

Letter From The Upper School Principal

Dear Upper School Families,

Next week our winter break begins! Students and faculty will enjoy three weeks of time away from their physical classrooms to re-charge, and to celebrate their accomplishments here on the ISO campus.

Over the past several weeks, we have been focused on supporting a positive culture within our community, which reinforces the ISO mission, and will culminate tonight with our **“CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS.”** *

This year, we will be combining the Elementary and Upper School divisions into one evening, from 18:30 to 19:45. Bearing in mind the current health issues with COVID-19, we would like to remind you of the safety procedures when entering our school campus:

- Wear a mask
- Adhere to social distancing
- Adhere to other health protocols: handwashing and temperature checks are mandatory for everyone

*Note: The PTA’s tradition of serving wine at this event will not take place this year...

In Upper School, we also had our first-ever December MAP Assessments here at ISO. This will give us real time data as to how our students are learning and growing, so we can adjust our program accordingly.

Last week, students in Grades 6 - 9 took the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) in **Reading** and **Math**. Today, Thursday, December 10th, students in Grades 7 – 9 took this same assessment in **Science** to measure their growth and use the results as a diagnostic tool to make sure we are meeting our students where they are at!

We will document our students’ growth and plan to review all the results, which will be available to you “on line” before the Winter Break, on December 16th.

As we take a **break**, it is important to keep in mind that students should be physically active, enjoy their hobbies, read books, and most importantly get some much needed rest and relaxation!

The month of January will represent our final three weeks of the semester and students in Grades 6 – 12 will be busy “wrapping up the first half of the school year.”

Best wishes, and looking forward to seeing everybody in 2021

THIS IS I.S.O !!

Letter From The Elementary School Principal

December 10, 2020



Dear Elementary School Families,
This month is packed full of important and exciting information and events.

MAP Assessment

Last week students in kindergarten through grade 5 took the MAP (measure of academic progress assessment) in English Language Arts and Math. Students arrived at school on time and were excited to show off academic abilities. Please check your email or Plus Portals account for results on December 16.

Student Activities

The ISO campus remains a place of learning and fun both in and out of the classroom. The **elementary student council** holds its meetings for members in grades 2 through 5 weekly on wednesdays. On Thursday students are able to participate in the **Kind Kids Club** which is a weekly club where students do activities that model kindness. Additionally monthly assemblies and collaborative activities provide students with opportunities to collaborate and have fun with their peers in their class as well as children in different classes. Next week students in elementary school will have a day of winter themed fun including dancing, crafts and karaoke and a photo booth.

Celebration of The Arts

Over the course of the school year students have worked very hard on a variety of visual and performing arts projects. Please join us on campus this evening from 6:30pm to 7:45pm for this year's elementary and upper school Celebration of the Arts, it's sure to be a wonderful time.

Please keep in mind that we will continue to follow our school's safety procedures during CO-TA which include:

- Wearing a mask
- Adherence to social distancing
- Adherence to mandatory hand washing and temperature checks.

*Please note: The PTA's tradition of serving wine at this event will not take place this year.

Learning During Winter Break

Winter break is a wonderful opportunity to engage your children in activities that are fun and engaging while also academically focused. Consider doing some of the following during the 3 week vacation from school:

Letter From The Elementary School Principal

- Read with your child
- Allow your child to make his/ her own book
- Make and send greeting cards to friends and family either digitally or on paper
- Follow a recipe to make a delicious treat
- Visit a local museum or park
- Go on a nature walk and explore local plants and animals
- Construct a new gadget using items from around the house



Please be sure to inform your child's teacher if he/she will be absent from school due to winter travel. Please be reminded that students should not attend school if they have any Covid symptoms (cough, fever, loss of taste etc.) or if they have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for Covid until medical clearance has been provided. Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. Have a wonderful winter break!

Thank you,

Ms. Mixon
Associate Elementary School Principal