



Dolphin Dispatch



International
School of Panama

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PANAMA

January 20, 2017

ISSUE 19

SY 2017-2018 Application Process for Siblings is Now OPEN!

To apply please go to www.isp.edu.pa/apply

Please note that there are likely to be wait-pools in most of our grades so the sooner you apply, the better.

For more information please contact Nilsa Arenas at narenas@isp.edu.pa

or **293-3009**.



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Announcements

ONLINE RENEWB ISP DIRECTORY NOW AVAILABLE

We are pleased to announce the rollout of our new digital directory. In the past, we have issued copies of directories to parents in order to facilitate communication within our school community. After a comprehensive review, we decided to test the online directory available through our [RenWeb](#) service. This is inline with our green team's efforts to reduce our impact on the environment, by eliminating our need to print the directory in mass. Moreover, this online digital directory tool allows for greater confidentiality ensuring family information is protected. To be sure, each ISP family has submitted forms to our Admissions and Records Department determining what information they want to appear on the digital directory. Only the information you have selected to appear will be displayed on the digital directory, and only people with RenWeb login and passwords will be able to access this directory.

The [digital directory presentation](#) shows you exactly how to access the online directory using your [RenWeb](#) parent log in and password. You can also print it off if needed. Please bear in mind that the directory is only for the ISP community. We ask you not to share the information with others. If you have any questions regarding the online digital directory, please contact us through [e-mail](#).

ISP's DIGITAL DIRECTORY

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Announcements



WANT TO GAIN EXPERIENCE IN MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION?

ISP's Marketing and Communication office is looking for students interested in journalism, audio visual production and livestreaming. This is a great opportunity for CAS students or students who wish to add to their student experience, and college/ university applications.

What are the perks?

- Gain extra experience in video production.
- You could have your video about ISP featured on our website and social media, credited to you.
- Stories you have written could be published on our newsletter, website and social media.
- Help increase ISP's livestreaming capacities for sporting events. Gaining valuable experience if you are a student interested in mass media and communication.

We believe student voices are the best way to tell ISP stories. What story do you want to tell?

If interested please contact ispcommunication@isp.edu.pa

Elementary School

Becky Jobses, PhD—Elementary Principal—bjobes@isp.edu.pa

WELCOME BACK!

Hello families,

We are happy to have students filling our classrooms again. We have enjoyed reconnecting with our returning students and we are beginning to learn about the new students who have joined us in the elementary school. Welcome to our new families!

We will be hosting a parent coffee on Wednesday, February 8 that will be an overview of 2nd semester in the elementary school. Look for more information in future editions of the Dolphin Dispatch.

For now, we hope you are all settling back into your routines after the vacation break and looking forward to the second half of the year. Alongside our academic planning, we are also all engaged in working on upcoming activities for our students—Spirit Week in February, Literature to Life week in March (we have author Kristy Dempsey coming during that time!), a family literacy night, field trips, STEM projects, end-of-year traditions, and so much more.

Looking forward to seeing you at these events and more.

Best,

Ms. Becky and the elementary team

SUN SAFETY IN THE SUMMER

Outside at recess it definitely feels like summer! We encourage you to apply sunblock to your children before school or to send sunblock for them to apply to themselves. Students can also bring hats and sunglasses for use during recess. Lastly, please help your children remember their water bottles so they stay hydrated throughout the day.



Elementary School

Becky Jobs, PhD—Elementary Principal—bjobs@isp.edu.pa



PARENT COFFEE

We had a great turnout to our parent coffee this Wednesday and we want to thank all of our parents for their interest and support. We will be hosting our next CD parent coffee on Feb. 15th in the conference room at 10:30, so mark your calendars and join us for some more tips and strategies. The topic that will be addressed in February is: **Choices**. We hope to see you all there next time and until then we wish you well.

Kindly,
ES Counselors,



Middle School

Vickie Swann Middle School Principal vswann@isp.edu.pa

MAKING INTERDISCIPLINARY CONNECTIONS

The 8th Grade Team has launched an interdisciplinary project, connecting what is being covered in English class with key concepts and content from Social Studies and the Visual Arts. Students are approaching key questions such as “How can the form I government I live under affect my everyday life.” In Social Studies they are looking at dictatorship as a form of government in general as well as its history in the Middle East in particular. In English, students are reading *I am Malala* in order to understand a narrative regarding dictatorship’s effects on a particular adolescent. These elements are coming together to inspire works of visual art.

To launch this event, the entire 8th grade community gathered in the PAC to hear stories from ISP faculty members regarding how dictatorships have affected life in Panama generally as well as the personal lives of faculty members and the ISP community in particular. Pre-K Principal Alida Garcia de Paredes shared her experiences at ISP during the Noriega years as a teacher at ISP. Ella Faulkner – 8th grade visual arts teacher – gave a talk on her experiences as an art student during the years leading up to the events.

This was a wonderful opportunity to bring history to life in a connected and authentic fashion. We look forward to continuing with this unit and other opportunities for purposeful, balanced and connected learning in our MS division.



FIELD TRIPS

SAVE THE DATES!

6th Grade – Day Trips – January 26th and 27th

7th Grade – El Valle – January 26th – 27th

8th Grade – La Granja - January 30th – 31st

GRADE-LEVEL SPECIFIC DETAILS ARE BEING SENT BY
ADVISERS!

High School

Eric Monson High School Principal emonson@isp.edu.pa



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isppanama Link Leaders in action. On Monday, Link Leaders invaded 9th grade Advisories to help 9th graders get off to a good start in 2017. Guiding students through the goal setting process and demonstrating the power of visualization and how it can be helpful to them in attaining their goals. #lookingatyourfuture #visualization #LINKCREW #isplinkcrew #studentmentors #isphsrocks #thereisnoplacelikeisp #goals #wholisticeducation



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isppanama The countdown to #panagin2017 #emerGINgfutureleaders. Only 50 days left. Learn more by following @ginpty or going to www.globalissuesnetwork.org/ginpanama #leadership #gin #pty #panama #thereisnoplacelikeisp #iamip #iamGIN

Log in to like or comment.



High School

Eric Monson High School Principal emonson@isp.edu.pa

Thank you Grade 10 and Grade 11 students and parents for attending this week's parent coffee sessions! It was great to see you! Have a great semester!



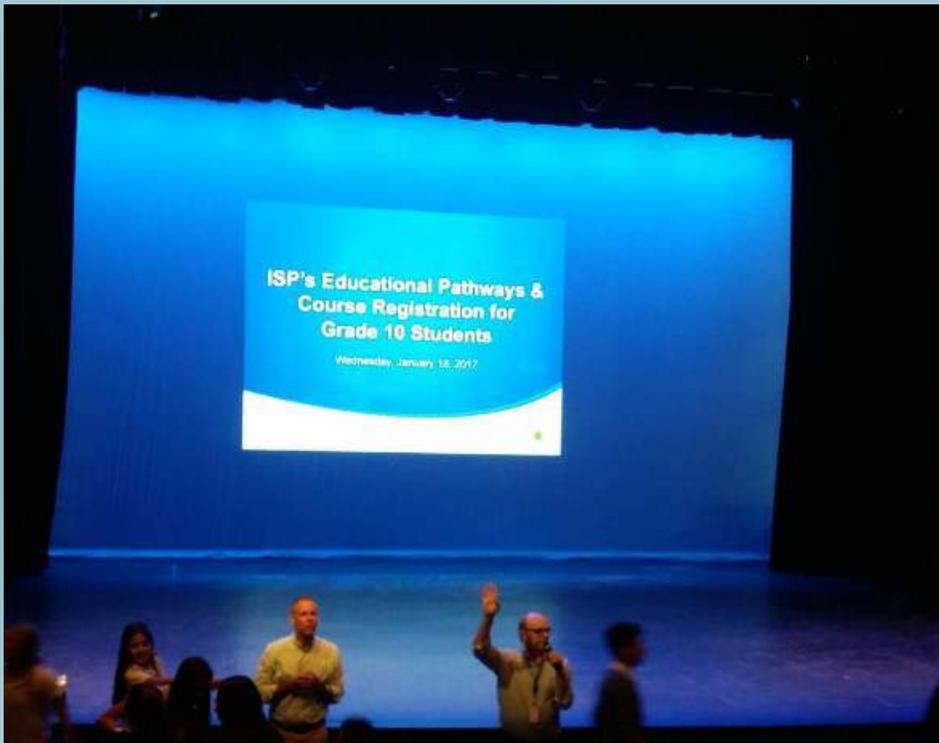
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isppanama Today the #classof2018 and their parents met with HS Principal Mr. Monson and the HS Counselors team to discuss college & university planning as well as course selection. Thanks for coming #thereisnoplacelikeisp



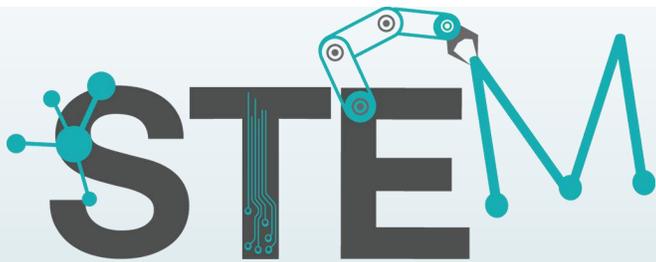
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isppanama Our #highschool counseling team kicking off the course selection & registration for #grade10 parents and students. #moreelectives #morechoices #thereisnoplacelikeisp #isphsrocks #classof2019



STEM OFFERINGS IN GRADE 11 AT ISP

S Science ▶

IB Biology SL or HL

2 years, 2 credits meets 2 or 3 days out of 4

IB Biology is a rigorous Pre-University course that breaks Biology into 4 thematic areas: evolution, homeostasis, biochemistry, structure and function. The approach is experimental and this will be reflected throughout the course by means of a large number of laboratory and field investigations that students will perform.

IB Chemistry SL or HL

2 years, 2 credits meets 2 or 3 days out of 4

IB Chemistry will give students a broad and comprehensive experience in the experimental subject of Chemistry, based on the use of the scientific method to answer questions about the composition, structure and properties of all the things around them. Key Topics include Quantitative Chemistry, Atomic Structure, Periodicity, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, Equilibrium, Acids and Bases, Oxidation and Reduction, and Organic Chemistry.

IB Physics SL or HL

2 years, 2 credits meets 2 or 3 days out of 4

IB Physics is a highly rigorous two year pre-university course which allows students to experience physics at a depth equivalent to an undergraduate level course. Students are introduced to the laws of physics along with scientific methods and techniques which are needed for physics investigations. Student assessment is conducted both externally through written examination and internally by means of several required, as well as one self-designed, practical investigations.

IB Environmental Systems and Societies SL Only

2 years, 2 credits meets 2 days out of 4

This is a trans-disciplinary course that bridges the experimental sciences and individuals and societies, and as such can be treated as either a Group 3, a Group 4, or both. The expectation of this course is to give students the tools to realize the strong connections between environmental systems and the societies that live in those systems. Students in ESS will



IB Diploma Math Standard Level

2 years 2 credits

This course caters for students who already possess knowledge of basic mathematical concepts, and who are equipped with the skills needed to apply simple mathematical techniques correctly. The majority of these students will expect to need a sound mathematical background as they prepare for future studies in subjects such as chemistry, economics, psychology and business administration.

IB Math Studies

2 years 2 credits

This course has an emphasis on applications of mathematics, and the largest section is on statistical techniques. Students taking this course are well prepared for a career in social sciences, humanities, languages or art.

IB Diploma HL Math Course

2 years, 2 credits

This course caters for students with a good background in mathematics who are competent in a range of analytical and technical skills. The majority of these students will be expecting to include mathematics as a major component of their university studies, either as a subject in its own right or within courses such as physics, engineering and technology.

Non IB Technology Courses

Computer Hardware and Systems

Semester-long course, 1/2 credit

Computer Hardware and Systems focuses on computer hardware, how a computer works. Class projects include building a computer and identifying system problems, students also build basic robotic systems, final project includes creating a quadcopter. Coursework is based off of A+.

Interactive Design

Semester-long course, 1/2 credit

Interactive design focuses on internet and HTML 5 programming. Languages include HTML, Javascript, CSS, PHP, and Databases. Projects include website design, mobile apps, and home automation.

Computer Programming and Networking

Semester-long course, 1/2 credit

Computer studies focuses primarily on programming. Languages include python, java, c++. Students learn how computers are networked together. Coursework is based off of Network+. Projects include raspberry pi robotics.

VEX Robotics

1 semester, 1/2 credit

An advanced robotics course where students will build and program VEX robots to compete in challenges such as playing basketball, driving through a maze, or moving objects around an obstacle course.

Visual & Performing Arts

Adam Herzig, Visual and Performing Arts Director—aherzig@isp.edu.pa

Welcome back! We are all really excited for a super busy semester! In addition to three plays in the PAC, we will also have our IB art show, Artsfest, first ever elementary music festival as well and see our musicians off to Costa Rica for AASCA Music. We encourage everyone in the ISP community to be a part of the excitement this semester!

Coming Up!

MS Play Auditions for *Stone Soup* have been postponed till Tuesday after school. You still have time get your contract in!

HS Play Auditions for *6 Character in Search of an Author* is this Monday January 23 in the blackbox at 3PM.

Ongoing rehearsals for ES Musical *Madagascar* and AASCA Music. Please check with the director for times and specifics

COSTA RICA HERE WE COME!



ISP music students are busy rehearsing for the AASCA music festival in Costa Rica February 8-12. Twenty-four students will travel to participate in workshops and rehearsals leading up to a final performance involving students from 7 schools across Central America.

Missing from photo; Camila Riano, Flo Reiche, Ellie Jones, Melanie Dominguez, Marivi Acosta.

Athletics: #GOISPDOLPHINS!

Peter Smyth, Athletic Director—psmyth@isp.edu.pa



CHECK THE ASA PROGRAM FOR THIS SEMESTER!

at www.isp.edu.pa/After_School_Activities

REGISTRATION: Jan. 27th
Online registration ONLY
START: Feb. 6th

Sports (NON-COMPETITIVE)
Visual and Performing Arts
Academic / STEM

COMPETITIVE SPORTS AT ISP

Sport	Category or Division for this season		Comments
Swimming	ES / MS / HS	Boys & Girls	For our swimming program additional information will be sent.
Soccer	Sub 10	Boys & Girls	
	Sub 16	Boys & Girls	
	Sub 18	Boys & Girls	
Basketball	Sub 12	Boys & Girls	
	Sub 14	Boys & Girls	
Flag Football	Sub 18	Girls	



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meeting

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WHEN? JANUARY 25th 8:30am

WHERE? PTA Office located in the
MS/HS Cafetorium

WHO: ALL NEW AND RETURNING
PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN!

#THEREISNOPLACELIKEISP



JOIN US

WHO WE ARE: We are a group of ISP parents who offer orientation and information to families regarding relocation, the local language, improve your Spanish, as well as understanding and navigating Panamanian Culture.

WHEN WE MEET ? Every Wednesday 8am– 10am in Performing Arts Center Lobby.

Join us for some fun, sharing with other as we experience life in Panama together. |

We are looking for Parent and Teacher volunteers for our program. If you are interested please contact.

Graciela Bareiro +50762694472

nexosinitiative@gmail.com



WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S COOKING AT THE ISP CAFETERIA CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO SEE MENU'S & NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION: <http://www.isp.edu.pa/Cafeteria>

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS PLEASE CONTACT: ispcommunication@isp.edu.pa