

# ISH News

INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL OF  
HYDERABAD



Friday, 19 February 2010  
Issue 22/ 2009-2010

"If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in." -- Rachel Carson, Environmentalist

## ALL SCHOOL

### ISH Welcomes New Students

ISH welcomes new student Shaked Azrad (Grade 4) from Israel.

### Award of CIS/NEASC Re-Accreditation

The Board of Trustees of the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the Commission on American and International Schools Abroad (CAISA) of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) have completed their study of the Visiting Team Report submitted by Mike Lee (CIS) and Bruce Sievers (NEASC). Both agencies voted to continue the accreditation (re-accreditation) of the International School of Hyderabad. They also congratulated the board, administration and staff for this achievement, the result of significant effort by many individual.

CAISA and the Visiting Team were impressed with a number of aspects of the School, especially:

- The School's inclusive character which is evidenced by a safe and secure environment, a warm and friendly atmosphere, a fostering of tolerance and respect, the multi-cultural awareness, and the caring, camaraderie, and volunteerism of the faculty.
- The strong leadership, vision, and strength of the Head and the Board.
- The physical improvements that have been made at the School, including the purpose-built secondary school, the in-process elementary school facility, and provisions for play and sport activities.
- The School's rapid response to parent concerns about security at the city campus, which resulted in an earlier than planned move of the elementary school to temporary facilities at the ICRISAT campus.

In reaching their decision, Board Members took into account the fact that the Visiting Team included in its commendations the following:

- The school administration and staff for inculcating in ISH students a level of tolerance, respect, and social and inter-cultural awareness, and through that a supportive and friendly school environment.

- The Principal for recognising the need for a purpose built facility to serve the needs of young children, and the Advisory Board for facilitating the provision of such a building for the future.
- The Administration for their creation of the positions of Curriculum Coordinator and Subject Lead teachers to facilitate the development of a fully documented, articulated curriculum.
- The Curriculum Coordinator for her leadership in helping to advance the articulation of the curriculum across the school.
- The Principal for the sound direction, leadership and vision he provides for the school.
- The Board and the Principal for their positive working relationship.
- The staff for their strong sense of camaraderie, and their willingness to work hard and beyond the call of duty.
- The school administration for the school's excellent level of health support and safety procedures.
- The ICRISAT Board for supporting and encouraging the physical improvements that have been and are presently under way for IS Hyderabad.
- The Administration at ISH for the speed with which the school responded to parental concerns about safety at the city campus that resulted in the movement of the elementary school to the ICRISAT campus ahead of the planned date of relocation.

Although the Visiting Team clearly viewed the school very positively, it made many recommendations. These recommendations will help the administration, faculty, and staff in their efforts to improve the school and its offerings.

### **Security Advisory Memo**

The prevailing global and local security environment, coupled with terrorist/extremist threats, calls for continued vigilance and circumspection. A bomb blast triggered by suspected terrorists at the German Bakery in Pune on 13 February left nine dead and many injured. The Government of India has issued a high alert in all state capitals in general and the cities of Mumbai, Kanpur and Indore in particular.

The governments of the US, UK, and Australia have issued travel advisories to their citizens in this context. Terrorists are prone to targeting places where large crowds (especially of Westerners) generally visit or congregate, such as shopping malls, markets, places of worship, eateries, public places, schools, colleges, airports, commuter trains, railway stations, etc.

The security environment calls for a high level of security awareness and precautionary measures at all times.

### **ISH is on the Web**

Past issues of ISH News are available at [www.ishyd.org](http://www.ishyd.org)

### Dates to Remember

22 – 26 February	Holiday – No School
1 March & 2 March	Study Days for Grade 10 & Grade 12 Students
3-14 March	IGCSE Mock Exams
3-17 March	IB Mock Exams
8 March	Elementary School Photographs
19 March	Elementary School Production
20 March	High School Formal Dinner & Dance (7pm – 10:30pm)
24 March	Elementary & Secondary School Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (2:50pm-6:00pm)
25 March	Secondary School Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (2:50pm-6:00pm)
31 March	College Counseling Session for Grade 10 Students & Grade 10 Parents (2:00pm-2:40pm)
31 March	IB & IGCSE Information Sessions for Grade 8 Students, Grade 10 Students, Parents of Grade 8 Students, & Parents of Grade 10 Students (2:50-4:15)
2-9 April	Holiday

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### Elementary School Production

The Elementary School production this year will be “The Jungle Book.” The production will take place on Friday, 19 March. Practices are on in full swing and each child’s presence in school every day is essential to ensure the smooth running of the rehearsals.

#### Elementary School Photographs

The official school photographer will be in the Elementary School on Monday, 8th March to take class photographs and a photograph of all the Elementary School students. These photographs may be purchased through the school office later in the school year.

#### ISH Toddler Group

Responding to demand, ISH is presently exploring the possibility of restarting the Toddler Group here at the ICRISAT campus. The ISH Toddler Group would be for children between the ages of 18 months and 3 years. Those interested to enrol their child(ren) in such a program should contact Mrs. Anja Dargatz, the Admissions Officer, as soon as possible so that ISH can ascertain whether it is viable to restart the ISH Toddler Group. Mrs. Dargatz may be reached at 3071-3872 or by e-mail at [a.dargatz@ishyd.org](mailto:a.dargatz@ishyd.org)

#### Elementary School Science Specialist Reflects on The Scientific Method

Thinking and learning have always been a search for the truth. In science, that search has taken mankind from asking “Why does the sun come up?” to “Why is the world hotter?” The question “why” comes up often. Why questions are almost always more interesting and harder to answer than other types of questions that ask who, when, where, what, and how.

ISH considers the learning styles of the students and how to help students become more independent learners. One component of the science program followed in the Elementary School is dedicated to the scientific method.

One dimension of the Elementary School science program is a Science Fair in which students explore questions that they have devised.

## **SECONDARY SCHOOL**

### **Mock Exams**

Mock Exams provide students in Grade 10 and 12 with the experience of taking exams similar to the IGCSE and IB Exams that they will take later this semester. The Mock Exams help each student to identify areas of strength and areas that should be improved. The Mock Exams also help each student to develop her/his exam-preparation strategies and test-taking techniques.

### **Secondary School Photographs**

The official school photographer will be in the Secondary School on Friday, 26 March to take class photographs and a photograph of all the Secondary School students. These photographs may be purchased through the school office later in the school year.

### **High School Formal Dinner & Dance**

The Student Council is planning a Formal Dinner & Dance for High School students (Students in Grades 9-12) from 7:00pm-10:30pm on 20 March. Details for that Formal Dinner & Dance will be provided in March.

### **Information Sessions for Students in Grades 8 and 10 Students & Their Parents**

On Wednesday, 31 March, ISH will be holding information sessions for students in Grades 8 and 10 & their parents. The first information session is for Grade 10 students and their parents. In this session, lasting from 2:00-2:40, Mr. Prasad, the College Counsellor, will speak a bit about how parents and students might want to go about identifying colleges/universities that look like a good fit for the students. He will introduce the college admission process and note some of the ways that course selections in high school may affect – and may not affect – college admissions decisions.

From 2:50-3:00, Dr. Newmark will introduce the course selection process for students who will be in Grades 9 and 11 next year.

From 3:05-3:30, Mrs. Biswas, the IGCSE Coordinator, will introduce Grade 8 students and their parents to the IGCSE Curriculum that ISH follows in Grades 9 & 10.

From 3:05-3:30, Mrs. Biswas, the IGCSE Coordinator, will introduce Grade 8 students and their parents to the IGCSE Curriculum that ISH follows in Grades 9 & 10.

From 3:30-4:30, Grade 8 students & their parents and Grade 10 students & their parents will have the chance to meet with ISH teachers to discuss individual course selections for next year.