

Letter From The Elementary School Principal



Dear Elementary School Families,

Happy new year! Thank you so much for your hard work, collaboration and support! Last week students successfully completed a week of online learning. This week it has been a joy to return to school in person as we conclude the first semester of the 2021-2022 academic year.

A great tradition of entering the new year is setting goals and objectives and this is no exception for the students at ISO. Please take some time to discuss accomplishments and areas of growth with your children as they conclude the second quarter and prepare to begin the third quarter of the academic year. Regular reflection and goal setting is imperative for the on-going process of developing a growth mindset and provides students with opportunities to celebrate their many successes.

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Report Cards:

Over the next few weeks teachers and students will be busy completing projects and doing summative assessments in all subject areas, in preparation for the upcoming Semester 1 report cards. These summative, detailed reports are provided twice within the academic year and serve to relay important information to you about your child's growth and areas that are in need of improvement. **Report cards will be sent via Plus Portals and in hard copy form on Friday February 4th, 2022.** Please take time to read and discuss the report with your child. Lastly, please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns or if you would like to schedule a conference.

After School Activities:

The final day of semester 1 after school activities will be Friday January 21st. Semester 2 after school activity registration will take place during the week of January 24-28. **There will be no after school activity that week.** Please note that ASA registration is on a first come first serve basis, therefore it is imperative that forms are completed and submitted (with funds where applicable) to Mrs. Wati as soon as possible.

School-wide Field Day:

ISO students and teachers will participate in a school wide field day on Tuesday January 25th from 8am until 12noon. Students will be dismissed at 12:00pm. Please make the proper pick up arrangements for your child to be picked up promptly at 12:00pm.

Winter Reading Photo Contest:

Please note that the contest is extended to the end of this week(January 21). Your students can still participate [here](#).



Thank you,

Ms. Mixon

Elementary School Principal

Letter From The Upper School Principal

Dear Upper School Parents,

We are very pleased to have teachers and students **back in the classroom** as of Monday, January 17, 2022. When you look at the faces of students as they listen to instruction and interact with each other, you can see how delighted they are to be back. We will **continue to evaluate the situation**, always putting safety first. Please take the time to **review the [updated ISO Covid-19 Operational Manual](#)** sent out this week by Director Trudeau. It reflects incorporating the latest data, as well as the most effective practices employed by other Directors around the world.

January 25, 2022 will mark the end of Semester 1. This is an opportunity to **reflect, consolidate and recommit toward excellence**. Whether your child has performed up to his or her potential or not, the beginning of a new semester provides a **fresh start**. As well, teachers will review their own practices and move forward with a renewed sense of purpose and meaning toward **student learning**. Semester 2 will offer more **choice and change for students** in their electives. All students, with the exception of Band, will be **rotating out to new courses**. Additionally, we have a new course being offered by Mr. Abdoulaye and Ms. Laurence, Careers. I believe **the new Careers course** will prompt students to start **thinking about their future**, and how to achieve their dreams. Careers will join Human Geography, Intro to Communication, STEAM, Sport Fitness and Art as elective course offerings for Semester 2. Students will also have the opportunity to sign up for new After School Activities. Once again, the choices are being expanded to include the **ISO Competitive Programming Club**.

Prior to departing for Winter Break, students completed an incredibly successful Food and Toy drive to help support needy families in the community. Five students joined the CRO and Ms. Soubeiga in a memorable distribution experience. Neighbors gathered in a central location to receive a generous portion of food and toys to brighten their holiday. Students came away **deeply affected by the experience**. They were able to experience the joy and satisfaction of helping those less fortunate than themselves. **Generosity of spirit** is an important quality for ISO students to embrace.



Letter From The Upper School Principal

I am attaching the most recent Measure of Academic Progress (**MAP**) scores from Upper School. Our students are demonstrating **consistent growth** in all areas. They are either very close or ahead in most US RIT results. Please review at your convenience.

Thank you for your support during these challenging times. I will continue to do all I can to ensure the best possible learning experience for your children. As always, I welcome your feedback.

Warm Regards,

Dean Jex

Associate Upper School Principal



	ISO AVERAGE RIT GROWTH FALL-WINTER	ISO RIT WINTER	U.S RIT WINTER
GRADE 6	0.82	216	220
GRADE 7	3.10	228	224
GRADE 8	2.40	231	228
GRADE 9	1.25	234	229



	ISO AVERAGE RIT GROWTH FALL-WINTER	ISO RIT WINTER	U.S RIT WINTER
GRADE 6	2.18	211	214
GRADE 7	3.60	220	217
GRADE 8	6.00	224	221
GRADE 9	3.81	224	221



Measuring What Matters

Letter From The Upper School Principal

What Does RIT Mean

MAP Growth uses the RIT (Rasch Unit) scale to help you measure and compare academic growth. Specifically, the scale measures levels in academic difficulty. The RIT scale extends equally across all grades, making it possible to compare a student's score at various points throughout his or her education.

What does a specific RIT score mean? It represents the level where a student is ready to learn, also known as the Zone of Proximal Development. The test finds that level by pinpointing where a student would just as likely answer incorrectly as correctly, the point between knowing and not knowing answers.



IBDP Contribution

CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) is an essential element of the core component of the Diploma Programme. “With its holistic approach, CAS is designed to strengthen and extend students’ personal and interpersonal learning” (ibo.org) throughout their 2 years of studies. Students are not graded on this component, but must show achievement of the 7 CAS learning outcomes in order to earn their Diploma. Through ISO’s strong Service Learning programme, our students are well prepared for this aspect of the DP and have worked on exciting projects. This year, a group of students entered the CASTrips Project Challenge. “The CAS Project Challenge is a global competition to showcase the achievements of outstanding student team projects that have positively impacted their local community” (CASTrips.org). The CMath group, lead by 11th grade student Antonio Kambiré, organized a national mathematics competition during the 2020-2021 school year. At the beginning of January, we found out that this group had been selected as finalists of the 2021 competition. This year, 61 projects were submitted from 32 countries. Join us in finding out if Antonio and his team are this year’s winners. Every Friday, go to the following link: <https://www.castrips.org/casproject/> to follow the countdown. The winner will be announced on January 28th. We hope this will inspire you in your upcoming projects.

Marie-Hélène Pichette

ISO FIELD DAY-JAN 25 2022

ISO Community,

On Tuesday, January 25 2022, ISO will hold its Field Day! Students dressed in their Team Colors will compete in several sports activity until noon.

Please view your child(ren) team color [HERE!](#)

School will end at noon on that day and dismissal will take place promptly at 12pm.



ISO Field Day

Tuesday-Jan 25, 2022

8:00am-12:00pm

-Come dressed in your team color!

-Wear tennis shoes.

-Don't forget your water bottle & hat.



*Please note that field day is a half day for students. Dismissal will take place promptly at 12:00pm.