



Monday 6

Tuesday 7

Wednesday 8

Thursday 9

Friday 10

Normal Timetable

Normal Timetable

Normal Timetable

Normal Timetable

Normal Timetable

Grade 12 Parent Teacher Meeting

17.30-19.30 at 139 Gunnersbury Avenue

## Diploma College Principal's Column

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

The combined purpose of the interim report and the parent teacher meetings for *Grade 12* is to ascertain progress over the summer. It is only a few 'school' weeks since the June Parent Teacher meetings and semester reports but IB students are expected to work on various elements of their courses during the summer vacation and the meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> is an opportunity to review progress in these elements of the programme as well as general academic progress. Students and parents will also be making judgments about university applications based – to some extent – on achievement levels. These are not always easy decisions to make but I know that Mr Morris – and all the IB teachers – will be doing their best to ensure that students have pointers to how to make further progress and also to give as clear a picture as possible of where the students are in terms of achievement and attitude to date. Grade 12 Interim Reports are being or have been sent to parents (depending on when you read this) and Mr. Morris explains them in more detail below. Grade 11 Interim Reports and Parent Teacher Meetings are due in a couple of weeks.

One of the features of an IB World School – that we sometimes overlook in the busy day to day schedule – is that we are part of an international organization which reflects on its aims and outcomes and encourages research into how students develop through and beyond the programme. One such piece of research may have interest for us – especially as we think how well prepared our students will be for study in higher education can be found via this link:

<http://www.ibo.org/announcements/2014/criticalthinkingreveals.cfm>

This coming week should see a further upgrade to wifi connectivity in addition to that already in place. Further IT hardware is being prepared for installation.

Huw Davies

Principal – ISL London Diploma College



## Deputy Principal/DP Coordinator Announcements

### Understanding interim reports

Assessment at ISL is semester-based, as detailed in the 'DP@ISL guide for students and parents.' As such, a full academic report will be issued at the end of each grading semester:

For grade 11 in February and June

For grade 12 in January and May

However we feel it is important that parents are given a 'snapshot' of student progress and approaches to learning at the earliest point for which we are able to gather meaningful evidence. For this reason, we issue **interim reports** in October each year.

The interim report gives a judgment about the frequency with which a student demonstrates the following learning behaviour:

- Meets all class deadlines
- Demonstrates appropriate commitment and motivation
- Demonstrates independence in learning and self-organisation
- Demonstrates perseverance and rigour

The ratings are given as

C = Consistently

I = Inconsistently

R = Rarely

N = Never

### Using parent-teacher conferences

Each time we issue a report, we offer an opportunity for parents and students to discuss the reports in person with teachers. These **parent-teacher conferences** take place in the evening, from 17.30 – 19.30.



Students are provided with an appointments list and are expected to make appointments with their teachers to suit parents' availability wherever possible.

Teachers do have many appointments so parents are asked to understand if a teacher has to stick to the 10 minutes allotted time for each meeting.

Parents and students are also invited to meet Mr. Morris for an academic overview, update on university admissions or any guidance issues as appropriate.

Students are encouraged to attend the conferences, since of course they are the ones best placed to take action where necessary!

### **Upcoming university events**

Parents and students are reminded that university admissions personnel frequently visit the College to present their universities or other institutions of higher education (HE). Parents are warmly welcomed. Grade 11 will be commencing university orientation during PSHE / Guidance time on Thursdays after half term (they are currently exploring CAS in this time with Ms Giles!)

The calendar for the visits is accessible via the 'University Guidance' class in Managebac – ask your son or daughter to take a look with them.

Forthcoming visits confirmed:

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 1pm – Nagoya University (Japan) (International and Japanese students)

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Aston University (UK)

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2pm – University of Surrey (UK)

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2pm – University of Birmingham (UK)

**Paul Morris**