

Letter From The Lower School Principal

Hello, Lower School friends and family,

With just **25 school days left** this semester, we are definitely getting close to completing our school year. To ensure all our young ones are prepared for their next grade level, this is the last push to demonstrate how well they have done.

Our **yearbook**, coming out at the end of this academic year will be hard-bound, with our Upper School students still working hard to make sure this year is well recorded with fond memories for all of us. The yearbook will be on sale in June for you all to buy your copy to remember friends and happy occasions during the 2022/23 year at ISO. Hot off the press, this year all student names are on the cover!

No school next Thursday, May 18, 2023, in recognition of the ascension celebration.

Another exciting chance to watch our Lower School teams play **football tomorrow**, Friday, May 12, 2023.

Our final round of **MAP testing** will start May 22, 2023. This final assessment can be used to gauge overall progress during the school year.



Africa Week will this year take place from May 29 through June 2, 2023. This year our colorful local fabric is available to the whole community, with as many people as possible coming to school dressed in similar clothing on Friday, June 2. If you do not have a chance to make clothes for this event, please participate by wearing purple, blue, or pink which are the main colors this year.

The Lower School will have its own Celebration Of The Arts (COTA) this year on the evening of Thursday, June 8, 2023, starting at 18:30. This celebration will demonstrate achievements in both performing and art classes from this semester. Please join us in this celebration!

Our end-of-year **awards ceremony** will be held on Friday, June 9, 2023, from 09:45 - 11:00. This end-of-year-themed event will be a celebration of our homeroom academic achievements and incorporate some fun and excellent performances. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this culmination of our year in Lower School at ISO.

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Thank you once again, for entrusting us all here in Lower School, with the education of your little loved ones. Please reach out if you need anything, and we will do our best to ensure we meet your expectations. Please remember that teachers are also on a busy schedule and if you need to contact them you must have an appointment. In case of an emergency please see Mrs. Wati or me, at the reception of the school and we can check if they can see you and are prepared to give you the up-to-date information you require.

Have a great end of the year,

Adrian Horton,
Lower School Principal



Letter From The Upper School Principal

Dear Upper School Community,

The end of the 2022-23 school year is rapidly approaching here at ISO, and with it a number of significant activities. **The most noteworthy, of course, will be the graduation of our 2023 Seniors, May 27, 2023.** We are filled with pride and joy as they complete their high school years and enter into a new independent, exciting phase of life. Other graduation related activities that week will include the **Senior Breakfast, Senior Assembly and Prom.**

In the meantime, things have been busy here in Upper School. Friday, May 5, **ISO hosted College de La Salle for a friendly competition with the Boys and Girls Basketball team.** Both teams demonstrated good fundamental skills and solid coaching. The Girls team managed to squeeze out a narrow 14 -9 victory, while the Boys dropped a hard-fought contest 21-14. We are proud of the effort and sportsmanship on display by ISO students. Way to go Stallions!!!

Prior to the game, an Upper School assembly was held. **Students from different Advisories delivered speeches about how famous people used the IB Learner Trait of REFLECTION** in their lives. We learned about Apple founder Steve Jobs, Physicist Albert Einstein, Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. and Nobel Prize winner Nelson Mandala in the student speeches. Also, the Boys and Girls Basketball team members were introduced and given student support for their upcoming game. It was a terrific assembly that featured both student **learning and school spirit.**

The Science Fair including Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 was conducted April 28, 2023. Students developed a hypothesis and then created an experiment to determine its accuracy. They followed the Scientific method; making observations, identifying variables, and drawing conclusions. The energy and excitement generated from students looking at each other's projects and delivering presentations was contagious. The Fair concluded with an Awards presentation recognizing outstanding projects in each grade level, and an overall Principal's Award. This was yet another example of ISO students proving that learning is fun!!!!



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Africa Week will be occurring school wide during the week of May 29 – June 2, 2023. This year's theme is **Resilience and Unity**. **Students will experience this through arts and crafts, dance, literature, and fashion**. This is a wonderful event that helps student recognize the incredible resources and diversity of the African continent.

The DELF exam will take place from May 22-26. Grade 5, 8, and 10 students will sit the exam. The DELF is an examination that certifies the **French language competency** of our students. The diploma is delivered by the French Ministry of Education. Here in Burkina, the French Institute administers the exams and their proctors will be around throughout the week.

Finally, **Grades 6-10 will be participating in Final Exams June 12-14**. Please take note of this time as students will need to prepare by studying and receiving the proper amount of rest to do well. This is good **preparation for other high stakes assessments** they may face both in regular higher-level courses, or if they participate in the International Baccalaureate program.

Other important dates coming up this month include the **ISO Association meeting May 23, the MAP testing the week of May 29 and the Ascension holiday May 18**.

This has been incredibly productive and exciting school year. **Your support has been instrumental**.

Thank you.

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Upper School Principal

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IBDP Contribution

Grade 12

The May exam session is in full spin. The students are already at the end of week 2 and all seems to be going well. The IB exam session ends on Thursday, May 18th with Biology.

A reminder:

The last week of school for all Seniors is from May 22nd to 26th.

We wish best of success to all our Seniors.

Grade 11

IB internal assessments are taking place (TOK, French A, Theatre). The last few weeks of school will be busy. We keep encouraging our Juniors to have good time management techniques.

We take this opportunity to invite everyone to our Celebration of the Arts on Friday, May 19th, where the students will present their TOK exhibition from 17h30-18h30. This is an IB requirement.

Grade 10

We held the IB information night on Thursday, April 27th. Thank you to those who came. Many good and clarifying questions were asked.

Each student received their course selection form and must complete and submit it by **Friday, May 12th**. I will look at all forms and schedule meetings with each family, as necessary, to discuss the choices. Please, read the guidelines carefully as some students already submitted incomplete forms

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IBDP Contribution

We conclude with the last CAS voice of the year, Amani Gibbs.

Amani Gibbs, Grade 12 - Activity

My name is Amani Gibbs and I will be talking about the activity strand of CAS and my experience. For Activity, I chose to do soccer since it is my favorite sport and I was also already participating in the soccer team. My goal for soccer was to improve my touch and passing ability and this can be measured by placing a person at a certain distance from you and seeing how far you can pass the ball to them. The biggest obstacle I faced during my journey was finding time to practice since I had a lot of assignments and a lot of studying to do. The way I overcame this was to practice in my front yard since I have a lot of space. I was able to practice my short distance passing by placing something on the ground and just trying to hit it. For my long distance passing, I worked on it when I had practice at school or when the team just got together and played together.



Marie-Hélène Pichette

Africa Week at ISO

May 29-June 02. 2023

Theme: Resilience and Unity!

African cultures will be celebrated throughout the week

Africa week Fabric on sale: 5,000cfa for two pagnes! Get yours with Ms. Wati at the front desk.

We can book a tailor for you to get a nice outfit for our celebration day!

We will all wear our outfits on the last day of the week which is Friday, June 2 in conjunction with the culminating activity which is the Assembly!



Happy Africa Week to everyone!

