



ISSUE #12

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# THE MEDEE

The Weekly Newsletter of the International School of Ulaanbaatar

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Greetings,

It is a great pleasure to announce that our primary students will return to school, Monday, December 7. We look forward with anticipation to the opportunity to have our younger students back with us. I would also like to share with you that our library catalog collection is on the web. On the ISU main website, under "Resources", you will find Library catalog. You will be able to search the collection from this location.

Please encourage your children to continue to work on completing assigned work. Having a strong base of information will allow all of our students to move forward quickly in their studies. Please remember that ISU has an attendance policy. It is the belief of our school that a student's academic success will be greatly enhanced by their attendance and participation in class. In certain circumstances a student's promotion to the next grade may be impacted by absences beyond the school allowance of eighteen.

Thank you very much for your patience during this difficult and trying time of school closure. We greatly appreciate working with you, as partners, to bring the best educational opportunities possible to your children.

My Best,

**Greg Rayl, Director**

## SECONDARY NEWS

Finally we have all had a week that feels like school ought to – 5 days of classes in a row! The students are happier, the teachers are happier, and I hope that the parents are happy too. Our students continue to impress us with their persistence in learning, and we thank all of you for working hard during the catching up phase that always follows no classes in the school itself.

Mr. Ricketts continues to help the school by keeping track of our students who are tardy or absent, as this is most important for meeting the policy of the school board and the attendance at ISU. Please support your student / child by helping them get to school on time each day, as well as letting us know if they have stayed home sick. The total number of days for all students to be absent is no more than 18, regardless of the reasons behind it. I am happy to discuss any of these with you if wanted, so please feel free to call for an appointment at any time. I am happy to discuss any of these with you if wanted, so please feel free to call for an appointment at any time.

As a reminder to all of you who will be traveling during the 3 week winter break, the exams for the high school students will be held at the end of the semester, which ends on the 29th of January 2010.

**FRONT PAGE**— THE MEDEE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE EACH WEEK AT: [WWW.ISUMONGOLIA.EDU.MN](http://WWW.ISUMONGOLIA.EDU.MN)

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Exams will take place from the 20<sup>th</sup> of January, through to the 25<sup>th</sup>. The semester ends on the 29<sup>th</sup>, and the semester report cards will then go home on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February. As with most international schools, the school year consists of 180 teaching days, and the 29<sup>th</sup> of January will be 91 days completed. This includes the 2 week hiatus that was imposed upon all school by the local government officials, in response to the H1N1 virus.

Just for clarity, the teaching and learning semester does not end because there is a vacation for Christmas and the New Year following the Roman calendar. It has to match up to the total days of teaching for the whole year. We have heard that there is a new ski area open outside of the city, and that many have participated in the fun winter sports that are available there. Please enjoy yourselves there on the weekend, and be careful!

**Betsy Hanselmann, Head of Secondary**

### ISU- MUN

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of December, ISU is hosting its annual ISU Model United Nations Conference. Model United Nations is a chance for students to learn about the world and to experience first hand how the United Nations actually works. Students are advised to prepare for this conference by researching their country and respective topic. Students from grades 6-10 will be given time during their ATL classes to research. Parents please encourage your children to prepare for the conference. Please make sure that your children come to school on this day in proper attire, which means, formal dress. If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact the MUN co-coordinator Ms. Wilson, or the Secretary General, Enkhzaya Adiya (eggi\_adiya@yahoo.com).

### Student Council is organizing another Spirit Day!

On Friday, December 11th, it will be **Wacky Hair Day**. Have fun, and be creative with your hair!  
Thank you.

**ISU Student Council**

### PRIMARY NEWS

We are all happy and relieved that Primary students are returning to school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. We will continue our vigilance in monitoring students health and hygiene, and remind you to keep your child home if he/she is unwell. Congratulations on making the most of the home schooling program and the small group tutoring sessions at school.

Once again I need to acknowledge how difficult the last month has been for everyone and I thank parents for their continuing support. The teachers and I have been most impressed with the work students have been completing at home, and their positive engagement in the small group tutoring sessions at school. It is great to see their independence developing. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school for a busy two weeks before our Winter vacation.

**Jan Wiggins, Head of Primary**

### ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

#### ISU Sports Teams

The basketball girls' basketball team has been finalized and before the winter break they will be playing games against The Hobby School (Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>) and ASU (Tuesday December 15<sup>th</sup>).

ISU Girls Basketball Team: Hiba, Sarantugs, Baigal, Sugarmaa, Khulan, Rebekah, Urangoo, Enkh-Erdene, Mila, Jill.

The boys' team will be decided this week and they too will be playing games against The Hobby School (Date to be confirmed) and ASU (Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup>).

### Inter-house Sports

The volleyball tournament which was played last Saturday was a successful event despite the yellow team not being able to field a team. Reds, the over-whelming favorites, lived up to their expectations by winning comfortably. It was closer for second and third places as the blue house scraped home by virtue of scoring more points than the greens, after both had won one game and finished with identical points differences.

Results: Red 25 Green 8, Red 25 Blue 20, Green 25 Blue 16, Red 15 Green 8, Red 15 Blue 4, Blue 15 Green 10

There will be no inter-house competitions this Saturday because of SAT exams.

The Girls' Volleyball Team in China.

Girls' football will take place at the same time outdoors and the boys' basketball practice will start at 2.00 PM as usual.



### Latest Inter-house Points Tallies

<b>Overall by Level</b>					
<b>Primary</b>		<b>Secondary Gr 6-8</b>		<b>Secondary Gr 9-12</b>	
<b>Blue</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Green</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Red</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Yellow</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>Yellow</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>Yellow</b>	<b>53</b>

<b>Overall by Color</b>	
<b>Blue</b>	<b>364</b>
<b>Green</b>	<b>370</b>
<b>Red</b>	<b>384</b>
<b>Yellow</b>	<b>348</b>

**David Ricketts, Athletics Director**

# Spring Play 2010

Do *YOU* want to be a star?

Calling all budding actors and actresses from Grade 6 – 12!

## Spring Play 2010 Audition

Audition will be held on 14 and 15 December.

Please approach Ms. Leong SC before 9 December to sign up.

For more information, please check the bulletin outside the Black Box Theatre or speak to Sarah, Sonya or Elise from Grade 10.

We look forward to sharing more with you!