

Welcome to G4!

Children from all over the world attend our school and we welcome and encourage all parents and students to share cultural events and traditions that occur during our academic year.

If you have just made the move from Grade 3, we hope you enjoy your new class and we extend a special welcome from ISS to all our new families. We believe that your involvement is important to your child's education and we welcome your questions, help and support. If you have any queries or questions you may call the school, or email at any time and leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

ISS School Telephone: 6235 5844

Welcome to Grade 4! We are really looking forward to working with you and your child.

Here is some information about our classes:

Grade 4 email addresses:

Grade 4.1 Antonia Favilli: afavilli@iss.edu.sg

Grade 4.2 Ariana Rehu: arehu@iss.edu.sg

Grade 4.3 Anjana Dayal: adayal@iss.edu.sg

Curriculum

The IB PYP (International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme) is a concept-driven inquiry based programme. The children will ask questions and learn how to gather information and find the answers to their questions. We will study six different Units of Inquiry throughout the year. This programme integrates with our Maths, Language and Specialist programmes.

We will study six Units of Inquiry throughout the year:

- How we Organize Ourselves - People in communities organize themselves in different ways to assist people in need.
- Sharing the Planet - Communities can help protect the environment through responsible waste management.

- Who We Are - Our bodies are made up of interrelated systems which need to be maintained over time.
- Where We Are In Place And Time- The actions of significant individuals can influence the way we think and behave.
- How the World Works - Forces cause action and reaction in everyday situations.
- How We Express Ourselves - Beliefs and values can be expressed in different ways.

Items Your Child Will Need:

- A durable school bag that is large enough for snack, lunch, a water bottle, homework folder and library books etc.
- A large, old T-shirt that will be worn during messy activities and Art lessons to protect their school uniform (an old shirt from home would be fine)
- If your child reacts to insect bites, then we recommend you send in some insect repellent
- A hat for outside play if you wish

Communication

We would like to keep in contact with you via email. Close communication between our classroom and your home will be maintained with your help. Any questions, queries or changes to your child's routine, explanation of absences etc. can be communicated via email. It is important that if travel arrangements from school are changed, a note should be sent in the book for that day or an email sent to the teacher. If there are going to be any long-term absences, please inform us in advance.

Email will be a very important means of communication, so please make sure you check your email regularly. In an attempt to reduce the use of paper school wide, we will be aiming to use email correspondence frequently.

Snack and Lunch Time

Children will place their food and drink in the refrigerator in the morning, please send healthy snacks, no fizzy drinks or chocolate bars as we promote healthy eating. Each child should have a large reusable water bottle at school every day. Children will eat their lunch in the canteen area each day. The children have the option to pre-order food from the school caterers (please call or email the ISS office about this). The food order can be

collected daily from the canteen. Lunches must be ordered in advance and a letter will be issued soon. Please ensure that your child returns their lunch order forms on time.

Birthday Celebrations

Some parents like to send along a birthday cake or a treat for the class to celebrate this special occasion. We sing "Happy Birthday" and make the child feel extra special. Please contact us beforehand and we can arrange a suitable time for you to bring in something.

We are happy to send out invitations to birthday parties if EVERY CHILD is invited. If there is not an invitation for every child, then please distribute the individual invitations on your own, outside of the school. This way, no child is left out and feelings are not hurt.

P.E. and Sports Days

The children need to wear their P.E. clothes to school on the day they have set P.E. It is optional for your child to change back into regular uniform after their session. A small named towel in their bag may also be useful.

We have attached our individual class schedules to this letter so you are aware when your child has P.E. during the week.

G4.1 - Tuesdays and Fridays

G4.2 - Tuesdays and Thursdays

G4.3 - Tuesdays and Thursdays

Homework

We expect that your child reads daily. This reading is certainly not restricted to books brought home from school. It is important and very valuable for your child to have their own reading library and that they also choose books for pure pleasure and enjoyment. The rest of the homework expectations and guidelines will be communicated next week via email.

We also highly recommend that you read to your child in your Mother Tongue! Read, read, read! You will be advised at a later stage with regards to other homework tasks as we progress through the units. A Homework book will come home each Monday and work should then be completed for the Friday.

Health

You are requested to complete a questionnaire regarding your child's medical history - including any known allergies. This will be sent out over the next week. Any special medication - inhalers, ointment, eye drops etc. which your child may require needs to be sent the school with clear, written instructions for the school nurse. Please do not send

your child to school if they are feeling unwell. Please see the school's website for any other health issues, eg H1N1 or Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease etc.

Library

Your child will borrow a book from the library at least once a week. Please ensure books are returned by the following week. Each class will have a set library day. Your child may also change their books before and after school throughout the week if you wish to accompany them as well.

Library Days:

G4.1 - Wednesday

G4.2 - Friday

G4.3 - Friday

Once again, Welcome to Grade 4!

We hope you and your child enjoy the year and we are looking forward to collaborating with you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Anji (Anjana Dayal),
Ms. Favilli (Antonia Favilli) and
Ms. Rehu (Ariana Rehu)

The Grade 4 Team
ISS International School