



ISSUE #15
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THE MEDEE

The Weekly Newsletter of the International School of Ulaanbaatar

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings,

It is wonderful having students and staff back at ISU. I trust you had meaningful holiday time.

It is busy! Teachers are preparing the students for their upcoming exams. The first semester ends the end of January.

It is also hiring season. I attended job fairs, over the holiday break, to recruit teachers for next year. We only have four teachers leaving this year. I have hired seven new teachers. This is to provide solid staffing as our school community continues to grow. Your school board wants to provide the best education possible. They have directed me to bring in enough highly qualified teachers to provide low class sizes and a high quality IB education.

My best,

Greg Rayl, Director

DIARY DATES:

NEXT PTG MEETING: Tuesday 26th January 3pm in the Library.

Beginning of Semester Two - Monday 1st February.

Quarter 2 ASA's have now finished.

Quarter 3 ASA's commence Tuesday 2nd February.

SECONDARY NEWS

Welcome back to school and Happy New Year! I hope that all of you had a relaxing vacation time during these past weeks. It is great to have almost everybody back at school to continue in our learning journey this academic year.

As all of you are aware, it is VERY cold outside lately and I am concerned and amazed at how many students come to school without hats or mittens or suitable clothes for this extreme weather. The extreme cold can be dangerous and our job is to help keep you safe, so please be street smart and dress appropriately. You can never know when traffic will force you to walk, or if an emergency occurred and you would have to get out of the car.

We are finishing up the second quarter by the end of this month, and I know that many of the high school students are preparing for their exams already. The middle school students will continue with their work as usual during the exam week, though we ask all of them to be respectful of their fellow students and keep the noise level to a minimum at this time.

A huge THANK YOU to all of the students, teachers and families that helped us before Christmas to spread some of our luck to the children at the Fraternite de Notre Dame home for 23 orphans, as well as donating foodstuffs. The children

FRONT PAGE— THE MEDEE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE EACH WEEK AT: WWW.ISUMONGOLIA.EDU.MN

were SO happy – and I am really proud of all of you for helping. Keep up the great work!
Glad to see everyone, as a school is just an empty building without the students in it. Please feel free to call for an appointment at any time to discuss your child's education.

Betsy Hanselmann, Head of Secondary

PRIMARY NEWS

Welcome back to ISU – I trust you all had an enjoyable time with your family over the Winter break. We have two more weeks of Semester 1 and midyear reports will be going home on Friday 5th February.

Reminders.

Health and Hygiene: Even though the threat of H1N1 has subsided it is important that we remain vigilant about washing hands and covering our nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing. Please continue reminding your children about this and keep them home from school if they show any flu-like symptoms.

Cold Weather: The students stay indoors during extremely cold days (of which we have had a few this week) but we get out whenever we can, so students must have warm coats, boots, hats, gloves and scarves at school at all times.

Collection of students: It is essential that the class teacher or reception has written notification if your child is to be collected by a different driver or carer or is going home with a friend.

Requests: If you have a pair of tracksuit pants your child has grown out of we would appreciate having a few spare pairs for the occasional accident in the Junior School. The art room is always happy to receive any recycle materials such as newspapers, plastic containers, egg cartons, boxes, foam trays, fabric or cardboard cylinders.

Primary Production: We are pleased to announce the Primary classes will be performing "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" on Thursday 18th March so please keep this evening free.

Jan Wiggins, Head of Primary

STUDENT COUNCIL.

Thank you to all the families who collected toiletries from their holiday destinations to donate to the International Women's Association of Mongolia. We have a very impressive collection and I know it will be most appreciated. If there are any more items please send them to school early next week as they will be collected by an IWAM representative later in the week.