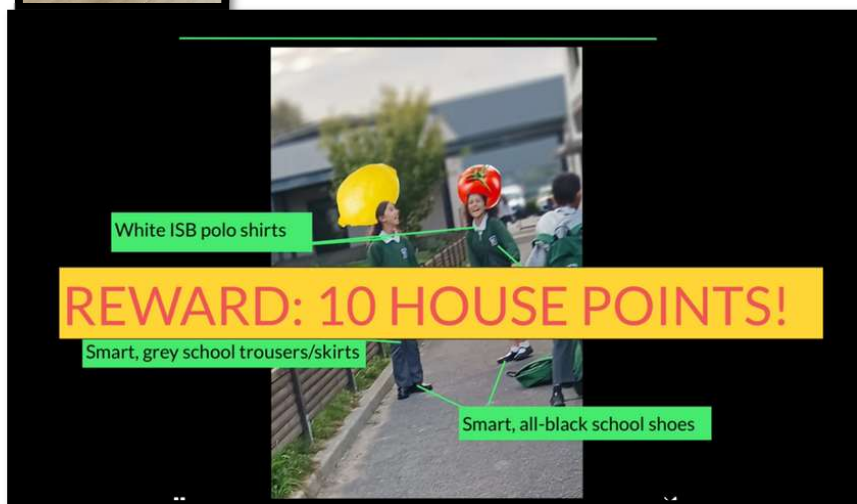


They had filled almost half a big bin bag just in one lunchtime! The worse part is, that we know the litter is all our own! We then talked about being a team, and that the litter around our school is our responsibility – even if we haven’t personally dropped it. The Student Council have asked if everyone can make an effort to pick up litter if they see it lying around, and hopefully, this will keep our school nice and clean!



Mr Hanrahan then announced the winners of the first HOUSE POINTS TROPHY of the year! Everyone had loads of points, but eventually, it was yellow house team that came out on top, with over 700 house points! **Margaux**, the yellow team House Captain came to the front to collect the trophy.

Mr Hanrahan reminded us that there are so many good ways to win house points: answering questions in class, being kind to others, being polite, sharing, caring, wearing perfect uniform, and that we are going to award the trophy again next week, so we have another week to collect as many points as we can for our teams!



Finally, Mr Hanrahan sent us all back to class to watch this week’s episode of “Ultra-Inspiring Uniforms”

This week, Ben (G5), Charbel (Rec), Milana (G5) and Ines (G6) were all spotted by the secret uniform cameras, for being impeccably dressed!

Check out the whole video on Team ISB.

### Lunch-Time Karaoke Club

This week, Miss Heather launched her lunch-time karaoke club – open to anyone from Grades 1-6, who enjoys the ancient martial art of karaoke! It was such a great success, that she had to start with just G4-6 children this week, and it will be Grades 1-3s turn next week. Check out the videos on Team ISB to get a sneak peek at the vibiest lunch-time club at ISB!



### French Day

On Friday, the school was drenched in blue, white and red as we celebrated our annual French Day. Activities took place all morning, with boules being thrown, cheese being tasted, waiters being raced and apartments getting moved. The aim of the day is not only to appreciate French culture, but also to practise speaking French as much as possible!





A BIG THANK YOU to Miss Murielle, Miss Didi and Miss Carole for organizing this super morning , and the PTA for buying all of the cheeses for the cheese tasting – There are lots more photos on Team ISB, on the French Day channel!

### **Octobre Rose at ISB**

Team ISB 2025, ext **Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October**, we are asking everyone in the school — from the youngest children to the oldest students — to **wear something pink**.

Why pink? In France, October is called “**Pink October**”, a special time when people think about those who are sick with cancer and show them love and support.



We would also like each student to bring **1 euro**, which the school will give to help doctors and scientists who are working to find cures for cancer.

Wearing pink and giving together is a small way we can show kindness and care for others. ❤️

## Healthy Snacks

For Foundation and Primary: Can we please remind parents that it is a school policy in Primary that children only bring in fresh fruit or vegetables for snack time. This rule applies to all children from Early Years to Grade 6. Chocolates, biscuits, compotes and other snacks are not permitted (only after school, before clubs / garderie). Thank you for your support with this healthy initiative!



### Reminder: After-School Supervision

Once children have been handed over at the end of the school day, they are your responsibility while still on school grounds.

We've had a few recent incidents of unsafe behaviour on the grassy area at the front of the school. Please ensure your child is supervised and not:

- Throwing acorns or other objects
- Climbing or pulling at trees
- Engaging in unsafe play
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We want to keep this space open and enjoyable for everyone, but if issues continue, we may need to close it after school.

We'll be reminding children in Monday's assembly—your support in reinforcing the message at home is much appreciated.

### Reading workshop

Don't forget, Miss Keswani will be holding a reading workshop for Reception Class parents and new Grade 1 parents, about helping your child read at home. We look forward to seeing you there!



### 🎁 Christmas Gift Drive for OGFA 🎁

As in previous years, we are supporting the local **OGFA** charity this Christmas, who help families experiencing homelessness. Some of the children they work with may not otherwise have a present to open on Christmas morning.

- **Primary pupils:** Please bring a toy suitable for ages 0-11.
- **Secondary pupils:** Please bring a gift for a child of your own age - something you would like to receive yourself.

All gifts should be **new, unwrapped, and in school by Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November.**

Your generosity will help bring joy to children who need it most this Christmas. Thank you!

Miss Heather

To find out more about OGFA, please click on the following link: <https://www.ogfa.net/qui-sommes-nous/>

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October** - Octobre Rose at ISB – EYFS - G13 wear something pink (1 euro donation is asked for a cancer research charity)

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct (14:45)** – **Grade 6** assembly (All G6 Parents welcome)

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct (14:00)** - Reception Class and new parents from G1 and G2 Reading Workshop

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct** – School closes for holidays after garderie

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – School reopens

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November** - Last day for OGFA donations

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov (14:45)** – **Grade 5** assembly (All G5 Parents welcome)

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December (09:30)** – Grade 1 & 2 Christmas Show (Esapace Dantza, Pau)

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December (09:15)** – EYFS Christmas Extravaganza (All EYFS Parents welcome)



**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December (09:15) – G 3-6 Musical Breakfast (All G3-6 parents welcome)**  
**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – School closes at 12:00 for Christmas Holidays**

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As the Autumn season is here, **Early Years** have enjoyed making autumn trees using their fingers and brushes to create prints representing the leaves on an autumn tree.



**Reception** have been working hard on their phonics- developing their knowledge of letter-sound correspondences and using it to find real and nonsense rhyming words!







In Art, **Reception** class had fun selecting, arranging, rearranging and creating Transient Art with natural materials. I loved watching them in action!

If you want to see more photos, go to teams (reception=channel miss Sara ART)

Thanks again for parents participation in collecting natural materials.







In **Grade 1** Geography this week, we have been finding France and our home countries in Atlases, on maps and on globes. We also played seaside bingo and sailed the seas in our seaside corner.







Seaside corner



**Grades 1 and 2** children had an amazing bubbles Day. They created small bubbles together in a bowl by blowing through a straw then they made gigantic bubbles that were even bigger than them! How exciting! They had a Science Enrichment. They learned how to mix different liquids together to make a very special potion....bubble mixture!

We discovered how to make small, medium and even...giant bubbles!! Thank you to **Science Odysée** for visiting our school. Google Science Odysée Pau to find out about the amazing workshops you can join on Saturdays and Thursdays at their centre, both at their centre and around Pau.





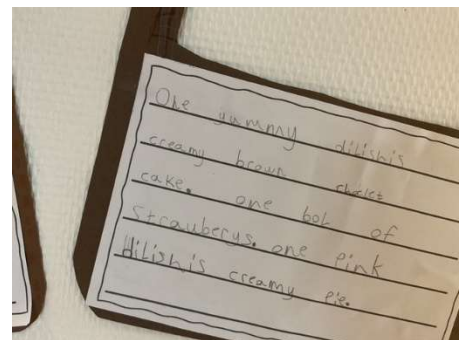
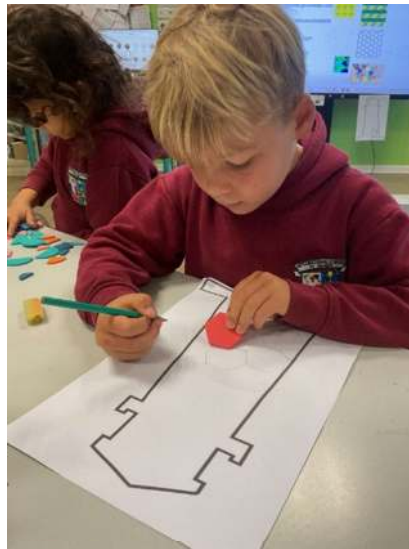
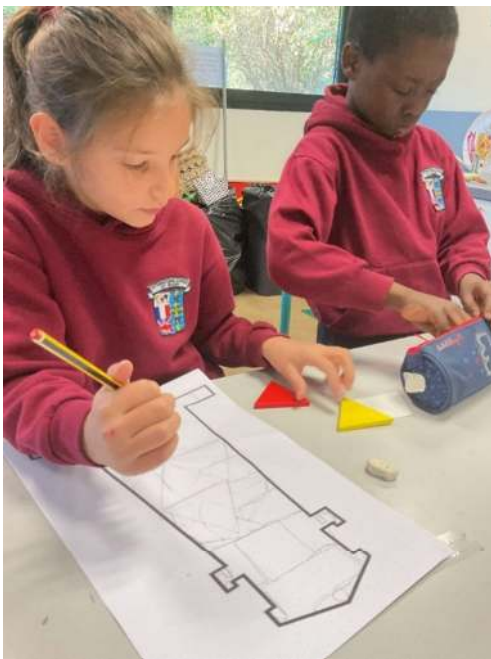
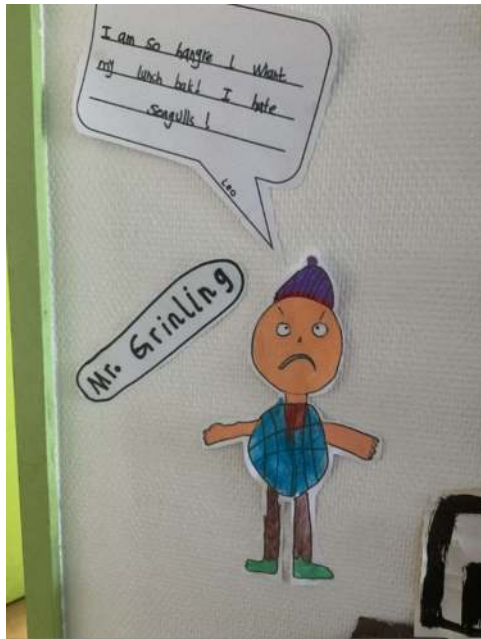




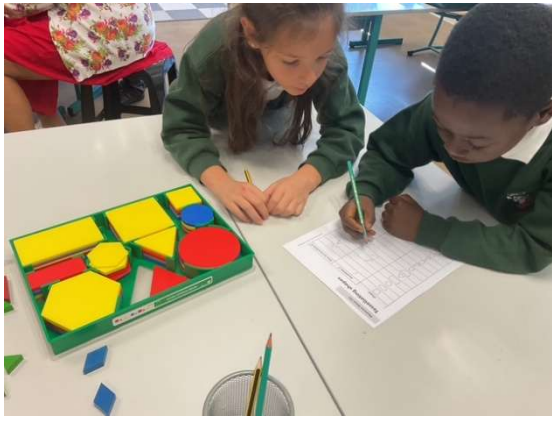


After our exciting trip to the coast where we saw lots of lighthouses, **Grade 2** have been reading the story 'The lighthouse keeper's lunch'. We have been sequencing and retelling the story, searching the book for nouns, adjectives and verbs writing our own tasty (and not so tasty!) lunch menus, writing speech bubbles and diary entries. We even made and tasted mustard sandwiches to deter the naughty seagulls! We learnt all about the parts of a real lighthouse and how they work and created our own fabulous structures using recycled materials. In maths we designed a new lighthouse for Mr. by tessellating 2 d shapes!









**Grade 3** have been investigating bones, muscles and joints in science, and we had a go at making our own arm joints. 🦴 🦴



**Grade 4** have been learning about the digestive system. An important part of this system is our teeth. We need them to bite, chew and break down our food. We have been finding out about which teeth do what and how their shapes change to do the job better. We used mirrors to have a better look and even tried making molds of our teeth!







Fun freeze frames in Drama and working as a team to prepare for a giant marble run in PSHE. Well done **Grade 5!**



In Art this week, **Grade 5** worked together to create a large radial symmetry design using natural materials. <sup>[SEP]</sup>Amazing team work and so creative. ♡ ♡

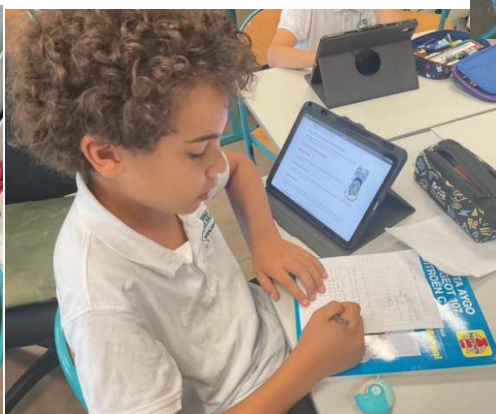








In **Grade 6** we started our I-Time projects. Some of us were researching, some of us were drawing, writing stories or practising the guitar and some of us started our presentations - designing a front cover and explaining why we chose the project we did.





## Fun at Computing Club on Tuesdays!



## THE FRENCH DAY :

La course des garçons de café, la pétanque, le jeu du bérêt, le chamboule tout et bien évidemment la dégustation de fromages. Tous en bleu blanc rouge avec un grand sourire.

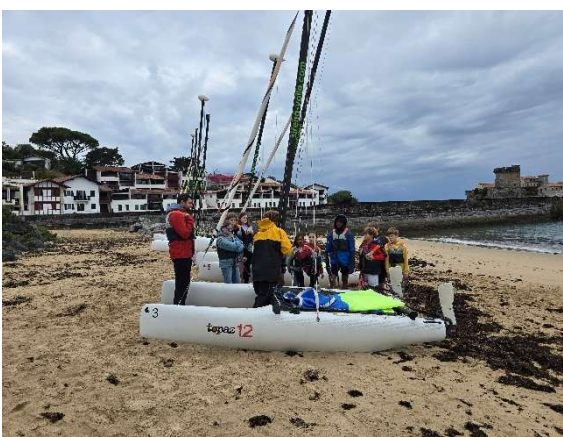








SEC \*\*\*\*\*SEC  
 Last week's trip to Socoa (Ciboure) for Grades 7,8,9 Catamaran and kayak trip





### And the River trip at St Pé de Bigorre for Grades 10-13



This week **Grade 12** have been testing the vitamin C content of different orange juice drinks and studying the effects of antioxidants.



From the 17th to the 20th of September **Duke of Edinburgh International Gold Award** participants took part in their Final Expedition. This involved 4-days of strenuous hiking in the Gavarnie area of the Haute Pyrenees. The participants Otto F, Sophie T, Sophie T'K and Philippe A covered around 18km and 800m of height gain each day carrying all equipment and food necessary to wild-camp for 4 days. The team coped fantastically with the hot conditions and the challenging terrain. Well done to them all!



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## SECONDARY UPDATE

Ann Byrne

### Thank you ...

Thank you to parents for getting everyone to school on-time for the trips last week. Students and staff had a great time on both trips. Maria has lots of photos from the trips in the earlier part of the Newsletter.

### Resit Exams

Resit exams are starting this coming week for Cambridge AS exams. Any students taking resits should have a statement of entry that clearly states the start time and date of each exam. If you have any queries about these exams please contact Miss Goncalves directly: [marine.goncalves@isbearn.com](mailto:marine.goncalves@isbearn.com)

### Dates for your Calendar

#### 8 October

October Rose - Pink **non-uniform day** in support of the October Rose breast cancer charity. Students should come in non-uniform, and importantly wearing something pink, with a contribution of at least 1 euro should be handed to their Form Tutor in registration.

#### 9 October

The School photographer is back in for Grade 11 and any missed photographs. If this involves your child please ensure that they have their school sweatshirt that day and let Maria know.

#### 17 Oct

Progress reports for Grades 11 to 13 will be published on your Parent portal by the end of the day. Please check before then that you can log into the parent portal and email any issues to Miss Chloe on [office@isbearn.com](mailto:office@isbearn.com) who can direct your enquiry to the correct person.



### **The Many Benefits of Reading**

Finally, this week I would like to encourage you to take some time out of your weekend to read. Reading has huge benefits for all of us old and young. For your children, what better encouragement you give, than showing that you can still take time out of your busy lives to enjoy the pleasure and many benefits of reading? To name but a few benefits, reading provides us with:

- Improved focus and concentration
- Memory improvement
- Stress reduction
- Knowledge
- Vocabulary expansion
- Stronger analytical thinking skills



If you would like any support in finding appropriate books for your children please do not hesitate to contact our English teachers; the contact email for Miss Gibson, Head of English is:

[catharine.gibson@isbearn.com](mailto:catharine.gibson@isbearn.com)

*Have a nice week  
Très Bonne Semaine  
Maria*

