



ISSUE #7

9 October 2009

THE MEDEE

The Weekly Newsletter of the International School of Ulaanbaatar

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings,

We have had a good week at ISU.

Last night we held the Annual General Meeting. On behalf of myself, the staff, and our entire board, I wish to thank you for your participation. Today an additional sheet with your new board members will be sent home to you.

Last Wednesday we had a doctor, and our Nurse Sara, giving flu vaccinations in our clinic. We are pleased that we now have a nurse and a clinic at school. The clinic is in the process of being outfitted with materials and equipment. The clinic should be fully operational by the end of next week.

I wish to invite you to become active in the Parent Teacher Group (PTG). This group of parents and teachers raises money and provides volunteers to assist in school, and classroom, projects. This week the PTG voted to provide money to the fifth grade class for community projects. These projects are all focused around student learning and the IB student profiles. We have other projects that will be even more successful with your help. Please contact the PTG and be part of this important work.

INTERNATIONAL WEEK EVENTS.

We are looking forward to an exciting week celebrating the Internationalism of our school. Parents are invited to our assemblies on Monday and Friday morning and to the PTG International Food Festival on Thursday evening. Teachers have organized some other activities for both Primary and Secondary students throughout the week.

Monday 12th. 8:30am - **Mongolian Assembly** in the gym.

All staff and students come to school dressed in Mongolian costumes.

Thursday 15th. 6:30 – 8:00pm. **PTG International Food Festival**. Please read the separate flier!

Friday 16th. 8:30am - **Parade of Nations - International Assembly** in the gym.

All staff and students come to school dressed in costumes/clothing from their home country.

I would like to let you know that our Fall Break begins Saturday, October 17.

Students should not return to ISU until Wednesday, October 28. Teachers will be working Monday and Tuesday following the break. Our teaching staff will be conducting professional development on these two days. We look forward to seeing your children again on Wednesday, October 28.

My best.

Greg Rayl, Director

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

Parking Area Safety

We will really appreciate your help in keeping the parking area as safe as possible. Here are some reminders:

- Please park properly before allowing your children out of the car
- **Do not stop in the middle of the traffic flow** in the car park-this stops the traffic flow and is dangerous for children.
- Please keep to the 20im limit in the car park-children are walking there

If your driver takes your children to school explain them the importance of taking safety precautions on the parking area.

Thank you.

Tuul Arildii, Deputy Director/Business

SECONDARY NEWS

Once again I ask to have all of you to remind your child (ren) about drinking enough water to stay hydrated here in Mongolia. It is an extremely dry climate and it is unhealthy and hard to learn when you have a headache due to dehydration. Please be sure that your child (ren) has a water bottle that can be cleaned daily and refilled.

The end of the quarter is almost upon us, and the students are showing some great work for their teachers. Please keep up the efforts until the vacation begins. Even with International Week next week, there is a lot of learning continuing and groundwork being laid for the coming weeks. If we all stay focused, we will have the best results for our students.

The International Week from the 12th through the 16th will be a super time for our students and staff to show off some of their national costumes, share traditions and cultures, and all of us will be well fed on the night of Thursday the 15th at the International Food Festival! Please be sure to contact your PTG member to ask what you can bring on this evening, as everyone participates with great food. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Enjoy your weekend and the beautiful weather.

Betsy Hanselmann, Head of Secondary

PRIMARY NEWS

International week: Remember all students are to come to school dressed in Mongolian costumes on Monday morning and in costumes/clothing from their home country on Friday morning.

Grade 5: On Tuesday, October 6, Grade Five students watched decision-making in action as the PTG discussed then voted on their Community Service Project Proposals for the Bayanzurk Ger District. After a brief overview of the five projects presented by Grade Five students during their last meeting, the PTG decided to donate one million Tugriks towards two of the proposals: one proposal that would benefit residents who had an immediate need, and another project that was focused primarily on long-term sustainable development.

Twenty-two PTG members voted and after tallying the votes, they chose to fund the purchase of a second layer of felt for two Gers and to replace a Ger door, benefiting two families. Supporting the construction of a Green House at the new Flourishing Futures Community Center was identified as the sustainable project that would be funded with the remainder of PTG funds.

Grade Five students would like to thank the PTG for their generous support and are committed to raising the remaining funds needed. We look forward to periodically reporting our fund raising progress and site visits to Bayanzurk throughout the academic year.

KJ Assembly: The children presented some tongue twisters they created themselves using letters of the alphabet they have covered this quarter. They also sang "Ten Green Bottles" and incorporated many verbs (action words) they have been practicing. Well Done KJ!

Field trips: Grade 3 enjoyed a field trip to the National History Museum as a tune in activity to their next unit of inquiry on games played in ancient times and today.

Jan Wiggins, Head of Primary

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Volleyball Teams

In preparation for the ACAMIS volleyball tournament in Ningbo at the end of the month, the girls' team played ASU. It was a closely fought game with ASU winning by two sets to one, 25-22, 25-19, 14-25. Fourteen girls played for ISU, which is a great turn-out and is an indication how volleyball has become more popular at ISU. For many of them, it was their first experience of playing for a team with supporters watching them.

The boys' team continues to hold well-attended practices, which has allowed all of the team members to improve their ability and understanding of team strategies. They too will have the chance to put their skills into match action in games against ASU.

Practices will continue on the following days:

Girls – Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4.00-5.30 PM

Boys – Wednesdays from 4.00-5.30 PM and Saturdays from 1.00-3.00 PM



Inter-house Sports

The inter-house girls' volleyball tournament for grades 9 - 12 was another well-attended event which produced some thrilling matches. The team captains did a great job in recruiting members for their teams, as each one had six players. Throughout the morning, there were some inspired performances that contributed to a respectable standard of play. In particular, there were a number of girls whose perseverance, since August, had improved their serving to quite an impressive level. Volleyball has become an established sport at ISU.

Results:

Blue v Green	25 – 19	Red v Yellow	22 - 25
Blue v Red	25 – 20	Green v Yellow	11 - 25
Blue v Yellow	11 – 25	Red v Green	19 - 25

Standings:

	Played	Won	Lost	Points For	Points Against	Points
1.Yellow	3	3	0	75	44	6
2.Blue	3	2	1	61	64	4
3.Green	3	1	2	55	69	2
4.Red	3	0	3	61	75	0

Due to SAT's being held at ISU on October 10th there will be no inter-house sports on that day. The boys' practice will start at the usual time.

David Ricketts, Athletics Director