



ISSUE #20

3 February 2012

SECONDARY NEWS

The 1st semester has ended and our secondary students and teachers are off to a great start on semester 2! Books are being read, discussed, reflected upon, and reported upon. Labs are being conducted and written up.

Math and languages continue to flow through your children's minds, and design technology keeps them busy with creative projects. All of this leads to critical thinkers, inquirers, problem solvers and involved citizens.

The secondary school play is seeking out talent, the basketball teams leave next week for the annual ACAMIS tournament, and part of the Girl's Ensemble will travel to Beijing for a concert in the next weeks. We are encouraging, supporting, reminding and pushing your children to be the best that they can be here in our school.

Reports will go home next week, so please be sure to ask your son or daughter to see what they have completed so far this year. I am always happy to see you with any questions you may have in that regard, or any other matter. Don't hesitate to make an appointment with Ms. Khaliunaa in reception if you need to see me.

Stay warm and enjoy the weekend!

Betsy Hanselmann, Head of Secondary

THE MEDEE

The Weekly Newsletter of the International School of Ulaanbaatar

DIARY DATES:

February 8— Semester 1 Secondary Reports

February 8-12—ACAMIS Basketball in Suzhou, China

February 14—Grade 5 Exhibition Launch 8.30 -9.30 ISU Library

February 16—Parent Teacher Conference (13:00-19:00) only for the Secondary School Students

February 16-18—ACAMIS Cultural Event in Beijing

February 21—Tsagaan Sar Assembly (13:40)-ISU Gym

February 22-24—Tsagaan Sar Holiday—No School

FRONT PAGE— THE MEDEE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE EACH WEEK AT: WWW.ISUMONGOLIA.EDU.MN

PRIMARY NEWS

Study Skills Strategies

With the start of a new semester it seems a good time to share some strategies that will help promote the development of study skills at home.

Your child is already on his/her way to establishing good study skills by organizing their homework folders and recording their assignments in their homework journal. When they arrive home, it is important that they continue with this responsibility for learning.

Study skills are learned skills that become a habit through continued practice and routine. Parents can help establish the habit of **good** study skills by reinforcing them at home.

If you don't already, try to have a regularly scheduled time and place for homework each day. It is important that there be a quiet, regular place for your child to work. The desk or table should have on it only what is needed to complete the homework task. Other objects on the desk or table can easily lead to distraction.

Another important skill that all children can learn is time management. At first, with your child, estimate how much time each homework task may take to complete. A kitchen timer or alarm clock can then be set for the agreed upon time. When the timer goes off, you and your child can reflect if the time allocated for the task was too much, too little or just right and discuss why. The next time there is a similar task, the estimated completion time may be decided upon with the knowledge of the previous learning experience. Consistent, time on task estimating and reflection help to strengthen the skill of planning and time management.

Applying these two simple strategies will help promote good study habits and lead to ownership of learning and a sense of accomplishment for your child.

Report Cards

Report cards were sent home on Wednesday. Thank you for reviewing with your child their report card and for signing the envelope and returning it to school. Please keep the report card for your files and contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Have a great weekend!

Rick Elya, Head of Primary

Grade 5 Exhibition Launch

Dear Grade 5 parents and families,

It was wonderful to see you all for our Exhibition brainstorming session in November. Finally the time has come to put those ideas into action!

On Monday the 13th of February the grade 5 students will embark on their ten-week inquiry that is the Exhibition. The Exhibition is the culminating activity for the final year of the PYP in which the students will follow their own inquiry under the central idea: *We can have an impact on issues in the community by demonstrating social responsibility through action.*

All grade 5 parents and students are invited to the official **launch of the Exhibition**. In this information session we will cover the aims and expectations of the Exhibition, the roles of the students, teachers and parents and any questions you may have.

Tuesday the 14th of February 8.30 -9.30 in the ISU library. See you all then!

Gary Herbison, Liz Covington, Mags Faber

The Mongolian State Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet

February

- 4TH 5 pm "GENGHIS KHAN" OPERA BY B. SHARAV
5TH 5 pm "SWAN LAKE" BALLET BY P. I. TCHAIKOVSKY
11TH 5 pm "CARMEN" OPERA BY G. BIZET

12ND 5 pm "THREE DRAMATIC CHARACTERS" OPERA BY B.DAMDINSUREN AND
B.SMIRNOV
18TH 5 pm "SPARTAK" BALLET BY A. KHACHATURIAN
19TH 5 pm "SPARTAK" BALLET BY A. KHACHATURIAN

Address: East side of Sukhbaatar Square
Contact Person: Otgonjargal (Manager-English Speaker)
Tel: 99024933
Contact Person: Altantsetseg (Cashier)
Tel: 70110389

For more information <http://www.opera-ballet.mn/>

Selengemurun E

The school-wide community liaison coordinator