



The Bear Essentials



The ISB Weekly Newsletter 2024/25

Friday 14th March, 2025

Volume 6, Issue 24

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IMPORTANT DATES

Monday March 17th - UK University Fair at ISB
Monday March 17th - Season 3 ASAs Begin
17th to 20th March - Grade 11 Exams
Tuesday 18th March - ISB DP Art Exhibition (Art Space)
Wednesday 19th March - G4 Camp
Wednesday 19th March - Parent Workshop
Friday 21st March - PD Day (no school for students)
24th March to 4th April - Spring Holiday
April 5th to 7th - EAISAC HS MUN (Model United Nations) @FIS

Featured Story

"We are a diverse, supportive and caring community of learners committed to developing knowledgeable, open-minded and principled global citizens." - ISB Guiding Statements

We are very proud of the hard work and community service demonstrated by the ISB Secondary School Anchored For Life Club, who raised 642,000 KRW with a delicious and lucrative charity hotdog sale! A small part of the profits will help fund future fundraising activities so that our club continues to be self-sustainable, and the largest part will be donated to an animal shelter in our area, demonstrating our commitment to service as action. Well done Anchored 4 Life team, and thank you ISB Community!





SHAPE YOUR FUTURE: EXPLORE FURTHER EDUCATION AT OUR FAIR

ISB UK UNIVERSITY FAIR 2025

University of Huddersfield / Loughborough University / University of Leeds / King's College London / City St George's, University of London / University of Nottingham / University of Warwick / Durham University / University of Birmingham / The University Of Sheffield / SOAS University of London / University of York / Royal Holloway, University of London / University of Southampton / University of Bath

Monday March 17th From 2:30 to 4:30 PM

Free Entry registration required

International School of Busan

ISB INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF BUSAN

ISB UK University Fair

At ISB, we believe in providing our students with opportunities that inspire their academic growth and future aspirations. On Monday, March 17, from 2:30 to 4:30 PM ISB will hold its annual UK University Fair, open to anyone interested in learning about further education opportunities in the UK. This event, hosted in the ISB Gym, is designed to expand our students' horizons by introducing them to diverse academic pathways and encouraging informed decision-making about their future studies.

This fair reflects our commitment to supporting students as they explore global educational opportunities, preparing them to be inspiring global citizens. If you would like to join, or you know someone who might, scan the QR code or [register with this link](#).

Start of Season 3 After School Activities - School Bus Information

Please note that the bus timetable has been adjusted to accommodate students attending ASA classes. The afternoon bus operation schedule is as follows:

1. Monday: All buses depart at 15:40. The same bus number is used for both morning and afternoon routes.
2. Tuesday to Friday: Buses that operate within short distances in Busan will run twice a day at 15:40 and 16:40.
3. Geoje and Jinhae Buses: These buses will depart at 16:40 only, except on Monday.

For activities ending after 16:30, students will need to arrange their transportation home or take the 16:40 bus after confirmation with our [Bus Coordinator](#). Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Exciting News: Early Years Playground Construction Approved

We are pleased to announce that the Busan Metropolitan City has officially approved the construction of our brand-new Early Years Playground. **Work will begin on Friday, March 21st**, marking a significant investment in our campus and an exciting enhancement for our youngest learners. The new playground will include purpose-built play equipment, a sandpit, a performance area, and seamless indoor-outdoor access from classrooms through large automatic glass doors. Covered play areas will ensure that students can enjoy the space year-round, regardless of the weather. The project is expected to take approximately three months, with completion scheduled before the start of the 2025-26 academic year in August.



Simon McCloskey

To ensure the safety of students and staff during construction, there will be some temporary changes to access and parking. Portions of the Visitor Car Park and the front entrance of the Early Years Building will have restricted access, with safety fencing installed in these areas. The main access to Early Years classrooms will be through the internal stairway in the reception area. The student collection area in the Visitor Car Park will also be relocated. [It is very important that you review this safety information brochure](#) for full details on these adjustments. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to enhance the learning environment for our youngest learners. Thank you for your cooperation and support.



New for 2025-2026!

I am happy to announce that our teacher recruitment for the 2025-26 academic year is now complete. We are excited about the skills, experience, and enthusiasm that our new teachers will bring to the ISB community. This year, we are delighted to welcome a diverse group of educators from around the world, reflecting the international nature of our student body. Our new faculty members come from Ireland, New Zealand, Uganda, South Africa, Belgium, the UK, India, the US, Argentina, Portugal, France, and Canada. Many of them speak multiple languages, bringing fresh perspectives that will enrich our international learning environment and foster global-mindedness among our students. A sincere thank you to our Heads of Department, Coordinators, and Principals for their support throughout this process. Their commitment to conducting interviews - often at unsociable hours due to time differences - ensured that we gathered multiple perspectives and made well-informed hiring decisions to recruit some outstanding educators.



Abby Forrester – Secondary Drama Teacher 🇳🇿

Originally from New Zealand, Abby is currently the Secondary Drama Teacher at the International School Hannover Region in Germany. She previously taught Drama in Auckland. She holds a BA (Hons) in Theatre Studies with a minor in TESOL from Otago University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching from Victoria University of Wellington. She is passionate about fostering creativity and confidence in students through performance and storytelling.



Alicia Prinsloo – DP Biology and MYP Science Teacher 🇷🇺

Originally from South Africa, Alicia has 16 years of international teaching experience in the UAE and Vietnam. She has taught Biology and Environmental Systems and Societies in the DP and General Sciences in the MYP. A former Science Coordinator, she has contributed to curriculum development and accreditation efforts. Alicia also has experience coaching track and field and leading outdoor education activities. She is passionate about inquiry-based learning, hands-on scientific exploration, and supporting students in developing critical thinking skills.



Amber Taylor – Early Years 2 Teacher 🇨🇦

Coming from Canada, Amber is an Early Childhood specialist with a Bachelor of Education from the University of Saskatchewan and a Level 3 Forest School Practitioner certification. With many years of international teaching experience, she is currently the Early Years Team Leader at NIST International School in Bangkok. She has also taught at the Anglo-American School of Moscow and Tokyo International School. A strong advocate for playful learning and outdoor education, Amber is also a Curriculum Developer for the IB, supporting Early Years educators worldwide. She is passionate about fostering creativity, student agency, and a love for nature in young learners.



Bibiana Rosas – Secondary School Counselor 🇦🇷 🇺🇸

Originally from Argentina (now a dual citizen of the U.S. and Argentina), Bibiana holds a Master of Education with a specialization in School Counseling from Liberty University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of South Florida. Certified as a School Counselor for Grades K-12 in New Jersey, she brings extensive experience from both international and U.S.-based schools. Currently serving as a Secondary School Counselor at Academia Cotopaxi in Quito, Ecuador, Bibiana has led counseling teams, developed Social-Emotional Learning programs, and implemented transition services for students and families. She is committed to supporting student well-being and academic success.



Brian Malone – Secondary Language and Literature Teacher 🇬🇧

Originally from the United Kingdom, Brian has many years of experience teaching English and Humanities at leading international schools in Bangkok, Moscow, Tokyo, and London. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Combined Studies and a PGCE from the University of Manchester, along with a TESOL Diploma from City College Manchester. With extensive experience in IB MYP and DP English, he has also led curriculum development in Humanities and Language and Literature. Brian has been teaching MYP Language and Literature at NIST International School in Bangkok since 2019 and has a passion for interdisciplinary teaching and fostering student engagement through creative learning approaches.



Donovan Hall – Whole School Technology and Learning Innovation Coordinator 🇺🇸

Originally from New Zealand, Donovan has taught at IB World Schools in Angola, Sudan, and Saudi Arabia. He holds a Bachelor of Education from Dunedin University and a Master of Education in Digital Education from Massey University, along with UK QTS certification from the University of Gloucester. A COETAIL-certified educator with a Certificate in International School Leadership from the PTC, Donovan is currently the Education Technology Director at the KAUST School in Saudi Arabia. He is also an experienced coach in rugby, soccer, and fitness conditioning. He is dedicated to integrating technology to enhance student learning and innovation.



Gilbert Kaburu – Whole School PHE Teacher and PHE Coordinator 🇰🇪

Originally from Uganda, Gilbert holds a Master of Education from the College of New Jersey and a PhD in Multicultural and Global Education from Ohio State University. Currently the Athletics Director at the American School of Kinshasa, he previously served as Athletics & Activities Director at the United World College of East Africa in Tanzania. An experienced PYP and MYP PHE educator, Gilbert has taught in Kampala, Bangalore, Khartoum, and Beijing. A former Olympian, he has competed in the Beijing Olympics, FINA World Swimming Championships, and Commonwealth Games. Gilbert is passionate about student well-being, movement, and fostering a lifelong love of physical activity. He currently speaks six languages and is learning the seventh!



Isabelle Hutrel – Lower Elementary PYP Homeroom Teacher 🇫🇷

Originally from France, Isabelle holds a Bachelor of Education specializing in Inclusive Education and Science & Technology from NHL Stenden University in the Netherlands. She is also completing her iQTS certification from Canterbury Christ Church University. Currently teaching at the International School Hannover Region, she has worked in international settings, including UWC Maastricht, iCAN British International School, and the European School of Strasbourg. Isabelle has coached badminton, led debate clubs, and provided mathematics support. She is dedicated to fostering curiosity, collaboration, and a love of learning in young students.



Katy Hourston – Secondary Individuals and Societies Teacher 🇬🇧

Katy, originally from Scotland, is an experienced IB educator and leader. She has extensive experience teaching MYP and DP Individuals and Societies and is currently an MYP Coordinator. She holds an MA (Hons) in International Relations from the University of St Andrews and a PGCE in International Education from the University of Sunderland. As a long-standing member of the IB Educator Network (IBEN), Katy has contributed as an MYP Personal Project Senior Examiner, an MYP Verification and Evaluation Team Member, and an MYP Workshop Leader. She has taught at IB World Schools in Fiji, Ukraine, and Jordan. Katy is passionate about fostering student agency, service learning, and inquiry-driven education.



Monica Hall – Secondary Individuals and Societies Teacher 🇵🇹

Originally from Portugal, Monica has taught MYP I&S at IB World Schools in Luanda, Khartoum, and Jeddah. With a Bachelor's Degree in Social and Media Studies from the Catholic University of Portugal and a PGCE from Sunderland University, she has also completed the ECIS Middle Leader Certificate. Monica has experience as a CAS/Service Learning Coordinator and Grade 8 Pastoral Head of Year. She has led MUN and language clubs and coached basketball and rugby. Currently teaching MYP English Language and Literature and MYP I&S at the KAUST School in Saudi Arabia, Monica is committed to interdisciplinary teaching and fostering global awareness in students.



Paul Horkan – Secondary Principal 🇮🇪

Paul is the Head of Secondary at the International School Suva in Fiji and has held leadership roles at IB schools in Ukraine, Jordan, and Bangladesh. Originally from Ireland, he has been an MYP/DP Language and Literature Teacher, IB DP CAS Coordinator, and MYP Personal Project Coordinator. He holds a BA (Hons) in English and History and a Higher Diploma in Education from the University of Galway. A Certified Trainer for Concept-Based Curriculum & Instruction, he has also completed Harvard University's *Leading for Understanding* program. An EARCOS Mentor and experienced IB Educator Network School Evaluator, Paul has contributed to school accreditation efforts with the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). He is committed to leading with vision, collaboration, and innovation.



Rahul Singh – MYP Generalist Teacher 🇮🇳

Originally from India, Rahul is an experienced IB educator with over 11 years of teaching Mathematics, Science, Spanish, and Theory of Knowledge. He is currently based at North London Collegiate School, Jeju, South Korea, and has previously taught at international schools in Oman, India, and Bangladesh. An IB Examiner and Workshop Leader, Rahul is fluent in English, Spanish, and Hindi, with working proficiency in Portuguese, Bengali, and Italian. He is passionate about interdisciplinary teaching and critical thinking.



Roela Waegemans – Secondary Mathematics Teacher 🇧🇪

Originally from Belgium, Roela holds a Master of Teaching in Design Sciences with a focus on Architecture and General Subjects for Technical and Vocational Education, as well as a Master in Architecture, both from the University of Antwerp. Roela is an experienced Grade 9-12 Mathematics teacher, currently teaching at Atheneum Mortsel, a secondary school in Belgium. Beyond the classroom, she has experience coaching gymnastics, fitness conditioning, and rock climbing. She also enjoys leading crafts, art, yoga/wellness, and outdoor pursuits. Fluent in Dutch and English, with a working knowledge of French, Roela is dedicated to making mathematics accessible and engaging for all learners.

Class of 2025 University Acceptances

We are pleased to share the outstanding achievements of our Grade 12 students. To date, the Class of 2025 has received offers from a wide range of great colleges and universities from around the world.

[Click here to see the current full list of acceptances.](#)

At ISB, we strive to help students select schools that suit their unique interests, talents, and strengths. Our students are being recognized for their hard work, dedication, and passion, and we couldn't be more proud of their accomplishments. We look forward to announcing additional acceptances over the coming weeks and months.



From the Elementary Principal

This week was an active and experiential one for elementary students. Grade 5 students learned about 3D printing technology during a visit to Busan National University of Education, Grade 2 students explored the Andersen Fairy Tale Village, and Grade 3 took a trip to Lotte World Adventure!

There was also an amazing Grade 3 assembly, which we will report on next week! Coming soon: Grade 4 students will be going on an overnight trip to Gyeongju. All this before Spring Break!



Kevin Smith

Elementary Learning Focus

Kindergarten Mailbox and Letter-Writing

We have a fun new mailbox and lots of letter-writing things in our classroom! We've seen so many wonderful letters written and mailed in our play area since we got it. Everyone is having fun writing stories and making friends by sending letters. Ask your child about their mailbox adventures and the letters they are writing!



Grade 5 Visit BNUE

A PYP Exhibition group selected 3D printing for their inquiry and have been exploring how this technology helps people and impacts the environment. Ms. Jennifer put the group in touch with Busan National University who have a connection with ISB, and fortunately a 3D printing lab! Emmett and Vinson invited the Grade 5 class to attend a workshop to enable all students to experience 3D design and printing. The BNUE professors delivered a 3-hour interactive workshop involving printing personalized keyrings, designing & printing on mugs and exploring virtual reality. Thank you to BNUE, Emmett & Vinson for organising this amazing experience for Grade 5.





Grade 3 Visit Lotte World

As part of our Forces and Motion unit, Grade 3 students had an exciting field trip to Lotte World last week! From roller coasters to carousels, they explored real-life examples of pushes, pulls, gravity, and acceleration in action. This hands-on experience deepened their understanding of how forces impact movement in everyday life.

Beyond the excitement, the trip encouraged students to step out of their comfort zones and embrace new challenges, helping many of them become risk-takers. It was a thrilling day of learning, discovery, and, of course, lots of fun!



Grade 1 Sand Stories

This week Grade 1 discovered another way we can use light as a form of performance. Students watched sand animation, the practice of creating moving images by manipulating sand on a backlit surface. Then Grade 1 students took turns narrating their own stories through sand animation. This was another opportunity for students to develop their storytelling skills within our unit of inquiry about light in our daily lives and performance as an artistic expression.



Art Work Success!

A huge well done to Danny, whose amazing sunset painting was selected for the Busan International Kids Art Festival! Students from all over Busan submitted their artwork, and Danny's was chosen as one of the winners. Danny said he wanted to create a sunset in a new and creative way—and he certainly did! If you take a close look at his painting, you'll notice the bright, bold colors and swirling patterns that make the sunset almost jump off the canvas.

The sky is filled with fiery reds, oranges, and purples, and the land and water are full of detailed patterns that give the whole piece so much energy. The artwork was displayed at the BEXCO exhibition in February and was later auctioned. Danny purchased his artwork and kindly donated it to ISB. The piece will be displayed in the Elementary school. Congratulations to Danny for his achievement and generosity!



Grade 2 Visit the Andersen Fairy Tale Village

Grade 2 had a fantastic learning experience this week on our field trip to Andersen Fairy Tale Village. In our UOI lessons, we have learned about many of the stories by Hans Christian Andersen. It was wonderful to see the stories brought to life in natural outdoor settings and inside the Andersen Village learning discovery centre. Everyone had a fabulous time and learned a lot. Well done Grade 2 for demonstrating so many Learner Profile attributes, including Caring and Principled.



From the Secondary Principal

Another bustling week in the Secondary School! This week has been particularly significant as our Grade 12 students continue their Mock examinations. These exams are crucial preparation for their upcoming IB Diploma Programme exams, and our students are working incredibly hard to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

This time of year is undoubtedly a high-pressure period for many of our students, with a significant number of summative assessments across various subjects. We recognize the dedication and effort our students are putting in, and we want to encourage them to maintain a healthy balance.

I urge our parents to support their children during this time, ensuring they get adequate sleep and find healthy ways to manage and offset the stress of these assessments. Your support is invaluable in helping our students thrive.

Amidst the academic intensity, we also had some fun! This Friday, March 14th, was Pi Day, and our Math department organized exciting contests and activities to celebrate. The Student Council also joined in the fun with a memorable "Teacher Pie in the Face" event, which brought laughter and joy to the day. It's important to have these moments of levity and community spirit, even during busy times.

Looking ahead to next week, we will have Grade 11 exams, another significant period of assessment for our students. Additionally, on March 18th, we are thrilled to host the DP Art Show at the Art Space Alliance Française Busan. This will be a fantastic event to celebrate and enjoy the creativity and talent of our Grade 12 art students. We will also have a special musical performance during the event, making it a truly memorable evening.

It's clear that there's a great deal of positive energy and engagement across the secondary school, and I'm continually impressed by the dedication of our students and staff. Read on for highlights from the Language and Literature department!

Have a wonderful week!



Gilles Buck

Secondary Learning Focus

From the Language and Literature department

Grade 6 English - Exploring Identity Through Stories and Screen

Who am I? What shapes who we become? These are the questions our Grade 6 MYP Language and Literature students have been exploring through *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds and the documentary *American Promise*. By comparing Castle's journey in *Ghost* to Idris and Seun's real-life experiences in *American Promise*, students have examined how family, school, and personal challenges shape identity and self-expression.

Taking their inquiry beyond the page and screen, students became documentary filmmakers, creating a three-part docu-series on identity. They



interviewed teachers, classmates, and family members, sharpening their skills in questioning, active listening, and storytelling. In teams, they also delivered group presentations, analyzing themes from both texts and exploring directorial choices in storytelling.

And like Castle, who obsesses over world records, we put our own skills to the test—attempting (and not entirely succeeding!) to break the record for eating three cream crackers in under 34 seconds. While our times weren't record-breaking, our enthusiasm certainly was!



Through literature, film, and real-world interviews, Grade 6 students have developed critical thinking, creativity, and a deeper understanding of identity—one story at a time.

Grade 6 Korean

날아라 병아리 - 신해철

Before starting the poetry unit, the 6th-grade Korean language class engaged in an activity where they transformed Shin Hae-chul's song "*Fly, Little Chick*" into a short story. The students explored the meaning and story embedded in the lyrics, using their imagination and creativity.

They drew on the knowledge and experiences they had gained in the previous fiction unit to craft their own stories, and in doing so, they had the opportunity to experience how mood and emotions can be conveyed.



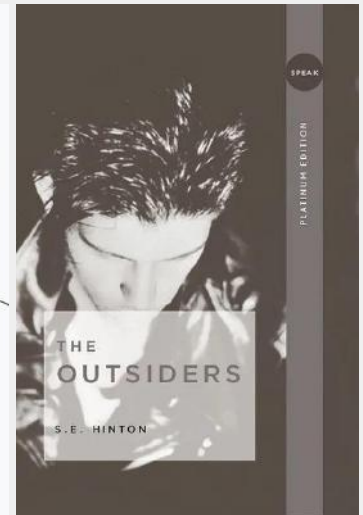
Grade 7 English



"The Present" & Plato's Cave

Discuss with a partner:

How might the video game in "The Present" be like the cave? What are the "shadows" in the boy's life?



The 7th Graders have recently concluded their exploration of 'Perspectives,' a unit that took an analytical approach to viewing full length and short films. This included a study of *The Truman Show* and its connections to philosophical ideas such as Plato's Allegory of the Cave and Goffman's theory of the Performing Self. They have now begun a unit examining 'Identity' and the inherent struggles of authentic living within societal constraints. This new unit also compares two distinct literary genres: S.E. Hinton's novel, *The Outsiders*, and Alice Gerstenberg's play, *Overtones*.

Grade 8 English

In MYP 3 Language and Literature, our students have been exploring the theme of identity—a concept that resonates during their own journeys of self-discovery. Using Melina Marchetta's novel *Looking for Alibrandi* as our anchor text, we have explored how identity is shaped by cultural heritage, personal experiences, and societal expectations.

A key focus of our unit has been characterisation through the lens of identity. Through class discussions and close reading, students have analysed how the protagonist, Josie Alibrandi, navigates her final year of high school, and students have deepened their understanding of how literature can reflect our understanding of who we are.



In addition to literary analysis, our students have been sharpening their academic writing skills. They have been reviewing and deepening their knowledge of how to craft analytical essays, supporting their interpretations with textual evidence and structuring their arguments with clarity. To further develop their critical thinking, they have also been comparing *Looking for Alibrandi* to unseen texts, including pop songs, memoirs, and blog posts. These comparisons have encouraged them to draw connections between literature and contemporary media, recognising the many ways in which identity is explored across different forms of storytelling.



Grade 9 English

Love, Literature and *Romeo and Juliet*

Love is in the air—and in the classroom! Our MYP 4 Language and Literature students have been diving into Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, exploring the complexities of love, fate, and family conflict. Through lively discussions and creative activities, they've been analysing how Shakespeare's themes remain relevant today.

Students have embraced their inner poets by crafting their own Valentine's sonnets, channeling Shakespeare's rhythm and style while adding their personal flair. They've also taken a closer look at the play's iconic characters, selecting one to analyse in depth, uncovering motivations, flaws, and the impact of their choices.

To bring their analysis into the modern era, students have been comparing *Romeo and Juliet* to contemporary love songs from artists like Taylor Swift and Adele. Through this, they've been sharpening their essay-writing skills, drawing connections between Shakespeare's 16th-century verses and today's lyrical explorations of heartbreak and passion.

Love may be angsty and messy, but our students are tackling it head-on—with critical thinking, creativity, a touch of Shakespearean drama, and a death scene photo shoot!



Grade 10 English

Debating Ideas and Delivering Speeches with *Inherit the Wind*

What happens when progress and tradition collide? How does language shape our beliefs and challenge our perspectives? These are just some of the questions our Grade 10 MYP Language and Literature students have been exploring through their reading of *Inherit the Wind*, the classic courtroom drama inspired by the famous Scopes Trial.

Far from being passive readers, students have brought the tensions of Hillsboro to life, stepping into the roles of Henry Drummond, Matthew Harrison Brady, Bert Cates, Rachel Brown, and more. Through dramatic readings, impassioned debates, and lively discussions, our students have sharpened their oratory skills, embodying the persuasive rhetoric of the play's central figures.

This exploration is more than just performance—it directly supports their preparation for the MYP e-Assessment. As they analyse the play's use of ethos, pathos, and logos, students refine their own ability to craft compelling arguments. By studying how Drummond's sharp wit, Brady's fiery conviction, and Rachel's inner conflict unfold on stage, they gain a deeper understanding of speech writing, rhetorical strategies, and the power of language to influence an audience.

From courtroom showdowns to classroom debates, *Inherit the Wind* has provided an opportunity for students to engage with complex ideas, question societal norms, and, most importantly, develop their voices as confident and persuasive communicators.

Grade 11 English

Grade 11 English A: Language and Literature Sharpening Analytical Skills Through *Persepolis* and the Individual Oral

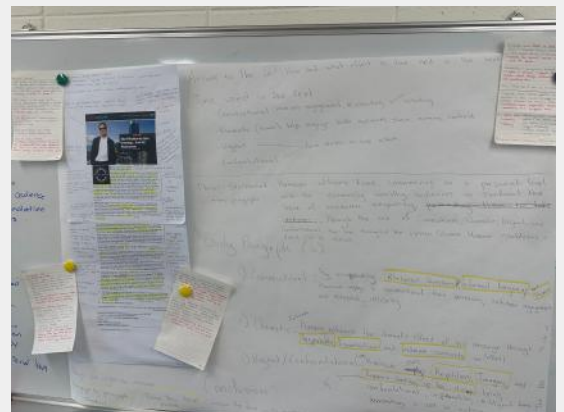
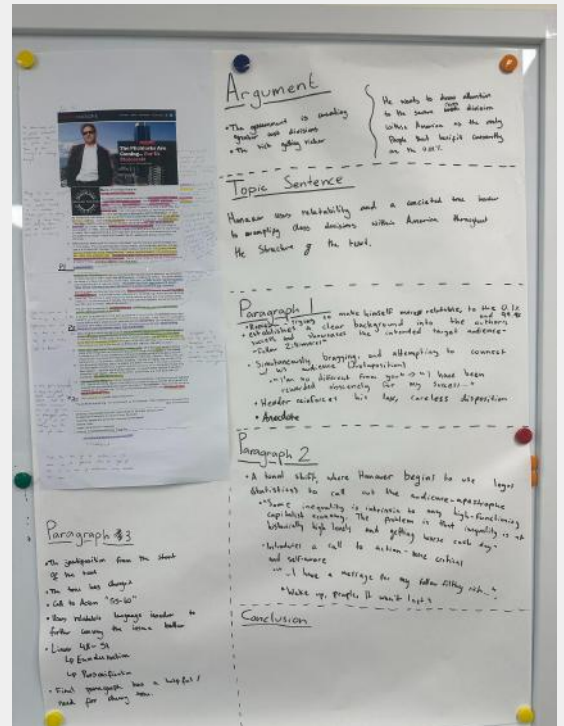
As our Grade 11 students prepare for their first IB exam—the Individual Oral Assessment (IOA) in May—critical thinking, textual analysis, and confident spoken delivery have been at the forefront of our studies. Recently, students completed a summative oral assessment based on *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*, Marjane Satrapi's powerful graphic memoir, applying their growing analytical skills to examine the interplay between text, context, and contemporary global issues.

The **Individual Oral** requires students to make meaningful connections between a literary work, a non-literary work, and a global issue, articulating a clear, well-supported argument in real-time discussion. *Persepolis* has provided a rich ground for this practice, allowing students to explore themes such as oppression, resilience, and the impact of political turmoil on personal identity. Through this assessment, they have not only deepened their understanding of Satrapi's work but also refined their ability to communicate nuanced ideas with clarity and precision.

While the recent oral assessment showed clear signs of progress—more structured arguments, stronger use of evidence, and increasing confidence—there is still room to grow. Thoughtful engagement with feedback will be key in the months ahead. By continuing to refine their spoken analysis and response skills, students will ensure they are well-prepared for the demands of the IB assessment in May.

With perseverance and practice, they are on the right path to delivering insightful, articulate, and well-supported oral arguments—a skill that will serve them well, not just in the Diploma Programme, but beyond.

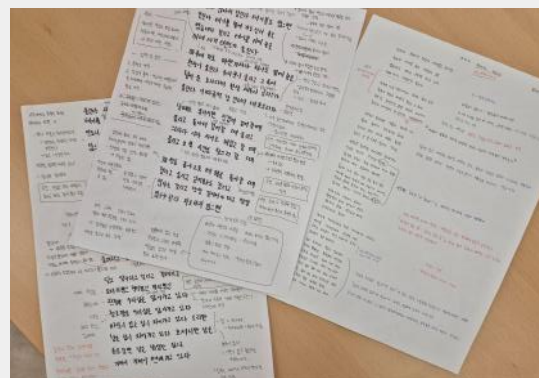
Students are also prepping for another practice of their **Paper 1** exam that is taking place during next week's



exam period. Paper 1 is a guided analysis of an unseen text, which challenges students to read critically, analyze, organize their ideas, and write a coherent and developed response. Past texts have ranged from personal blog articles to travel writing to infographics so students have to be able to respond to a wide range of possible texts. They've been looking over past feedback, exploring new text types, and even having formative conversations with a teacher-generated AI bot as part of their preparation.

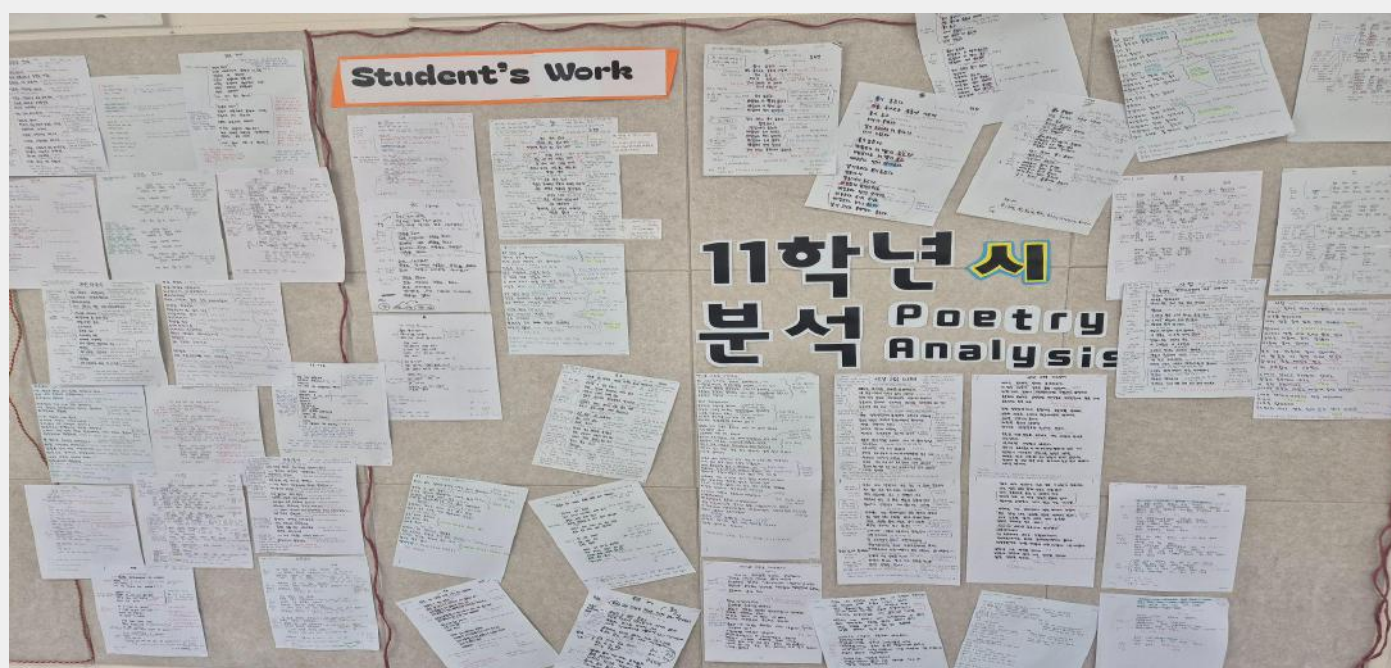
Grade 11 Korean

The G11 DP Korean Language and Literature students are currently studying the poetry of Kim Soo-young, following their analysis of short stories and non-fiction texts. They focus on understanding and interpreting poetry from various perspectives as part of their preparation for the Individual Oral test and Paper 2. Through studying Kim Soo-young's poems, students are developing their appreciation for poetry while also learning about the beauty of literature.



Grade 12 English

They grow up so fast! The grade 12 English Language and Literature students have officially completed their mock exams and now the final stage of their high school journey is beginning. For the remainder of the semester they will be revising their notes and practicing their skills to get ready for their final IB exams. The DP students will be writing two final exams in the course. Paper 1, just like for the grade 11s, is a guided analysis of an unseen text, which challenges students to read critically, analyze, organize their ideas, and write a coherent and developed response.



Paper 2 is a comparative essay where students select one of four unseen prompts and then respond using literature that they've studied in the course. The unseen and challenging nature of the questions of both exams are excellent examples of the rigour that sets the IB apart from other curricula and is why so many graduates talk about how smooth the transition to university-level learning is after high school. If you see a grade 12 over the next few weeks, wish them luck!

Dear ISB Community, I hope that you are doing well! World Sleep Day 2025 is celebrated on Friday, March 14th. This year's theme is "Make Sleep Health a Priority," which is a good reminder for all of us to prioritize our sleep and make sure that we are getting the rest that we need.



Why is Sleep so important? It is during sleep that a person's brain health, emotional health, and physical health is restored and rejuvenated. So, it is not only about feeling rested but about strengthening our immune system so that we do not get sick, regulating our body to maintain good health and weight, repairing our tissue, muscles and cells, ensuring memory, learning and concentration and recovering from stress. When we don't sleep, we are at risk for a wide range of health problems. (Sources: [The Importance of Sleep](#) and [Why is Sleep Important](#))

So how can we improve our sleep? Stick to a regular sleep schedule: Try to go to bed and wake up around the same time each day, even on weekends to ensure you get the hours that you need. Create a relaxing device-free bedtime routine: Dim the lights, read a book, or listen to calming music to wind down. Turn off devices and leave them outside the bedroom to avoid disrupting noises and blue light that can interfere with our sleep.

Throughout the day, take a moment to check in with your body and ask yourself how rested you are feeling. If the answer is "Not enough", make that a priority for the evening and get a little extra sleep that day. For more information and tips see [Fall asleep faster and sleep better - Every Mind Matters](#) and [5 Ideas for Better Sleep \(for Teens and Children\)](#).



March 2025: ISB Future Pathways/Career and University Planning Newsletter

Greetings ISB High School Families! I hope this message finds you and your families doing well. I am excited to share the [March 2025 edition of the ISB Future Pathways/College Counseling Newsletter](#) with you. Below, you will find a preview of this month's topics:

- [Upcoming University Events](#)
- ISB UK University Fair: March 17
- Upcoming virtual events
- [Enrichment programs and Courses](#)
- List of programs
- Featured resource: Coursera courses for High School students
- [Pre-College Online Programs](#)
- Northwestern University, Rice University, Georgetown University, Tufts University, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins Pre-College Programs

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at ehibon@isbusan.org. I will be delighted to assist you!

Kind regards,
Ellenore Hibon
Secondary School Counselor and College Counselor

Welcome to the newest segment of our school newsletter - **ISB Nature Corner** - prepared and delivered by ISB teacher Ashraf Dean and his daughter River.



Ashraf & River Dean

Each week we will highlight the abundant flora and fauna found on and around our school campus, to remind us how lucky we are to be surrounded by the beauty of nature, and how important it is to take care of our environment. Let's see what we have this week!

- **Common Name:** Black-headed Gull
- **Scientific Name:** *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

- **Where to Find It:**

The Black-headed Gull is a common coastal bird found along beaches, estuaries, and harbors. In Busan, these gulls can often be seen foraging along the shoreline, resting on piers, or flying over the water in search of food. Unlike larger gulls, they are smaller and more delicate, often gathering in groups on sandy beaches. This particular gull was spotted nearby, wading in the shallow waters of Songjeong Beach.

- **Why It's Important:**

Black-headed Gulls play a key role in coastal ecosystems. They help control insect and small fish populations, maintaining a natural balance in their habitat. As scavengers, they also contribute to cleaning up organic waste along shorelines.

- **Fun Fact:**

Despite their name, Black-headed Gulls don't actually have black heads year-round! In winter, they lose their dark head coloring and instead sport a white head with a small black spot behind the eye (like this one). Their black head only appears during the breeding season in summer, making them look quite different depending on the time of year.



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF BUSAN



ISB YOUTH-LED ECO SYMPOSIUM

EMPOWERING YOUTH LEADERS
CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

25

10th May 2025

SPEAKERS



Katie Kim
Eco Club Leader
Event Facilitator

Jackleen Kim
Eco Club Leader
MSC Coordinator
Vice President of Student Council



Mark Seo, PhD
MSC Korea, CEO
Sustainable Seafood
Expert



Nicola Weir
Sustainability Leader,
Deloitte
TEDx Seoul Speaker

More Speakers to Be Announced Soon!



10th May 2025
10:00 AM - 4:30 PM



Intertional School of Busan (ISB)
50 Gijang-daero, Gijang-gun, Busan
부산국제외국인학교
부산광역시 기장군 기장읍 기장대로 50 46081



ecoclub@isbusan.org

AGENDA *subject to change

Morning Session (10:00-1:00)

- VIP Opening Ceremony
- Expert & Youth Keynote Presentations
- Eco Film Screening
- Expert & Youth Panel Discussion

Afternoon Session (1:00-16:30)

- Networking Lunch (not provided)
- Interactive Sessions and Workshops
- Eco Awards Presentation
- Closing Ceremony
- Group Photo & Souvenir

***All sessions will be conducted in English**

Who should attend?

- Students aged 11 (grade 6) and older
- Educators and Policymakers
- Environmental Stakeholders & Experts

Register Here

Registration deadline April 30th 2025



ISB Website

Organizer



Sponsor



PARK HYATT BUSAN™

Save the Date - May 11th!!

Join us for a Community Fun Day! Enjoy a friendly soccer tournament, Korean games and a picnic.



SAVE THE DATE

ISB

COMMUNITY FUN DAY

At ISB Campus

SUNDAY, MAY 11

10:00AM

The day will include:
Friendly soccer tournament
Fun korean games
Picnic

Stay tuned – more details will be shared soon


Parent Teacher Association

