

THE LION'S ROAR



Dr. Derek Pinchbeck, Head of Learning, Deputy Head of School

Happy New Year to all members of the ISS International School (ISS) family. It is amazing that half of the 2016/17 academic year has flown by so fast. It has been an incredibly busy first half of the school year and 2017 looks set to be just as exciting.

As a school, we are driven by our mission to provide a multicultural educational environment for our students in which they achieve academic success, personal growth, and become socially responsible and active global citizens with an appreciation of learning as a life-long process. This mission driven focus was commended in our Council of International Schools (CIS)/ Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation report in October, a reaffirmation of the quality inclusive learning environment that all members of the ISS family have worked so hard to create.

Some of the many highlights of the first semester have been; the swimming gala and athletics days, Middle School Week Without Walls trips, Elementary School Performing Arts Concert, High School Music Festival of Lights and International Day. Wonderful though these special events have been, the most important highlight has been the enthusiasm and joy for learning seen in our students every single day.

The second semester will be no less busy with the Middle Years Programme (MYP) Personal Project, the Primary Years Programme (PYP) Exhibition, MYP e-assessments and the Diploma Programme (DP) exams coming up on the academic side. Just as important to the empowering learning culture at ISS, we also have the PYP camps, Paterson Campus Art Exhibition, High School Art Exhibition and Middle School "Into The Woods" production amongst many other events.

It is an honour to be part of a learning family as inclusive, empowering and nurturing as ISS and I wish you all a wonderful learning journey in 2017.

Derek Pinchbeck (Dr.)

Head of Learning
Deputy Head of School

CONTENT

Getting to Know ISS:
Wicked Way to Learn **02**

Getting to Know
our Board Member:
Mrs Julie Lee **03**

Student Achievements
and Contributions: **04**
Mindful Mugs
by Kinari

**Middle School
Natural Art** **05**

**ISS Student's Winning
Entry in a Photo
Competition**

Our Alumni Community:
Surabhi **06**

Event Features: **07**
WWW (Telunas, Sok
Sabay, Borneo)
14 - 18 November

I Love ISS **08**

**ES Performing Arts
Concert** **09**
9 December

Past Happenings: **10**
School Activities
November to December

Up and Coming Events: **11**
**Events to
Look Forward To**
January to February

Wicked Way to Learn

The popular musical ‘Wicked’ was used as an experiential platform for ISS International School students to learn Drama and to examine real-life concepts of identities and relationships in an integrated manner.

The Broadway musical ‘Wicked’ had already thrilled millions of viewers around the world when it debuted in Singapore. Viewing it with an enthralled audience was ISS International School teacher, Mr Bruno Alen Lebon, who was leading his group of Arts Drama students down a different yellow brick road.

Under his guidance, these Middle School students were observing the practical aspects of staging such a large-scale musical production – from the stunning production sets, musical scores, choreography and special effects to the roles of the actors, directors and producers.

“The teaching of Drama goes beyond imparting the theoretical aspects of the theatre and performing arts,” explains Mr Lebon. “The practical and experiential learning from researching and studying a performance like ‘Wicked’ brings the concepts we teach to life.”

Also brought to life was a deeper study into the relationship of the two main witch characters – the wicked Glinda and the good Elphaba. In this unlikely friendship between the two opposing personalities, there were clashing viewpoints and rivalries. Students had to reflect on the bearing these caricatures brought to their own observations of school life, inclusiveness, conflicts and friendships.

An integral part of the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme, the study of ‘Identities and Relationships’ is built into Drama classes for the Middle Years Programme level. By navigating IB learner profiles and delivering such concepts in an integrated manner across many different units of the curriculum, the teacher guides the students in internalising and building a stronger understanding of valuable life skills that prepare them to be reflective and critical thinkers.

As Mr. Lebon describes, “ISS International School goes beyond traditional learning to focus on the IB learner profiles where we integrate values such as inclusiveness, open-mindedness and communication in the classroom. The beauty of this programme is that the teacher can teach by concept and create the delivery of the curriculum in a student needs-focused approach.”

All IB learner profiles are covered and no two semesters of Music and Drama are the same. Mr Lebon taps on available productions running in the local theatre scene at any one time to customise his lessons. He also sources opportunities for the students to stage their own performances and put what they learn into practice.

After watching the ‘Wicked’ the musical, the class had to stage its own 20-minute mini-production to be presented in the global context of ‘Performing to Heal’. The student work was then shown at the MUSICFEST event at the Singapore General Hospital (SGH) in October and was repeated at the Singapore Eurasian Association Christmas lunch for the elderly in December.

Some of the students also travelled to Sok Sabay, a charity home in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, where they shared their knowledge of Arts Drama with the children and worked together on staging skits and mini presentations, as part of their community service work.

The underlying intent of all these fun activities is two-fold. It not only forms a critical part of the IB programme’s emphasis on community action and service; it also serves to strengthen the students’ understanding of this concept of ‘Identities and Relationships’ in an experiential manner.

“The entire learning process integrates the ideals of the IB to help students realise their potential and be constructive global citizens,” explains Mr Lebon. “I get to know my students very well, and am able to shape their learning process, which is only possible in a small school like ISS International School.”

At the end of the semester, students shared their reflections of what they had learnt in written journals. Some students observed in their journals that there was a need, as an actor, to be dynamic and adjust oneself to be in harmony with



We went to see the musical, Wicked



A very passionate rendition of “What is this feeling?” from Wicked, the musical.

Getting to Know ISS

Article: **“Wicked Way to Learn”** continues.



Performing at the MusicFest@SGH in October 2016!

other actors. On their personal development, some students saw themselves growing as communicators and better team players as they learnt to accept the ideas of their classmates to improve a production. Others found their social and self-management skills improving by the end of the semester.

The diversity of reflections clearly shows that each student has navigated his or her own yellow brick road. As individuals, they have to create their own understanding of the role of Arts Drama and to consider other lessons that help them make sense of the world around them. As one student quite aptly summarised, “These experiences have given me insights into the joy that drama and music bring to others. It has given me the resolve to continue to act and perform and continue to help others.”

Getting to Know Our Board Member



Julie
Lee

Mrs. Julie Lee graduated with a Bachelor of Law from the University of Singapore in 1977 and was called to the Bar in 1978. She went from corporate legal practice to education in 1988 when she wrote the design brief and helped lead the re-development of her alma mater, a local independent girls' school. Working as an administrator and then as Registrar for a good twenty years, her global outlook and interest in the school programme also saw her put in charge of the foreign scholars in the school.

In 2008, she joined ISS as its Director of Administration and undertook a review of work processes and contracts. She also supported the CEO in meetings with government agencies in the initiation of the Edutrust accreditation regime. Since retiring from the position in 2010, Julie has continued to provide consultancy to the ISS group.

Julie believes in the inclusiveness and adaptiveness of ISS at its educational heart and the family spirit of the school. The development of the varied and multiple intelligences of students in a non-threatening and accepting environment has seen students flourishing and fulfilling their dreams for the future. Each graduating class has left the school with an optimistic outlook and belief that they will contribute to making the world a better place to live in.

Mindful Mugs

By Kinari, ISS Student

“

This isn't a black and white world. Not everyone has a healthy mind, and no one should have to deal with it themselves in an attempt to fix their problems. Mental health is important, but some people have difficulty keeping it fit. We must embrace the colours within different minds, and work together for a healthy mind.

A healthy, not black and white future.

– Sharaf, ISS Student,
President of Mindful Mugs

”

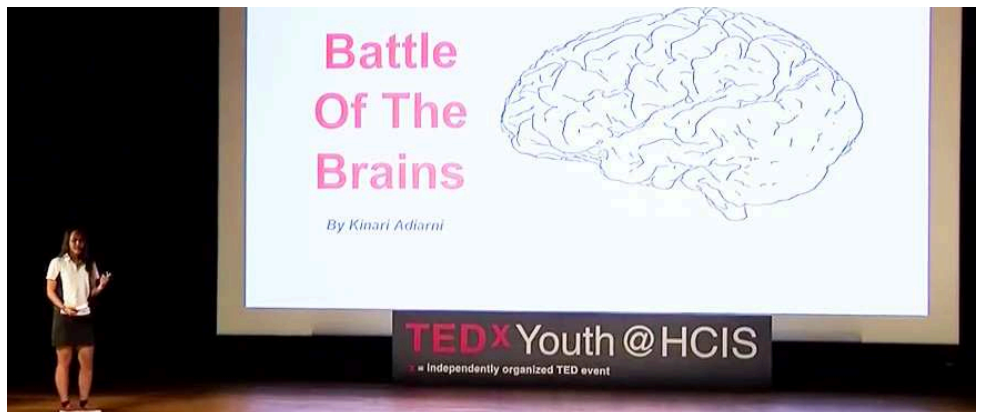


Sharing ideas and building our brand



Our 'Break the Stigma' mindful mug

For more information on the company and the team members, please visit their website: mindfulmugs.co.vu!



Kinari's TEDx talk on Battle of the Brains. If you'd like to watch her talk, visit bit.ly/KinariTEDx

As explained by Sharaf, the world is not a perfect place for the human mental condition as we are constantly being thrown at by life, various challenges and dilemmas. While some might succeed at getting past these challenges, for others it might be very difficult and essentially impact them to the core. This is what led a company to start its business, offering not just a great product but more importantly, a great message. Through interviews with various members of the team, we were able to get a thorough behind-the-scenes insight.

What is Mindful Mugs?

Mindful Mugs is a company that was started in August 2016. Created as part of the Junior Achievement Singapore competition, this company offers both a product and a service. Through various colourful and creative designs printed on our mugs, this product hopes to be a great addition to your daily needs as well as a cheerful reminder to brighten up your day and keep you motivated. Another important aspect of it is its QR code. When scanned, it will lead you to our website. Here, you are able to learn more information about who we are as a company, what we value and most importantly, view weekly posts of inspiring videos, quotes, photographs, stories and more! Many of these are original work from our team, which is a service we work hard to provide.

What is the problem? What is the solution?

While selling a mug is great on its own, we wanted to do something bigger – we wanted to create a difference, even if that meant one small step at a time. Being a group of teenagers, we understand the challenges that come with growing up and how our mental health can be easily affected by stress, experiences and more. For many out there, it is a struggle to get through the day or even get out of bed as their

depression and anxiety have become a major part of their lives. Statistics show that those who are struggling hardly ever ask for help and that is because of the stigma that is associated with mental illnesses. This is caused by a lack of awareness among communities. Most importantly, because it is a topic that is often avoided, no solution or help is being given.

Vision

To create a world of utmost social satisfaction through strong mental health.

Mission

Serving awareness in our mugs to quench the thirst of understanding that people with mental issues face.

Who are we?

The Mindful Mugs team consists of 16 students from ISS International School with an array of diverse backgrounds. Each of us are currently studying in our last year of the IB DP and while we are actively revising and working on school assignments, we couldn't miss out on this great opportunity to experience the process of building a company from scratch. While most of us are studying Business and Management as one of our core subjects, we also have students who do not study Business but are interested in learning more about it.

ISS Student's Winning Entry in a Photo Competition

In August of this school year, students in Grades 1-5 were invited to enter a calendar competition sponsored by Allied Pickfords. The students were asked to submit a photograph of their favorite place in Singapore that they had taken by themselves. One of our students, Kaya, had her photograph of Sentosa chosen! Congratulations to Kaya for her winning entry. Her photograph of Sentosa is featured for the month of July, 2017 in the Allied Pickfords Calendar.



“ This picture is of Sentosa, a place of nature, tranquility, and fun.

– Kaya, ISS Student ”



Middle students studied natural forms from life to develop their drawing skills and understanding of the formal elements: line, value, form, shape and texture.

They experimented with conventional and unconventional drawing tools and media in their process journals, and took their own reference photos of natural forms to work from.

After reviewing some of the principles of design, they combined their knowledge and skills through sketches, and developed them into their own final composition using natural forms.



“

Looking back at my ISS journey, I can say without a doubt that I have made memories and friends that will stay close to my heart forever. ISS has given me a high school experience that I will never forget.

- Surabhi, ISS Alumni

”



Surabhi at ISS Graduation 2016

I recently graduated from ISS after attending the school for 6 years. Today, as I wait to start my Bachelor's degree at the University of Warwick, I can confidently say that a large part of my knowledge and character has stemmed from my time at ISS.

Coming from India, the international setting was new and overwhelming to me. But from my very first day in grade 7, I have felt at home amongst the nurturing community of ISS. The school has provided me with numerous opportunities in both academic and non-academic areas. I was able to opt for a variety of subjects that prepared me well for my chosen course at university. Outside the classroom, I had the chance of serving as the Student Council's Vice President and explore my passion for community and service. At ISS, the teachers looked beyond the basic educational requirements of the IB programme, to ensure the values are instilled in each and every student. Not only did the school guide me through my CAS (Community, Activity, Service) projects but also constantly recognised my work, and nominated me for the prestigious International Diana Award.

Looking back at my ISS journey, I can say without a doubt that I have made memories and friends that will stay close to my heart forever. ISS has given me a high school experience that I will never forget.

Our alumni are all over the world and remain an important part of the ISS International School community. We love to hear about what our alumni are accomplishing on their lifelong learning journey, and how their time at ISS has influenced who they are, what they do, and the part they play in the global community. In the future, alumni will be invited to attend special gatherings such as networking events, professional talks, annual reunions or dialogue sessions.

“

I have felt at home amongst the nurturing community of ISS. The school has provided me with numerous opportunities in both academic and non-academic areas.

- Surabhi, ISS Alumni

”

We love to hear about what our alumni are accomplishing on their lifelong learning journey, and how their time at ISS has influenced who they are, what they do, and the part they play in the global community.

Join our Facebook group for the latest updates on our alumni activities and events!

www.facebook.com/groups/issgalumni/

Middle School Week Without Walls



Borneo - Mixing cement for the bus shelter

Week Without Walls (WWW) takes learning beyond the classroom. Every trip expands each student's personal development, furthers their role as active global citizens and brings authenticity into their curriculum. These journeys create learning experiences that encourage each student to realise their potential. WWW is one of the building blocks that assist in creating success in a child's academic life and beyond. It continues to offer the opportunity to develop an individual's physical, social and emotional wellbeing, a healthy and positive disposition, connectedness with others, and self-awareness. Every WWW trip provides the opportunity to learn, contribute to our local and regional communities, and dare we say, for a little adventure!



Borneo - Building flower box walls



Telunas - Painting a beautiful wall



Telunas - drawing and colouring with the kids



Sok Sabay - Playing games with the children at the home



Sok Sabay - Preparing activities for the children at the home

I Love ISS

At ISS, teachers are caring, and the way they teach is fun, which helps me learn a lot. I like that ISS is very international and you learn about different cultures. ISS is the best school that I have been in. ISS is like a big family. – Ricardo (ISS Student)

The close community and friendliness of the teachers, alongside the outstanding education system, have helped me develop to my highest potential. – Alex (ISS Student)

All the staff and students are smart, confident, creative, and you can always count on them! – Sofia (ISS Student)

ISS is one of a kind, like no other. It's international, like the name, and creativity is encouraged! – Deakin (ISS Student)

'4, 3, 2, 1, I love ISS because...'

Our new brand advertising campaign was launched with fanfare across an integrated mix of media platforms. Internally, within the school community, not only were there teaser messages sent via email to build the excitement for the launch event, there were also commemorative gifts given to all, and a student contest to find out why our students liked the school.

Beyond the fun and activities, the brand campaign serves to strengthen the core values of ISS that sets us apart. ISS will always be about the strong individual student-centered approach that is applied by our faculty, the many opportunities that our students are given to test and hone their best potential through firmly established academic rigor and the many CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) and Extra Curricular Activities (ECAs) provided. All these can only be made possible because of the school's determination and commitment to maintain a low student-to-teacher ratio, to ensure thoroughness in providing for our students and to ensure that our students are treated as individuals and not a number.

One of our ISS students, Tommy, summarises the sentiment of the brand campaign aptly, "ISS is like a family, all teachers have a special connection with their students and this causes students to push themselves to do their very best. Teachers know each and every one of their students and this really makes communication easier. This therefore makes learning a much more enjoyable and comfortable experience. A lot of students at other schools don't have this benefit. But here in ISS, we do!" He even supported this sentiment with a personal testimony video that he produced, directed and shot with a camera attached to a drone!

View Tommy's video here: youtu.be/8hXF9fDpvHM



ISS
International School Singapore
Realising Potential

This is where your fees go at ISS.

The level of care and support your child receives at school will have more of an influence on their future than anything else.

This is what will help to develop inner strength, compassion and responsibility.

This is where we invest our time, passion and commitment to encourage academic success and personal growth. Let your child reach their full potential at ISS.

If you would like to find out more about our IB School (K1 to G12) curriculum, please contact our Admissions Team by writing to admissions@iss.edu.sg OR calling 6737 9171 (for K1 to G8) & 6475 4188 (for G9 to G12).

www.iss.edu.sg

ISS is registered by the CPE, Education and Manpower Board, Singapore. (Ministry of Education, Singapore)



ISS
International School Singapore
Realising Potential

New opportunities lead to new ideas.

At ISS our students are at the centre of everything we do. That's why we tailor your child's IB course to suit their needs.

We also fully support their intellectual development in a nurturing community, with a comprehensive pastoral care programme.

This is how we will help your child reach their full potential.

If you would like to find out more about our IB School (K1 to G12) curriculum, please contact our Admissions Team by writing to admissions@iss.edu.sg OR calling 6737 9171 (for K1 to G8) & 6475 4188 (for G9 to G12).

www.iss.edu.sg

ISS is registered by the CPE, Education and Manpower Board, Singapore. (Ministry of Education, Singapore)



ISS
International School Singapore
Realising Potential

There is no limit to potential at ISS.

At ISS we invest in critical areas of your child's development that are far more important than tests and reports.

Through many years of experience, we have learned that our programmes, such as Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) combined with a broad range of extra-curricular activities (ECAs), are vital for students to reach their full potential.

These are the areas that we focus on, above anything else, because we know that the returns to your child are immeasurable.

If you would like to find out more about our IB School (K1 to G12) curriculum, please contact our Admissions Team by writing to admissions@iss.edu.sg OR calling 6737 9171 (for K1 to G8) & 6475 4188 (for G9 to G12).

www.iss.edu.sg

ISS is registered by the CPE, Education and Manpower Board, Singapore. (Ministry of Education, Singapore)

Elementary School Performing Arts Concert



What a wonderful performance!

ISS Elementary School Performing Arts did something very special this year for their annual concert. Using the PYP Attitudes as their framework, students wrote their own play, including one original song. A small group of students from the Grade 4 and 5 "Scriptwriting and Stage Production" ECA did the bulk of the writing, but students across the entire school had a hand in creating costume and set ideas, choreographing dances, creating drama pieces and working out instrumentation. This was a student-driven, inquiry based play with ties to some Units of Inquiry as well. And perhaps the best part of all is how much fun the students had preparing for this show! We were amazed and inspired by their enthusiasm, skill and talent. This proved to be a show like no other!

- Miss Marnie, ISS Teacher



A beautiful fan dance



Creating music with sticks



Wowing the audience with our recorder skills



Showing inclusiveness with a skit



Such joy and passion!



A Hawaiian dance



The Grand Finale!

School Activities

November to December

MS Halloween Disco (4 November)

The Halloween Disco is a chance for our middle school students to dress up and let their hair down. We had a lot of fun! Everyone came dressed in costumes and had an enjoyable time!

MS Urgent Run (5 November)

Many of our students and teachers participated in the Urgent Run 2016 to raise a stink for sanitation and help increase awareness about all the people who don't have access to a toilet, and the urgent need to end the sanitation crisis.

Accoustic Café (9 November)

We enjoyed the wonderful performances put up by our students at the accoustic café during lunch time. They did a great job and it was a very enjoyable time.

IN Art Exhibition (15 November)

Our grade 12 students had their beautiful art pieces displayed at the IN Art Exhibition, an annual art exhibition featuring artwork from several international schools in Singapore. This year, it was held at the Australian High Commission. We had an enjoyable evening admiring the wonderful art pieces created by students on the opening night.

ES Book Fair (16 November)

We had a wonderful book fair and many of our students came to get more books to add to their collection.

PTA Quiz Night (25 November)

We had so much fun at the quiz night organised by the PTA! We enjoyed hanging out with our community of teachers, parents, and guardians, while testing our general knowledge.

HS Festival of Lights (30 November)

Our High School music students staged an amazing performance under the stars at our annual Festival of Lights concert.

Rainbow Chairity @ ION (1 December)

One of the objectives of the Rainbow Chairity, a collaboration project with the Rainbow Centre, Singapore, is to empower children with disabilities to realize their potential through the creation of these art pieces. Together with our students, the children at the Rainbow Centre worked on these beautiful chairs, and had a lot of fun while they were at it! The chairs were then displayed at the Rainbow Chairity public exhibition which was held from 1 to 10 December at ION Orchard. We are so excited to announce that MCC Land (Singapore) Pte Ltd pledged S\$8,000 for one of our chairs! You can visit bit.ly/ISSChairity to see the chair and learn more about the artists!

Into The Woods Auditions (1 December)

The auditions for Into The Woods began in December, and we are working hard on our performance that will take place at the end of May 2017.

Eurasian Association Christmas Lunch (4 December)

Our students performed at the Eurasian Association Christmas Lunch every year, and we really enjoy bringing joy and cheer to our audience there!



MS Halloween Disco



MS Urgent Run



Accoustic Café



IN Art Exhibition



ES Book Fair



PTA Quiz Night



Rainbow Chairity @ ION

Events to Look Forward To

January to March

HS WWW (16 to 20 January)

Our MYP students take a Service As Action school trip every year that's called Week Without Walls (WWW). They go to countries like Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam. Through these WWW trips, we Educate to Make a Difference by fostering cultural exchange and learning through a range of meaningful, practical and authentic experiences.

ES + MS Literacy Week (6 to 10 February)

Our ES + MS Literacy Week will feature a variety of activities related to books and reading, such as a book character parade!

HS MYP Personal Project Exhibition (9 February)

Our MYP students work hard on their personal projects, and at this exhibition, parents and teachers can walk around and learn about their interesting personal projects.

ES + MS Book Fair (17 February)

We will be having a Book Fair in the library, so drop by to get some books! There are a lot of great choices, and if you're not sure what to get, Closetful of Books can make a good recommendation.

HS G12 Art Exhibition (20 to 24 February)

Our Grade 12 art students will be displaying their art work at the G12 Art Exhibition. Please come, take a look at their masterpieces, and show your support!

PTA Fun Fair (26 February, tentative)

Our PTA organise a fun fair every year, and this year is no exception! We're looking forward to a day full of fun and games, as we spend time together as a community.

ES Learning Languages Coffee Morning (21 February)

ES + MS PYP & MYP Coffee Morning (28 February)

HS MYP / DP Coffee Morning (2 March)

ES Math Coffee Morning (7 March)

We organise talks for our parents to learn more about the IB curriculum and the different subjects we teach at ISS. Join us for our various coffee morning, to learn more about what your child is learning in school.



HS WWW



ES + MS Literacy Week



HS MYP Personal Project Exhibition



ES + MS Book Fair



HS G12 Art Exhibition



PTA Fun Fair



ES Learning Languages Coffee Morning