

# Letter From The Elementary School Principal

Dear Elementary School Families,

The school year is off to a wonderful start. It is truly hard to believe that we are already in the second quarter of teaching and learning. Please keep your child safe by ensuring he or she arrives at school each day wearing a mask and please pack an extra one in his/her backpack as a backup.

Parent Teacher Conferences: Conferences will take place on Friday from 1:00pm-7:00pm. Parent teacher conferences serve as an excellent opportunity for parents and teachers to connect and discuss student assessment results and plans for individual growth and improvement as the school year progresses. Students are not required to attend this round of conferences. Please contact your child's teacher if you need to schedule an appointment for a conference at a different time.

**\*Please note that Friday is a half day and students will be dismissed promptly at 12:00pm.**

Elementary School Assemblies: Each month we have an Elementary Assembly. This school year's assemblies serve as a time where students can participate in a variety of collaborative and engaging activities.

Last week's costume fashion show and movie day was a huge success. The morning began with a costume fashion show during which every elementary student walked down the runway flaunting their favorite costume. [Click Here](https://youtu.be/5AwudAo_uo4) or type in this url:[https://youtu.be/5AwudAo\\_uo4](https://youtu.be/5AwudAo_uo4) to view the fashion show. Please note that the video is private and can only be viewed by individuals with the video's unique url. Additionally, please note that participation in the fashion show was on a voluntary basis, therefore only those students who wished to participate are featured.

The afternoon movie time was also extremely successful and fun for the students. Congratulations to the members of the Elementary Student Council for hosting their first event and thank you to everyone who purchased snack packs and donated candy to make the event a success.



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**\*All student council proceeds will go towards future elementary events and service learning initiatives.**

Monthly Awards: During assemblies 1-2 students from each class are recognized for modeling one of ISO's 5C's congratulations to the recipients of this month's **Critical Thinking** award. Our next focal point will be **Creativity**. Please speak with your children about how they can model the 5C's (Critical Thinking, Communication, Creativity, Collaboration and Community) on a daily basis.

Ms. Mixon  
Elementary School Principal



# Letter From The Upper School Principal

Dear Upper School Parents,

October 22, 2021 marked the end of the Quarter 1 marking period. Report card grades became available November 08 online. The end of this grading period offers a wonderful opportunity for students and educators alike to **reflect** on effectively moving forward. What have we done well? Where can we improve? And, importantly, how can parents, students and teachers work together for a better **learning outcome**. As a Division, Upper School is taking this opportunity to review these objectives and **critically analyze** our efforts with the goal of improvement.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Friday, November 12 from 1-7pm. Students will be dismissed at 12:05 Friday, Appointments with respective teachers can be made online. This is an opportunity to **discuss your child's progress**, and together plot a **path forward**. It will be helpful to make a list of questions that you have about your child's performance, and how you might **support the teacher's efforts** at home. I know the Upper School Faculty is looking forward to meeting each and every parent.

I need your support in ensuring **students** are **picked up promptly** from school. We have after school activities from 3:30-4:30 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Students should **not be on campus after 4:30** unless special arrangements have been made with the teacher, parent and student. In those cases, the student is under the direct supervision of the teacher, and the parent has agreed to pick the student up at 5:30. The **safety and security of your children** is paramount to us. Students on campus without prior approval and unsupervised puts their safety and security in jeopardy. Please help us by picking your children up on time.

In coordination with the US Embassy, we will conduct a Safe Haven Drill Thursday, November 11, 2021. The purpose of this is to facilitate evacuation of all personnel from campus in the face of an outside threat. It is important we **prepare** for all possible scenarios.

**On Thursday, November 18 and 19, we will host the Murder Mystery Dinner Theater @ 18:30 in the auditorium. This promises to be an exciting display of student creativity and acting. DO NOT MISS IT!**

Please feel free to contact me at any time for **constructive discussion** about student learning and school operations. I am interested in your feedback. Thank you for your continued support.

Dean Jex

Associate Upper School Principal

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## IBDP Contribution



Theory of knowledge (TOK) is an integral part of the Diploma Programme (DP). The students learn about what is knowledge, how it is acquired in 5 areas of knowledge (AOK) and develop a more critical way to think about the world that surrounds them. In the past weeks, students have been confronted by interesting questions within their various AOKs. Here is some food for thought and conversation starters for home:

- Arts: How should we view the art of people who have questionable moral stances? Should we cancel their art?
- History: Do we all have a responsibility to know about the past? How does this help us become more morally-aware knowers?
- Human sciences: Do we have a moral obligation to become “long-term thinkers” in order to safeguard civilization?
- Mathematics: Taking into account that humans are behind their development, can we consider that math knowledge provides us with an absolutely objective foundation point for making ethical decisions?
- Natural sciences: Should there be limitations on the production of knowledge in science?

An after school study hall period has been added for students of the DP. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, all students have the possibility to stay on campus until 17h30. This, we hope, will help them do some more focused-work. All students must sign-up weekly for these sessions. Although not mandatory for most students, these sessions are highly recommended for all students.

Fun things: students in the DP Theatre course had the opportunity to see a few live performances in the last 2 weeks. First, they attended one evening of the *Festival international de théâtre et de marionnettes de Ouagadougou (FITMO)* where they saw puppetry, storytelling, dance and theatre. Last Friday, they saw a great performance of a *Burkinabè* adaptation of the South African play, *Le costume*, at *Le Carrefour international de théâtre de Ouagadougou (CITO)*. A great time was had by all whether it was seeing the actors perform, exchanging and taking photos with them at the end of the performance or exploring the set! Thank you for giving your child this opportunity.

### Marie-Hélène Pichette



# Murder Mystery Dinner



**AND THEN  
THERE WAS ONE**  
*A Spoof*  
**MURDER  
MYSTERY DINNER**

 **Thursday, November 18th, 2021**  
**At 6:30 PM**

 **Friday, November 19th, 2021**  
**At 6:30 PM**  
**ISO Auditorium**



**TICKETS: 6,000 CFA**  
**AT ISO RECEPTION**

