Welcome to the May edition of the ISH Newsletter, with the latest news, updates and stories from International School of Hellerup.

In this issue, Mr Asanovski writes about how we at ISH strive to provide the highest quality education to our students; Ms Keenoy announces the winning “Edible Books” and the winning classes in the Read-a-Thon.

In the Primary School News section, we get to read about the recent Student Led Conferences and learn more about professional development in the PYP, and in the Secondary School News section, Ms Pedersen shares fantastic photos from the recent Core Week trips in Copenhagen, Amsterdam and Barcelona as well as student reflections from the MYP 4 practicum/ work experience week.

This, and much more, in this month’s newsletter!
How we strive to provide the highest quality of education to our students.

In the previous newsletter I wrote about our school’s mission statement: “to provide the highest quality education in a student-centred environment by empowering individuals to fulfil their human potential to become purposeful life-long learners and responsible global citizens.” In this edition I will explain further how we at ISH strive to provide the highest quality of education to our students.

All schools strive to offer a high quality of education since this is the primary goal that schools have. In our strategic plan we have a number of goals to achieve under the section “academic excellence”. We are constantly reviewing our strategic plan and aligning the decisions that we make to ensure that the goals are met.

The responsibility of the leadership team is to meet the goals, but when it comes to this section of the strategic plan we know that leadership does not have a direct impact on student learning. The school leadership team has an indirect impact on student learning via the teachers (Kenneth Lethwood and Karen Seashore Louis, Linking leadership to student learning, 2012). It is the role of leadership to create an environment where teachers see themselves as leaders and feel that they are an important part of the school and can impact the direction the school is heading towards.

At ISH we involve teachers in decision making processes and have established an excellent collaboration amongst all staff (ISH staff survey, April 2018). I am very pleased to write that we have received very positive results from a survey we did with ISH faculty. It is clear that staff at ISH feel that they belong to the school, are happy to be a part of the team and feel that we have a very good working environment. This is a very important part and a solid foundation for a school in terms of offering a high quality of education. I will not go into details and explain each and every step we take to further improve the high quality of education we are offering but I would like to mention a few things and note that I am always open to have a dialogue with anyone from our school community regarding this topic.

Professional Development (PD) for Staff.
In order to deliver a good curriculum, we are investing largely on professional development for all staff members. We have had several whole school PD days, we have sent teachers on IBO workshops and other workshop and we have increased the times for teacher collaboration so that we have our own ISH professional learning communities (department meetings, grade level meetings etc.)

IBO action plan review
When we were accredited by the IBO for all the three IB programmes we are offering (PYP, MYP and DP) we received a report with commendations and recommendations. We are constantly reviewing this document and updating it so that we will be prepared for the IBO visit that will take place in 2021.

More individualized support
We have improved our learning support and have plans in place to further improve it next school year so that students who need more individualized support can receive this to better be suited to cope with the different programs.
**ASCP News**

**Ms Elana Thoren**  
ASCP Coordinator

**Introduction**
I am very excited and honored to cover for Ms. Chiara while she is away on maternity leave and welcoming her second baby boy into the world! I have truly enjoyed being a part of the ISH staff over the last year and am thrilled to get the chance to take on this new role. Please do not hesitate to contact me at ethoren@ish.dk if you have any questions and I am looking forward to working with all of you!

**Family Update**
Many of our ASCP families have been regularly logging in to check the latest photos on our news feed and have updated their student’s information. If you have not signed up for Family yet, please do so as we send important messages and information through Family regarding field trips and other activities happening in ASCP. Also, please don’t forget to update your child’s profile with any possible useful information about contacts, dietary, and medical needs. Pick up details can be updated after 2:20 pm when your child is signed into ASCP for the day. If you still have issues logging in, please contact me at ethoren@ish.dk and we will fix it!

**2018 Summer Programme Registration is open!**
The 2018 summer programme registration is now open on our school website! Care and Camp programmes are offered from June 25th-August 10th. We are offering many interesting camp weeks such as Dance, Science, Disney, Arts, ESL…and more! There is a 10% off early bird discount if you register by May 15th, so make sure you catch this deal! Please go to ISH.dk/Summer to register.

**ASCP Cherry Blossom Trip**
On April 25th, Mr. Pune and Mr. Daniel took a group of students to Bispebjerg Kirkegård for Science Club to see the cherry blossoms. They discussed the cherry trees and flowering, saw the many blossoms, and then stopped by a park before heading back to school.
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF HELLERUP

SUMMER PROGRAMMES

June 25 - August 10, 2018

Join us this summer for a fun-filled, active and engaging time of learning and adventure!

OPEN TO AGES 3-12

For full details, visit: ish.dk/summer

The Summer Programme registration is open! Care and Camp programmes are offered from June 25th-August 10th. The programmes are open to ISH students as well as students from other schools who would like to experience learning in an English-speaking environment. If you have family visiting with young children or friends in the area that attend a different school, they are welcome as well! Click on the image above to read more about the summer programmes and register.
PTA News

Ms. Karolina MacAulay
PTA Coordinator

Edible Book Day
A big thank you to all the parents that volunteered at the Edible Book Day on April 23rd. The day went very smoothly, and this was largely thanks to the many parents who turned up on the day and helped set up the many wonderful entries, supervise PYP students, cut up and serve the cakes at the bake sale and tidy up after the event.

May PTA meeting
The number of participants at the May PTA meeting was very low. To those that couldn't make it but would like to know what was discussed, the meeting minutes are now published here.

The next PTA meeting will take place on Monday, June 4th from 8:30-9:30. I am aware that the following day, Tuesday, June 5th, is a school holiday and I hope that this will not affect the number of participants. If you would like to attend the June PTA meeting, please check if you are available on June 4th and if not, please send me a quick note at pta@ish.dk. If many parents are not able to attend on June 4th, I will try to reschedule the meeting.

Mother’s Day Celebration, May 9th
The PTA will arrange an informal coffee morning to celebrate mother’s day on Wednesday, May 9th before and after morning drop-off time (approximately 8:15-9:00 am). If the weather is nice, the coffee morning will be held in the area outside the main entrance of the school. We hope that many of you will be able to stay for a while on that day to grab a coffee or tea and a breakfast snack. If you would like to help with the preparations, please add your name to this list or email me at pta@ish.dk.

PTA End of Year Flea Market
The PTA will organise a flea market at the upcoming PYP End of Year Celebration in the afternoon on June 8th. This is a great opportunity for families leaving Denmark (and families staying!) to sell some things that they no longer need. Toys and children's clothing are especially welcome. The school will set up tables for the flea market that can be rented at a low cost (the price is yet to be confirmed but will be in the 20-50 kr price range). This is not a fundraiser - families/parents keep the proceeds from whatever they sell. If you would like to participate, please add your name to this list or email me at pta@ish.dk.
**Library Corner**

Ms. Andrée Keenoy  
School Librarian

---

**Edible Book Day**

There was a fantastic turnout for the Edible Book Day on April 23rd. It was very difficult to pick the winners among the many excellent “edible books”. On the next page, you can view a gallery of all the winning entries!

Students entered into the exhibition space through Alice in Wonderland’s rabbit hole to be greeted by the Mad Hatter and parent volunteer dressed up as play cards. The exhibition was followed by a bake sale that generated over 3000 DKK during that will be donated to a Diploma Programme CAS project at the Mari-fiki orphanage in Kenya. A huge thank you to parent Ellen Kjerkegaard who made the flowers, the rabbit hole, the sign and other decorations and Neda Blythman for the Mad Hatters hat and the lovely signs. Several other parents worked really hard all day to make this happen. Thank you also to all the participants. There are still some empty dishes and books waiting to be collected in the library.

**Read-a-Thon**

Students did really great in the recent Read-a-Thon. The winning class in the lower PYP was 2B with a total read of 115 hours and upper PYP winning class was 5B with a total read time of 823 hours and 5 minutes! In MYP/DP, the winning class in the upper MYP/DP was MYP 4 with a total read of 22,336 pages. The winning class in lower MYP was MYP1A with a fantastic total read of 47,752 pages.

Both events were meant to inspire a love of reading. They were a success and we hope to repeat both Edible Books and Read a-Thon next year. If Edible Books didn’t tickle your taste buds for succulent books, try our new catalogue in the INTRAS section of our webpage.

But beware because, as Diane Duane said, “Reading one book is like eating one potato chip...”
Edible Book Day Awards

Cutest Contribution!
Luca in PYP KA

Most Detailed Contribution!
Caterina in PYP 1A

Scariest Contribution!
June in PYP 3

Most Inventive Contribution!
Hector in PYP 5

Most Mysterious Contribution!
Kip in PYP 4a
Nellie in PYP 1a

Most Wonderful Contribution!
Nell in PYP 2b
Oscar in PYP 4b
Cyra in Pre-K3
Edible Book Day Awards

Best Name: Philosopher’s Scone
Tristan in PYP 4a

Laziest Contribution
Mr Atanasovski
Ms Keenoy

Most Creative and Most Revolting Contribution
Ms Howard

Public Award: 3rd Prize!
Isabel in PYP5
Harry Potter

Public Award: 2nd Prize!
Riley in PYP2A
Pinkalicious

Public Award: 1st Prize!
Leanne in MYP2B
Hunger Games
Primary School News

Mr Stef Fleet
Primary School Principal

Ms Joanna Okolowicz
IB Coordinator for PYP

Positive School Culture, Positive Learning Environment

“When students value learning in open-ended opportunities, the school culture is representative of positive learning habits. When staff members value other staff members, parents and students, learning opportunities are rich and meaningful. When parents value the school’s approach to supporting their children, school culture is magnetic. It’s a commitment from all parties to want to join together in developing an environment that is the right place for everyone.”

This is from a recent education article (ASCD, Dec. 2017), on how ‘Investing a Positive School Culture Creates a Positive Learning Environment’. This is the school culture that we hope to foster, and something which we believe is embodied in our Student Led Conferences.

Student Led Conferences

Thanks for the wonderful participation at our Student Led Conferences! This event celebrates their journey through the year and empowers them by putting them at the centre of their learning.

We are glad so many of you visited the Danish, Music and PE classrooms for the PYP Subject Open Houses, a wonderful new addition to the event to help explore all aspects of your child’s learning at school. We welcome your feedback on the day (email sfleet@ish.dk and jokolowicz@ish.dk).

Above and below: Students sharing their knowledge at the Student Led Conferences.
New School Year Organisation for the PYP

Here is some information about the start of the new year. Different school systems (and even international schools) do things differently, so we want to be clear with the plan, which has been the same the last few years:

- A general welcome letter will be available on the school website by June (per grade level), describing the learning objectives in general, materials needed, and how to prepare for the new academic year. Teachers are not yet finalized for next school year.

- Grades with two classes are re-balanced (mixed) each year. This is to support each child's needs. We aim to gain as equal a balance as possible regarding class size, gender, academic needs, special needs, EAL and positive social dynamics. The school leadership team, Admissions coordinator, teachers and support staff all participate in this process.

- Unfortunately we can’t guarantee any requests for specific teachers or other wishes, although we always try to listen. Any such requests must be sent to the homeroom teacher within the next 2 weeks. We do offer a consistent experience for a grade (curriculum, learning environment, subjects, opportunities, materials, field trips, etc), regardless of the teacher.

- We can only finalise the class lists a few days before school starts. There are many last minute changes due to unforeseen circumstances, and this affects the class lists.

You receive an email a few days prior to the start of school informing you of your child’s homeroom teacher.

- There is a Parent Information Evening sometime in the first two weeks, where the homeroom teachers provide information and allow time for questions and answers.

- The start of the year can be anxious time for parents and students. Teachers aim to communicate clearly, provide reassurance, and make it a smooth process for all.

Afternoon Curriculum Workshop for Teachers

Last week PYP teachers participated in a mini Professional Development on Teaching and Learning through inquiry. Jamé, Jenny and Joanna shared their experience and learning about teaching through inquiry. Teachers had an opportunity to clarify their understanding of what it really means to use an inquiry based approach to teaching and learning in the primary classroom. We examined the essential elements of inquiry and how these elements can be ‘brought to life’ through quality planning, inquiry cycle phases, use of materials, choice of teaching strategies and interactions with students. Teachers have already started sharing examples of inquiry process and curiosity in their classrooms. Here is an example:

In Music class, PYP 1 students inquired into string instruments that make sounds. Students got curious and decided to investigate if pulling a big rubber band could make a sound. They found a bucket to make a soundbox and checked if it helped making the sound better! Are you curious what happened? Ask PYP 1B students! If you have examples of inquiry and curiosity at home, please share with us!

### Upcoming PYP events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>PYP Olympic Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>PYP Exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 8</td>
<td>PYP End of Year Celebration (approx. 14:00 - 17:00) *** Date Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>End of Year Day Trips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>Last Day of School (12:00 noon dismissal). Reports released.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Secondary School News

Ms Monika Pedersen
Secondary School Principal

Last month, Core Week took place and the students headed off to various locations.

MYP 1 and MYP 2 were in Copenhagen
MYP 3 visited Amsterdam
MYP 4 do not go on Core Week. Instead, they do practicum, which is a work experience week. This is a Danish tradition, and we like it as it helps students make choices about their academic pathway. We believe it helps students start thinking about their DP choices and it helps them see the importance of the final year of MYP, MYP 5, and the Personal Project.

The students need to find their own placements, but they are helped to write a resume and they are prepared for an interview. It is often the first time students have been exposed to the world of work and it is a real eye opener. Below and on the following pages are a few experiences that confirm the importance of this week in their lives.

**Francesco’s work and Story**

I worked on the designs of metro stations, making sure that they are all valid, updated, and safe. If not, I would issue it to the TCO. I also checked all doors, keys, and escape routes in all stations to make sure they were acceptable. Finally, I ensured the understanding of what rooms were in the property and visited stations to make inspections of those rooms.

**What did I learn?**

It was hard working and to keep working until I finished the goal of the day. I think it was interesting. It showed me how much harder I need to work!

**Supervisor’s comment**

He has done a very good and useful job for the OHS department. His main activity have been to update all the site layouts (22 different station and with different levels) so they show the ASTS area, witch kind of doors installed and the escape routes. He has worked with the contractual documents and he has also been on site. He has been very interested in all the activities.


**Camillie’s work and Story**

The main objective that I had was to create a sculpture out of plaster, inspired by something from nature. I only thought that this was gonna be around 5 hours a day painting by myself and my supervisor showing me some techniques to improve my artistic skills, both digitally and traditionally. This was not it at all. Instead, it was staying 11 hours every day from 9 till 8 working, learning and improving myself as an artist and a person.

**What did I learn?**

This practicum has made me realize so many things, such as the creative process, the mind of an artist and even links to the health of oneself when doing something that you love day in and day out since it doesn’t feel like working anymore more-so a passion. My school aspirations have always been quite high, but this experience has pushed them farther than I ever believed, because even though my work experience was artistic and not all academic, it has helped me recognize that to have this life in the future I will need to work harder than ever, as I still wish to maintain a scholarly career but want to make this particular work a part of my life as well.

This week has been so valuable to me as a learner and a person and helped me realize countless things that I never even thought of before. What you get out of this week is obviously directly linked to the line of work that you choose to try out, and I believe that I picked the best one that I could and I will remember this work experience for years to come.

**Supervisor’s comment**

We had two stages: the analog and the digital. This was shown through the main objective, which was to, in co-operation, create and present a sculpture in plaster. Our wish to make this was fully fulfilled and met the highest of expectations. My trainee has been very susceptible of the week’s theoretical part, which has been everything from quantum physics to different approaches to the creative process and artistic mind.
Yash’s work and Story
I filled my days with a lot of interesting activities, and I was able to learn a lot about what goes on behind-the-scenes in airlines.

What did I learn?
I learnt about myself that I can catch on things quite easily, because it didn’t take me long to understand the different roles and jobs of the people in the office. I easily learnt a lot of details about what my supervisor did and how he did it.

I realized that I am not always punctual (although I already knew this before). However, being in an office requires that one be on time, so although I was 10 mins late on Monday, I made sure not be late for the rest of the days. In terms of what I want to do in the future, I realized that working in the management department of an airline isn’t boring, and actually quite fun. So maybe working in an airline could be a future job for me...

I think practicum week was a great experience and I liked it so much that I wanted it to last for another week. Practicum week surely shows students how real jobs are, and all in all, I’d say that practicum week is definitely a tradition that should be continued.

Supervisor’s comment
Yash was exposed to many things such as reservation, the complaints procedure, check in, and administrative tasks. He was very quick to learn and interested. He asked a lot of good questions and worked hard to study our website and come with suggestions to improve it. We hope he enjoyed his experience.

The MYP 5 travelled to Barcelona
The DP students worked at school. They had a special programme which dealt with specific aspects of their programme such as the Group 4 Project for Science, the Extended Essay, and The-ory of Knowledge. The students also had an opportunity to have fun and grow as a team by a Masterchef type Bake off!
Good school-parent collaboration is essential for each student’s individual success. This is something that is rooted in my beliefs and drives me in my profession. It is with a sad heart I now bid all parents in ISH farewell and auf Wiedersehen! It has always been a true pleasure to collaborate with each and every one of you to make sure that we make this school as good as possible for your individual child or the students in the MYP. This month only, I have had three workshops with parents. The PYP parents’ introduction to the MYP and MYP assessment procedures and reporting. Moreover, every week I meet parents and students on an individual basis to support successful schooling. You are all so very kind and good communicators.

It is not only hard to say goodbye to parents, some of the students have followed me through my journey in ISH. My very first advisory group is now already in MYP 4, and our trip to Skagen is a memory I will always carry with me. In my current MYP 5 advisory group, I taught some of the students my first year coming in to the school, and it is lovely to see the wonderful individuals they have all grown up to be, now ready to leave the MYP and move on to DP.

However, before the year is over the MYP 5 students in Language and Literature class will sit the first IBO E-assessment we conduct in ISH. The have competed all the personal projects and Eportfolios in English already, and it has been sent off to the IBO for external moderation and grading. Four years ago when I started working in ØIS, we introduced the first cohort of students to the MYP 5 and closed the MYP circle for the first time. The school has developed so much in these four years and become a fantastic IB continuum school. It has been wonderful to see so many students transitioning in and out of school, or staying with ISH.

I would like to thank the whole school community, students, parents, teachers, administration and support, management and board for four fantastic years that have taught me so much and that I’m very grateful to have received the opportunity to be a part of.

Kind regards,

Anna

Field trip in my first year at ØIS/ISH with what is now the MYP 4 class.