

# Letter From The Lower School Principal

Hello, Lower School friends and family,

Happy shortest, and probably the busiest month in the academic calendar!

The festivities have already started here at ISO with the whole school settled in to watch our special preview of Elf Jr. last week. This is a great opportunity to watch our community in action and spread the holiday cheer. If you have not done so already, please contact Ms. Wati Simpure for your free tickets for tonight's or tomorrow's performance while they are still available!

We had our first film night in Lower school, watching the Grinch who stole Christmas! Popcorn & hot chocolate were shared, and a great after-school party was enjoyed by nearly all our students. A big shout out to Ms. Linda, Mrs. O, and Ms. Mullings who helped to make this happen.

Our **"Coffee with the Principals"** went off to a great start, sharing ideas for the cafeteria, Sports, after-school activities, and the steady reopening of the school's facilities after Covid but taking into account higher security measures. We will hopefully see you in the new year for more opportunities and conversations. I genuinely believe that these discussions can help us all become more aware of what is going on, and also needed, to make our school the greatest palace we all want it to be!



**Book Sale!** Our Library has new books on sale during the day this week, December 5-9 for students and also before the musical from 15:15- 18:15 on December 8 and 9th, 2022. Yes, today and tomorrow! All books will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Please see the attached poster.

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This year ISO partnered with the Association des Familles pour Les Research dès Paix et Développement, affiliated with Universal Peace Federation (UPF) for a project called "Donation Drive". I would like to thank you all for the great gifts and donations you made to ensure the health and well-being of the vast numbers of refugees, misplaced south into our city. Awesome job everybody, you have literally saved lives!

With next week being a short one, and Monday being a national holiday for Independence, I would like to ensure you have our plans for the week. Unfortunately, no after-school activities this week as we prepare to close the school for the holidays. Friday will also be a half day with a student collection time of 12:00.

I hope you all manage to have a great winter break. Visit family and friends, eat more than humanly possible and find what peace and joy you are searching for. I wish you all the best for next year at ISO, happy 2023!

Thank you all again, for entrusting us with the education of your loved ones. Please reach out if you need anything, and I will do my best to ensure we deliver the best education possible.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Horton

Lower School Principal



# Letter From The Upper School Principal

Dear Upper School Community,

It seems impossible that Winter Break is but a week away. The past month has been full of **activities showcasing the range of abilities of our students**. While we welcome this upcoming opportunity for rest, relaxation and time with family, we want to **proudly reflect on recent events**.

This year **Service Learning was reconfigured** into a Quarter class for 6-9. Each Grade level will spend 9 weeks working with Ms. Soubeiga creating a project that gives back in some way to the community. Grade 6 kicked off the rotation by **renovating the playhouse** in the Lower School play area. They **approached their mission methodically**. First, they surveyed needs, then analyzed costs and materials, and then considered how to effectively implement their plan. All this culminated in a well thought out presentation **articulated in front of the LS and US Principals**. The plan was approved and **put into action**. Well done Grade 6!

Tuesday, November 29, 2022 marked the **third soccer match hosted by ISO** this year. Slowly, but surely, we are **expanding opportunities for students while maintaining sound security protocols**. ISO swept the series with Zogona FC, capturing both the Middle and High school contests, 2-0. Parents, students and teachers enjoyed an afternoon of cheering on our Boys Soccer Teams. The new year will bring **additional contests**.

Celebration of the Arts, which occurred Thursday, December 1, 2022 @ 18:30 was a delightful reminder **why a robust Fine Arts program** is so important to child development. The event featured **creative student works of art, a band performance by both beginning/advanced groups, and an innovative short play by Grade 10 Theater**. It is worth noting that the Grade 10 Theater performance was assisted by visiting collaborative artists, cementing our ties to the community.



# Letter From The Upper School Principal

The musical production of “Elf Jr.” will be performed Thursday, December 8 and Friday, December 9 @ 18:30 in the auditorium. Students have been rehearsing tirelessly in preparation for this holiday treat. If you have not secured a ticket yet, please do so. You do not want to miss this event. It promises to be yet another display of students expanding their horizons in a creative way.

The first “Coffee with Principals” took place on Monday, December 5 @ 14:00. Although only five parents were in attendance this time, it served as a great venue for a **constructive exchange of ideas between parents and administrators**. We want to know what you think, and how we can **improve the school to better meet your children’s needs**. Please try and attend our next session in January.

Finally, we have started the **second round of MAP testing**. This provides important information for teachers in planning approaches to learning that foster student learning and growth. Students always perform better when they are well rested and eat a nutritious breakfast.

I would like to take this opportunity to **thank the entire Upper School community** for your ongoing support. Also, thank you to the parents, teachers and students who contributed generously to the **Donation Drive** assisting displaced families.....**ISO cares!**

Students will be **dismissed at 12:00 December 16, 2022** following a Winter Festival. I hope you **have restful and enjoyable Winter Break** Please return to us safe and sound Monday, January 9, 2023 @ 0745.

Sincerely,

Dean Jex, Upper School Principal

**PS. Don’t miss the PTA Holiday Fair this Sunday, December 11 from 0900-1700!!!!**



# Letter From The Upper School Principal



## IBDP Contribution

Academic integrity is very important. Lately, some students have been caught taking the easy route. We've unfortunately encountered cases of plagiarism and collusion. To try to eliminate this problem, or at least discourage students from continuing this malpractice, we held weekly sessions on understanding and explaining academic integrity as well as practicing how to cite appropriately. We also reviewed our academic integrity policy with the students which you can find below.

All incidents of academic integrity will be given the following consequences, in order of violation:

1. A teacher/student conference and a mandatory resubmission of the assignment with a 20% deduction.
2. A teacher, student and administrator conference, along with parental notification and a 0 (zero) for the assignment.
3. A student, parent, and administrator conference, 0 (zero) for the assignment, and a mandatory suspension.

Any and all further violations will result in suspension and/or expulsion from ISO, at the discretion of the Upper School Principal and/or Director.

With all the examples provided and the explanation of the gravity of the consequences from ISO and the IB, we hope that all students will now show academic integrity in all their work.

This month, the CAS voice is given to Smarty Niampa and Ornella Tiendrebeogo.

**Marie-Hélène Pichette**

## IBDP Contribution

### *Smarty Niampa, grade 12 - Learning to play drums*

One of my CAS creativity experiences is learning to play drums. I started this creativity experience in October 2021. Being a person who likes to hit on things and who also likes noise, I thought that this experience would be a fun challenge for me. At the beginning of this CAS experience, I wanted to be able to improvise rhythms when playing with other people. For now, I am not at the level I wanted to be at because playing the drums is way more challenging than I thought. But this experience has still taught me a lot. It taught me to be a good listener because my teacher teaches me different rhythms without scores, so I have to carefully listen to the sound and watch him play. It taught me patience because I could be trying the same rhythm sometimes over 10 times without getting it right. It is sometimes frustrating, but feels good when it works out. With this experience, I have met the CAS learning outcome number 4, which is showing commitment to and perseverance in CAS experiences. Even though it wasn't always easy, I managed to learn how to play the drums.



## IBDP Contribution

### *Ornella Tiendrebeogo, grade 12 - Dancing*

Over the last year and a half, I've had the opportunity to join the Dance Club at ISO. Dancing is a great venture to start because it counts for both the activity and creativity strands of CAS, as well as keeps you active. It fulfills the learning outcome number 2, which is to demonstrate the undertaking of challenges while developing new skills in the process. I started dancing last year with a group of my friends in a club at school, then continued it over the summer and into my 12<sup>th</sup> grade year in dance club with Tyson. It is the one thing that I look forward to every week, because it helps me de-stress and have fun before going back to the realities of the International Baccalaureate Program. Every class that I come out of, I learn a new dancing skill/move or a new dance altogether. Dancing is not just physical work, it acts on the mental and helps with memorization in order to remember the dances. I am glad that coming to ISO allowed me to expand my set of skills, and dance is an activity that I will continue after high school.



# Book Fair



International School of  
**Ouagadougou**

*Come to our*

 **SCHOLASTIC**

# BOOK FAIR



**From December 5th to 9th**  
**At the library**



International School of  
**Ouagadougou**

Presents

**elf**  
The Musical **JR.**

BOOK BY  
**Thomas Meehan** AND **Bob Martin**

MUSIC BY  
**Matthew Sklar**

LYRICS BY  
**Chad Beguelin**

BASED ON THE NEW LINE CINEMA FILM WRITTEN BY  
David Berenbaum

**Thursday, December 8th**

**Friday, December 9th**

**18h30**

**ISO Auditorium**

**Mandatory tickets to be  
picked up at the front desk**

Elf The Musical JR. is presented through special arrangement with  
and all authorized materials are supplied by  
Music Theatre International, New York, NY  
(212) 541-4684 mtishows.com



International School of  
**Ouagadougou**



# HOLIDAY FAIR

ART & CRAFT  
TOMBOLA  
GAMES  
GIFTS  
FOOD  
DRINKS  
SANTA

SUN. DEC.  
11TH  
09H-17H

ENTRY:  
1000CFA