



Thursday 24th September 2026

MARIA'S NOTES :



The school **photographer** will come to school on Tuesday 13th October and Wednesday 14th October for the whole school. He will take class photos and individual photos. Can I ask all parents to be sure that their child is wearing a **perfect uniform** (polo shirt, sweat shirt, trousers or skirt, grey or white socks and dark leather brown or black shoes) from Early Years to Grade 11. Grade 12 & 13 should wear nice, appropriate clothes. Many thanks.

PRIMARY NEWS

John-Mark Hanrahan



Thank you to everyone who attended the first PTA meeting last week. It was a very informative meeting in which we reviewed our work from last year (See some of the things we were able to contribute to last year, on poster on the right), elected this year's board (see below), and discussed some important upcoming dates e.g PTA bake sales (see bottom right poster), second-hand uniform sales and coffee mornings etc (also see below)

Important information update:

There have been some changes to the PTA Board.

President: Katie Gilbert

Vice- President: Meliosa Gormley-Hargadon

Secretary: Diane El-Gemayel

Treasurer: Corinne Hegarty

PTA Important dates:

Friday 25th Sept: Secondhand uniform donation at drop off. Details to follow.

Wednesday 30th Sept: Secondhand uniform sale 11:30am to 12:15pm outside the front door of the building

Tuesday 6th October: Mum's Coffee morning. 10am at Nativ, Pau.



Wednesday 7th October: first bake sale of the year. Cakes/biscuits to be baked/bought by **Reception Class and Grade 7.**

If you would like to get involved in our fantastic PTA, please contact: Katie (Katherine's mum (Rec class), Mel (Hugh and Avery's mum (Gr 9 and Gr7), Diane (Lilie's mum (Rec class) or Corinne (Gr 13)

!!! All uniform donations are now CLOSED. Please DO NOT leave bags of uniform at the office or the front desk. These will not be accepted as we do not have enough space for it all! There will be another uniform collection after Christmas – further details to follow.



Welcome to ISB

Thank you everyone who attended the welcome drinks at the front of the school, on Friday 11th September. The weather was glorious, the food and drinks were delicious and it was a lovely moment for parents, students and teachers to all meet each other in a relaxed environment. A huge THANK YOU to the PTA and **Maria Elias** for organising this wonderful start to the year!



It's of course, been another busy two weeks in the Primary school. Last week, classes elected their Student Councilors and House Captains for the first term. The chosen students, from Grade 1 to Grade 6, were called to the front of the assembly and introduced to the rest of the school, whilst receiving their Student Council badges, which were designed by the very talented Issraa (Grade 5), last year.



Since then, we have already had two meetings, in which we've discussed some very, very important school issues and in fact, already started organising some exciting charity events for this term (see important dates below) and, through the class suggestion boxes, we have spoken to Mme Elias and Miss Marjorie, who are now in discussions with the school uniform suppliers, to produce some thicker, "premium" sports t-shirts for the older children.



Grade 6 also elected the House Captains for this term and this week they will be doing their first tour of the school to count up all of the house points that have been amassed during this first four weeks of school. We'll find out in Monday's assembly, which team has collected the most and won the first House Points trophy of the year!



The famous ISB uniform scanner has been back in action the last two weeks, with various children being spotted by the scanner, and then awarded 10 house-points for wearing impeccable uniforms. If you want to see if your child was spotted, you can check out the videos on Team ISB.





French Day

This Friday, we celebrated our world famous **ISB French Day**. The children and teachers, all dressed in *bleu, blanc, rouge*, took part in different activities all morning to celebrate French culture, and practise speaking French in different situations. At lunch time, we all had a picnic together, before continuing French activities in their classes during the afternoon. Check out TeamISB for more photos and videos! A HUGE THANK YOU to Miss Murielle, Miss Carole and Miss Didi for organising another fun-filled day. We'd also like to thank the PTA for providing the delicious cheese for the cheese tasting!





Open Evening

Thank you to everyone who came to the EYFS and primary school open evening last week. . If you missed it, don't worry – we have an 'open door' policy and if at any point throughout the year, you do feel that you need to see a teacher, you can arrange to see them by sending a quick email.

Early Years	Miss Kate Save	Kate.Save@isbearn.com
Reception Class	Miss Caroline Martin	Caroline.martin@isbearn.com
Grade 1	Miss Susie Morton	Susie.morton@isbearn.com
Grade 2	Miss Michelle Lingard	Michelle.lingard@isbearn.com
Grade 3	Miss Suzanne Hanrahan	Suzanne.hanrahan@isbearn.com
Grade 4	Miss Jessica Nairac	Jessica.nairac@isbearn.com
Grade 5	Miss Heather McCluskey	Heather.mccluskey@isbearn.com
Grade 6	Miss Judith Walters	Judith.walters@isbearn.com
French (FLM)	Miss Murielle Bonifacy	Murielle.bonifacy@isbearn.com
French (FLE)	Miss Didi Lacruz	Eurydice.lacruz@isbearn.com
EAL/French (FLE)	Miss Carole Frederico	Carole.frederico@isbearn.com
Music/Drama	Miss Clara Mathern	Clara.garms@isbearn.com
Art	Miss Sara Heath	Sara.heath@isbearn.com

School Photos

The photographer will be coming to ISB on **Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October**. Please make sure that your children are wearing the full correct uniform for this day.



IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday 30th September to Friday 2nd October – Grade 4-6 residential to Arette (Students must be at school by **0845**)

Wednesday 30th Sept - Secondhand uniform sale 11:30am to 12:15pm outside the front door of the building.

Thursday 1st October to Friday 2nd October – Grades 1-3 residential to Aldudes (Students must be at school by **0800**)

Wednesday 7th October – October Rose at ISB (All students to dress in something pink. We also ask for a voluntary donation of 1euro, which will be given to *LA Ligue Contre la Cancer*, PAU.)

Wednesday 7th October – PTA Bake Sale (1145 at the school entrance)

Tuesday 13th / Wednesday morning 14th October – School photographer

Thursday 15th October – EYFS and G1-6 Halloween Discos (more info to come)

Friday 20th October – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - MUFTI DAY (Non-uniform)

We have been having lots of fun in **Early Years**! The children enjoyed story time with Miss Sabrina and Miss Heather, sensory play with rice and taking part in various outdoor learning activities. They also had lots of fun during their music lesson with Mr.Hanrahan. We all worked together to make delicious banana, oatmeal and chocolate chip cookies, with everyone helping along the way.

Early Years and Reception have also been busy gardening, planting spring bulbs, hebes and colourful pansies, to make our outdoor space even more beautiful.

Here are a few pictures of Early Years and Reception children enjoying a range of outdoor learning activities.









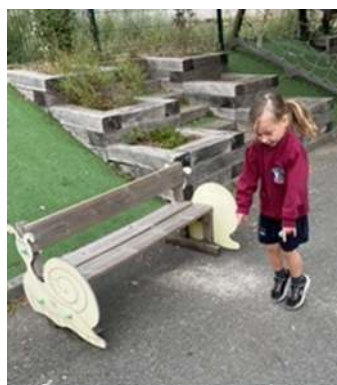
Can we please say to parents first please for purchasing craft made by the children and sold at the end of Sports day last year?

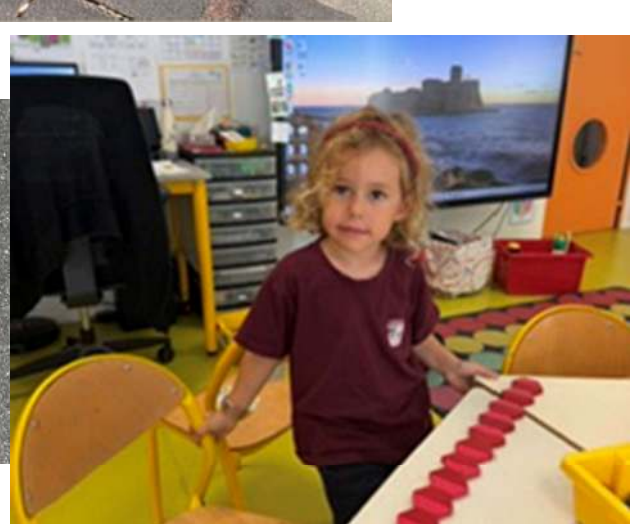
Early Years and Reception 2026 want to say a big Thank You to mums and dads of last year's EYFS for our new outdoor construction sets. This is what we purchased with the money we raised at the end of Sports Day. The children love them.





Another busy couple of weeks in Reception, learning phonics sounds, creating patterns, talking about ourselves and our families, being active in PE, playing together and enjoying the outdoors.







Reception even celebrated one of their friend's 5th birthday, from France to India. Happy Birthday **Ashar**! 🎉 🍰



There has been lots of exciting animal-themed learning happening in **Grade 1**! We've been searching for spiders on the playground, painting beautiful symmetrical spiders and creating our own intricate spider webs. The book *Aaargh Spider!* has inspired much of this lovely work. In Science, we have been learning about different parts of animals. We have had fun creating our own mysterious and magical animals, including *rabbishes* and *pencats*!

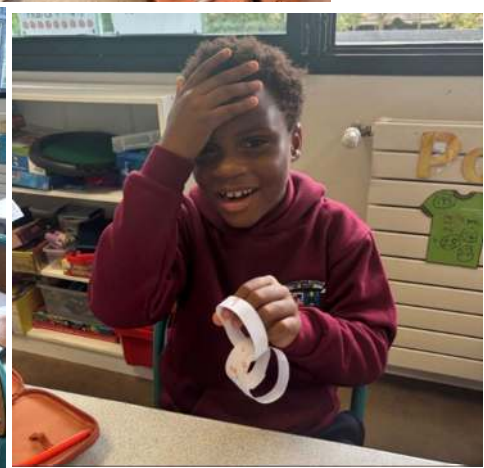


Grade 2 have been focusing on shapes in Maths this week. We have been exploring symmetrical and non-symmetrical shapes, hunting for right angles in shapes and around the classroom and we have been testing 2D shapes to find out if they tessellate.



Grade 3 this week have been doubling and halving. We put our skills to the test making some doubling chains





In science, Grade 3 have been exploring how our bones help with movement. We put together our own friendly skeletons 🦴



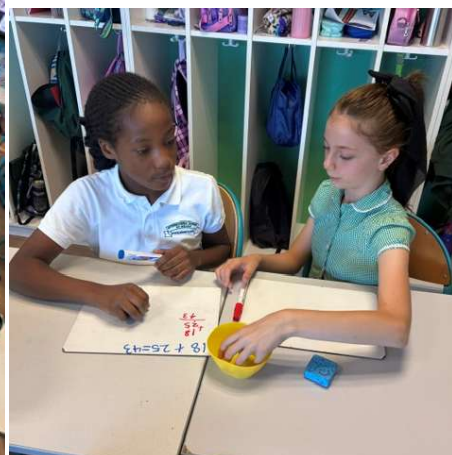


What a successful club:
The judo club
On Monday for Gr1-3 and on Tuesday for Gr4-6

Grade 4 have been learning about the digestive system. This week they became: **The Digestive System**. They followed the route of a chocolate sandwich all the way through the system, yes, *all* the way through!



In maths, **Grade 5** have been revising mental and written methods for solving addition and subtraction.



In English, **Grade 6** have been taking a deep dive into the minds of the characters in our class text **Eye of the Wolf**. We have discussed their thoughts, feelings and actions and have written sentences, short monologues and performed hot seating to really try and understand their inner world.



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Mateo in **Grade 7** is enjoying independent reading with his dog Bandido. KS3 students are encouraged to spend 30 minutes each day at home reading for pleasure. We are trying to help students build a habit of reading every day to improve their vocabulary, spark their creativity and support emotional resilience.



Grades 7, 8, 9 trip to St Pé de Bigorre







Grade 10-13 trip to Guchen







SECONDARY UPDATE

Ann Byrne

This week is trips' week and our Grade 7, 8 and 9 students returned on Wednesday from three days of river activities at St Pée de Bigorre, whilst Grades. 10, 11, 12 and 13 left on Wednesday for the Château Roland in Guchen for their team building trip. Return on Friday evening.

Parents Evenings, Exams and Report Dates for Term 1

Date	Event
13 October	G10 Parents Evening 16:00 – 17:50
15 October	G7, 8, 9 Progress Reports published
12 November	Update emails sent to G11 parents if concerns ahead of mock exams
17 November	G12 and 13 Parents Evening 16:00 – 17:50
29 Nov – 10 Dec	G11, 12, 13 Mock Exams
15 December	G7, 8, 9, 10 End of Term reports published

Open Afternoon

Thank you to the parents who came to our Open Afternoon last week. The turnout was quite low and as a result, next week we will be sending out a questionnaire to all parents to gather your feedback so that we can schedule events that better match your needs.

School Show 2027

Mr Yeung-Pearce assisted by Miss Goigoux and Mrs Payne have kicked-off the preparation for this year's Secondary show. Following the success of Beauty and the Beast last year, and before that **The School of Rock**, we are looking forward to another spectacular show. Date of the show: Friday 12th February.

Mobile Phones Update

Thank you to the many parents who have welcomed the change to our mobile phone policy this year. The new system of phones either being handed in to tutors or not brought to school is working well.

Resit Exams Grades

Any students who have entered for resit exams in the November series should have received dates from Miss Goncalves. If you have not, please email marine.goncalves@isbearn.com directly.

Planning Ahead – G10 Work Experience

All G10 students are encouraged to participate in 'Work Experience' or here in France you will hear this referred to as 'un stage'. Ideally students should research and approach local employers to find work experience in a field that interests them, and in which they may wish to pursue a future career; in reality it is often the parent's workplace or 'friend of the family' who offer the work placements. Regardless of how the work placement is found it offers a great experience for students to spend time in a work environment and to learn valuable skills.

Work placements should be:

- 1 – 2 weeks in duration
- **Organised for a time during school holidays**

Students/parents will need to:

- Contact Maria for a 'Convention du Stage' ahead of the work placement
- Email Ms Byrne ann.byrne@isbearn.com after the work experience with details of the dates of the placement and the employers contact details.

Grade 10 is an ideal year for students to undertake work experience and we thoroughly recommend that students take advantage of this being a 'lighter' year before exams take place; however, **it is also possible to complete work experience in the higher grades and the same criteria apply as listed above.**

Have a nice week
Très Bonne Semaine
Maria