



Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023



MARIA'S NOTES :

Welcome to all children, parents and teachers. We wish you all a fantastic year 2023-2024. A very warm welcome and we hope you have an enjoyable and rewarding time at ISB.



The school **photographer** will come to school on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</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.



On Monday, in your child's bag, you will find the **subscription form** from the famous French publisher **ECOLE DES LOISIRS**. Choose the 'abonnement groupé' as it is less expensive and will be given to your child at school, from Early to Grade 9. It's very useful to be able to read French books if you want to improve your French skills.

**Traffic rules** to be followed at school / on school premises :

The morning and afternoon **drop-off area** is used exclusively for its intended purpose. So please do not park there!!!

If you wish to stay for a few minutes, use the car park and leave this area free.

I would like to remind you that the parking spaces alongside the school buildings are strictly reserved for school staff.

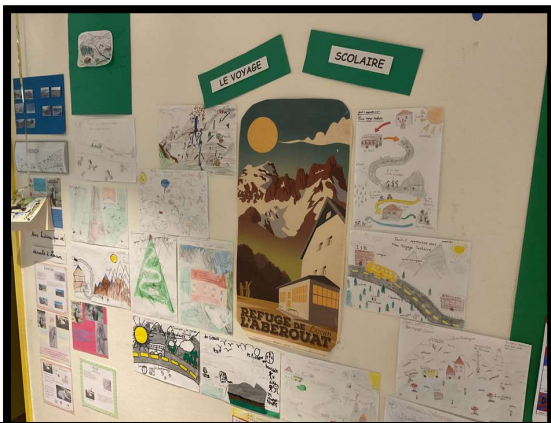
**The Head of Primary, Mr John-Mark Hanrahan, NEWS:**

It's been a busy start to the year in the Primary School, with students and teachers alike returning to school with great enthusiasm. The students that are new to the school, have been welcomed by their classmates and already seem to be very settled in their classes. We'd like to give a special mention to the new Early Years children who have all been so brave throughout these first couple of weeks, especially as, for some of them, it's the first time that they have been left by their parents.



After just two and half weeks, there are already signs of inspiring work being produced all around the school, which lots of you were able to see during the Primary Open Evening, last week. If you missed the open evening, 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.

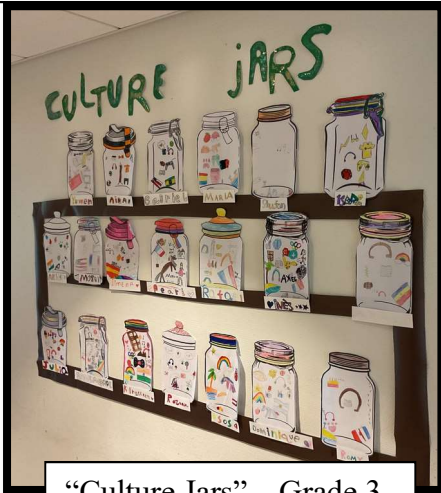
Early Years	Miss Kate Save	Kate.Save@isbearn.com
Reception Class	Miss Reema Keswani	Reema.keswani@isbearn.com
Grade 1	Miss Susie Morton	Susie.morton@isbearn.com
Grade 2	Miss Michelle Lingard	Michelle.lingard@isbearn.com
Grade 3	Miss Suzanne Hanrahan	Suzanne.hanrahan@isbearn.com
Grade 4	Miss Jessica Nairac	Jessica.nairac@isbearn.com
Grade 5W	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
Art	Miss Sara Heath	Sara.heath@isbearn.com



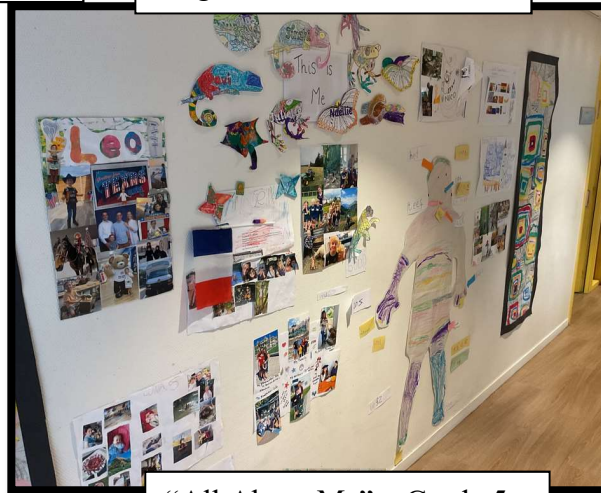
“Le Voyage Scolaire” – French



“Figure Me Out” – Grade 6



“Culture Jars” – Grade 3



“All About Me” – Grade 5

On Monday, we had our second **whole school assembly**, and the brilliantly behaved Reception class joined us for a second time – It was encouraging to see that the children remembered the behaviour expectations during the assembly, as they all sat beautifully and were quick to contribute when asked. What a great start! The theme of this week’s assembly was **'Keep trying, even when it is difficult'**. We started the assembly by sharing times that we have found something difficult eg. learning something new at school; trying a vegetable that we don’t recognise; doing something adventurous etc. We then talked about what we could do instead of giving up – There were lots of great ideas!

Mr Hanrahan then chose a few willing volunteers to help tell a story about a rescue dog called BINGO who saved a young boy that was stuck on a mountain. Throughout the story, Bingo felt like giving up lots of times, and so whenever this happened, we encouraged him by shouting – “KEEP GOING BINGO”.

At the end of the story, we agreed that we are often faced with challenges, but that most of the time, if we don't give up and keep going, the challenge usually gets easier. The "perseverance", "bravery", "resilience", "determination" and "focus" that we use to overcome the challenge are worth it in the end.



In Grade 6 this week, the children voted to elect this term's House Captains. They were called to the front and given their badges of honour.

**The House Captains for this term are:  
Maria, Leyla, Leticia and Masha.**

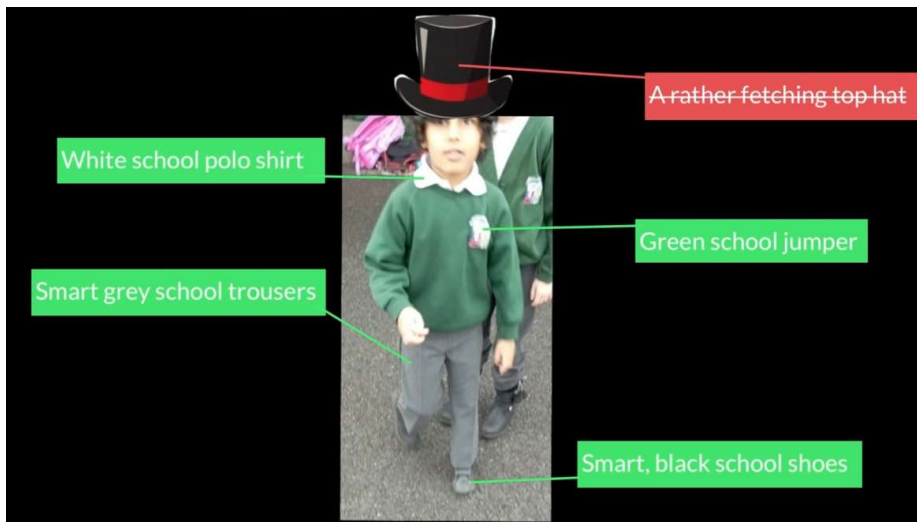
**CONGRATULATIONS GIRLS!!**



Each class then called their chosen Student Councilor to the front, where they too were given their badge, ready for their first important meeting on Tuesday, with Mr Hanrahan.



Unfortunately, due to a technical problem, Mr Hanrahan couldn't show this week's "Ultra-Inspiring Uniforms" – Fortunately though, the class teachers were able to show their classes this week's winners back in class.



Oryx in G1 was spotted by the cameras this week!

Over the next few weeks, the famous 'uniform scanner' will be out and about, and if it spots perfect uniforms, the children in question will be awarded 10 house points in the following week's assembly!

We are really proud of our uniform as ISB, and so it is important that we wear all of it, and not just some of it. This includes school shoes, that should be ALL black, ALL brown, or white sandals. Shoes should not have white soles.



Can we also remind parents that we have a strict **NO JEWELLERY** policy. Please understand that for many reasons, including health and safety, that we do not allow any jewellery **apart from small stud earrings**. You have chosen to send your children to ISB, where we have a school uniform, and so we ask you to please adhere to our uniform rules.

**!!Don't forget to label all items of clothes, bags, etc. with your child's name. Please ask Miss Marjorie for a special felt tip pen!!**

### SCHOOL TRIPS

On Wednesday morning, Grades 3-6 left for their residential trip to Aberouat, then on Thursday it was Grade 1 and 2 who headed off to Arette – To see photos of this amazing trip, head to Team ISB, using your child's Microsoft Teams logins.



### Keeping your children safe online

We would like to invite all Grade 3-6 parents to join us **in the school Hall**, on **Thursday, 3rd October at 1430**, for an important **meeting about online safety**, led by our primary school Deputy Head and Computing Coordinator, Miss Heather.

Your active participation is vital in fostering a collaborative community that prioritises the well-being of our young learners.

**Let's work together to create a secure and enriching online experience for our children.**

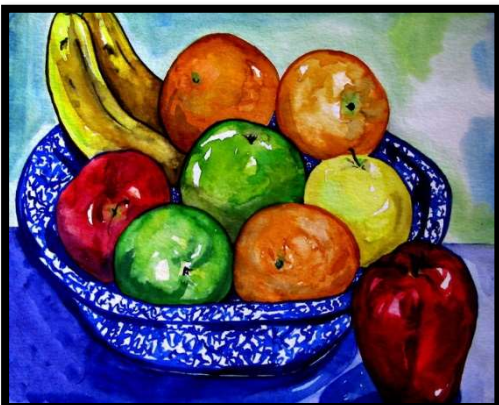


### LIBRARY HELPERS

As usual, we are looking for **parent volunteers**, to help us collect and allocate reading books in the lower primary library each morning from 0845 – 0915. If you have time, are interested and can commit to a regular slot, please **drop an email to:**

[librarian@isbearn.com](mailto:librarian@isbearn.com)

### HEALTHY SNACKS



For Foundation and Primary: Can we please remind parents that it is a school policy 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!



## PTA MEETING

The first PTA meeting of the year will be held next **Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> September at 0900am**, in the school Hall. **ALL PARENTS** are welcome to attend. – This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and to find out how you can contribute to the school community.

## IPADS

Thank you to all Grades 3-6 parents and children who completed their iPad AUP.

As every year, we require the children to provide their own headphones/earphones in Grades 3-6. Unfortunately, Bluetooth headphones are not ideal as sometimes they need special apps/software to make them compatible with the iPads – which we cannot install. They also rely on being charged regularly. Therefore, we always recommend that children buy headphones/earphones that connect with a ‘jack’. Unfortunately, the new iPads no longer have jack sockets, and so a USB C – Jack convertor needs to be used.



These can be bought in many supermarkets and online shops, however we cannot guarantee compatibility with the school iPad and so below is a link to the shop that provides ISB with computing equipment, and that can guarantee compatibility. If you enter our special school code when creating your customer account, you should receive price reductions and other offers: **4110SR44M8-ES**

<https://shop.ccc.fr/cable-ios/-adaptateur-apple-usb-c-vers-mini-jack-35-mm-audio-27--190198886866.html?&>

## IMPORTANT DATES:

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 09.00am** - PTA Meeting (ALL parents welcome)

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September** - French Day - Children wear blue, white & red to school

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 14.30 -15.30** – Computer safety meeting (G3-6 parents welcome)

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October (14.35)** – Grade 5 assembly (Grade 5 parents welcome)

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October** – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - MUFTI DAY (Non-uniform)

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**Early Years** making Apple tartelettes.





Exploring materials & collage.



Story time with Mr. Hanrahan.



## Parachute games



## Outdoor Learning



We also had a go at making our self-portraits using various natural materials such as shells, leaves, acorns, wood chips etc...



Over the past two weeks Early Years have been busy exploring their setting, meeting new friends and teachers and mainly having fun! We also enjoyed various activities such as painting, making soups in the mud kitchen, singing, baking apple tartelettes, making collage with various materials, playing parachute games etc...





**Reception** have been working hard creating, coping and continuing repeating patterns in maths!



Reception have had lots of fun with the story of **The Three Little Pigs**. We read and compared lots different versions of the story and then sequenced and retold our own versions. The children worked as a team to build a house in our classroom, and then we built smaller ones using a variety of different materials, testing to see if they would be strong enough to withstand the huffing and puffing of the wolf hairdryer!





On Friday **The Big Bad Wolf** came to visit us in our classroom, but the children were able to persuade him to change to a healthy fruit and vegetable-based diet instead of eating children and pigs! 🐶



Here is Reception's art project on self portraits. First creating an ink drawing of them selves and then using soft pastels and exploring mixing and blending colours together. Gorgeous work Reception class.





It's been so much fun in **Grade 1**. Painting, making feeling cakes, creating a class zoo, role play and saving a slug!!



**Grade 1 Art**

Here is grade 1's self-portraits artwork. Drawing and painting their portraits and reviewing repeat patterns through printing. Fantastic results !





Here are some Grade 1 finished work :



**Grade 2** made worry dolls as part of their English lessons



Grade 2 class:



**Grade 3 PE** – Controlling a ball with a racket



Grade 3 English –  
Writing autobiographies

Grade 4



Grade 4 mu



Grade 5 – Week 1 team-building



Grade 5 PE – Netball skills

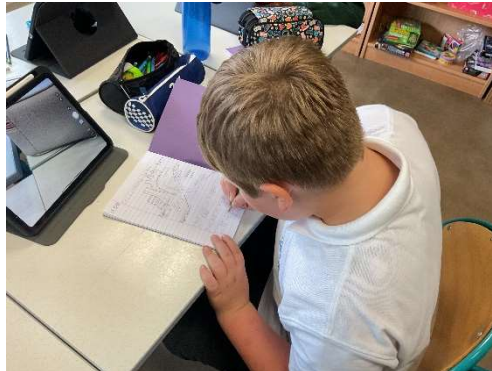
The gorgeous **Grade 6** doing body percussion in their music lesson 😊







It's only been a short week in the classroom, but **Grade 6** have enjoyed finding out all about how the heart works in Science alongside our other lessons of course!



Some more Grade 6 photos exploring the digestive system on our brilliant VR



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Biology lessons have got off to an exciting start. Here grade 12 are preparing different dilutions of stock chemicals, to be able identify the concentration of an 'unknown' sample.



## SECONDARY UPDATE 20 September 2024 by Ann Byrne

### Important Dates

#### Open Evening Tuesday 01 October 16:00 – 18:00

Please come along to meet teachers, find out more about our subjects and view a selection of student work and resources. There will be two short presentations by the Head of Secondary in the Hall at 16:00 and again at 17:00.



All parents are encouraged to attend, however, please note that detailed student conversations will not be possible, although the evening will provide the possibility of arranging a future one-to-one meeting with any teacher.

**Please note that this event replaces our traditional Parents Evenings during the first term** except for our G10 Parents Evening on 19 November.

#### KS3 Rivers Trip and KS4 and KS5 Coast Trip

Letters are being emailed out today with details of the trip. All students are encouraged to attend as these trips provide a unique opportunity for pupils to explore new places, to make new friends and develop new skills and interests - all of which can help encourage personal and social development

**Kit lists will be emailed home for both trips in the coming week.**

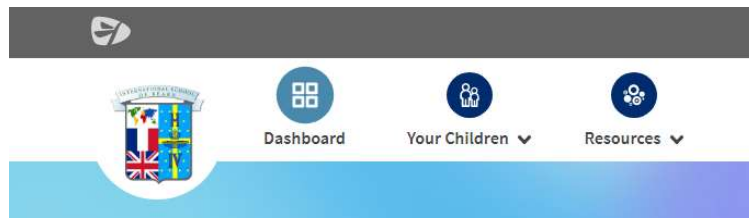
### FireFly Parent Logins

By making full-use of our FireFly learning platform, parents can stay informed of set homework, grades achieved and teacher feedback. Please see 'Logging into FireFly...' below if you've not already logged on.

#### Logging into FireFly for the first time

##### ACTIVATING YOUR ACCOUNT

1. In your browser go to: **isbearn.fireflycloud.net** The school code is **ISBEARN** all uppercase
2. Enter your (school registered) email address as your username.
3. Click on the green box ' ... Activate your account', this will allow you to set a password.
4. Once logged in, go to 'Your Children' and then select the child you wish to view



5. Now you will see a student profile for your selected child where you will see all tasks that have been set as homework etc or as individual tasks, and grades/feedback received. This view will also show outstanding and overdue tasks.

**Please contact Mr Pearse or Ms Byrne directly if you need further help on using FireFly**  
[James.pearse@isbearn.com](mailto:James.pearse@isbearn.com) or [ann.byrne@isbearn.com](mailto:ann.byrne@isbearn.com)

## Lost Property

We have an amazing volume of lost uniform items and other equipment, most of which has been here since the end of last academic year. Current lost property is available just outside the doors into Secondary and parents are encouraged to come and check for missing items. After Weds 25 September, all current lost property will be given to the PTA for the second-hand uniform sales and other items will be thrown away.

Moving forwards, named items will be returned students during registration however please stress the need for your son/daughter taking responsibility to look after their belongings and to check lost property immediately when they have lost something.

*Have a nice week  
Très Bonne Semaine  
Maria*

*International School of Béarn – Tel.: 0612566867 – E-mail: [contact@isbearn.com](mailto:contact@isbearn.com) – Website: [www.isbearn.com](http://www.isbearn.com)*

## *Primary children in the mountain trip:*

