

Thursday, August 21st, 2009

Dear Parents,

We are once again approaching the beginning of another school year and look forward to further challenges and to welcoming all our ISA families to what we believe will be an exceptional year.

Firstly, in regard to possible concerns about Type A Influenza (swine flu), we are planning to open as scheduled; however, we are keeping a close watch on the situation and will advise parents by SMS of any changes ordered by the Ministry of Education. We urge you not to send your child to school if he or she has flu symptoms, in order to protect the remainder of the school community from contagion.

Much work has been done over the summer to improve the facilities and infrastructure of the school to better serve our students.

- The northern side of the building has been repaired and painted;
- The bathrooms on the first and second floors have been renovated;
- The six new electronic Cleverboards have been installed, and teachers have been receiving training on effective use of this technology;
- An extra classroom has been created on the first floor to house the growing number of middle school students;
- Fifty new desks have been bought to furnish the new room and to supplement some of the upstairs classrooms.
- Another school bus has been added to the eight we already have.
- The school's website is being redesigned to make it more interactive. We will be able to update it much more quickly so that it can be used as a resource by parents, students and staff. Parents will be able to access homework assignments on line for grades 7-12, so they can follow their children's study at home more easily. We will be sending you more details during the first day or two of school

There have been some changes made in the administration of the school which promise to enhance efficiency and communication, thus offering the best possible service to our parents:

- Ms. Iliadis, University Placement Officer, will be situated on the entrance floor next to the Admissions Office;
- Mr. Tragas, High School Principal, will also take on the position of Director of Studies and will coordinate the planning and implementation of the curriculum for grades 7-12;
- All grade 11 students will be following in the I.B. programme with an option of taking either the Diploma or the Certificate course. The 10th grade will continue to be a pre-I.B. course, preparing students for the I.B. programme in grades 11 and 12. The academic progress of the 10th grade students will be supervised by Mr. Kattavenos, I.B. Coordinator.
- Mr. Pulford, assuming his new duties as Middle School Principal, will be situated in his new office on the first floor (room number 105) where he will have close contact with students. He will be responsible for the academic and social monitoring of all students in grades 7-9;
- Ms Maria Protopapa will be serving as Middle School Counselor. As part of her duties, she will be administering the new anti-bullying programme called 'Bullies to Buddies.'
- Mr. Yiannis Skrinos will, once return to the position of security officer;
- Ms. Helen Haniotaki will be situated in the Admissions Office on the entrance floor where she will assume the duties of Assistant to the Director of Admissions as well as continuing with monitoring student attendance;
- Ms. Tsoltos will be working in the library and assuming responsibilities as assistant to the Middle School Principal.

In the Primary, preparations for the coming year are well under way.

- Due to increasing numbers, the 5th grade has been split into two sections
- The successful 6th grade bridging programme will be continued to ensure a smooth transition from the Primary School to the Middle School next year.
- The trip to the island of Aegina will be repeated for this year's 6th graders

Melina's Junior and Melina's Kindergarten are ready to accept our youngest members on the start of their journey into ISA.

- Ms. Vanessa Vasileiou will be coordinating Melina's Junior.
- Ms. Mary Kefala will be assisting Ms. Barry in the office at the Kindergarten.
- Ms. Mata has produced some colourful artwork, decorating our Kindergarten.
- Some of the wall-to-wall carpeting at the Kindergarten has been replaced with laminated floor boards.

This year's bonding trips have been scheduled as follows:

- September 11-12 for grade 7
- September 18 for grades 3-6
- September 18-19 for grade 10
- September 25 for grades 1-2

Various other sport and activity trips as well as cultural events are planned throughout the year.

Our IB Diploma results were very good (82 per cent passes) and most of our students have received places at the university or educational institution of their first choice. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the graduates of 2009 and wish them the very best in their future endeavours.

For returning families, we enclose the end-of-year Honour Roll for the 2008-2009 academic year. We congratulate the students in grades 7-12 who earned a place on the academic and/or effort honour roll through their diligence and hard work throughout the year. Well done!

Once again, we look forward to seeing all of you and wish all our students a happy, healthy and successful school year. Please remember that I am always available to discuss any concerns you may have.

Kind regards,



Costis Dardoufas
Director / Head of School