

The International School of Hout Bay Newsletter

Issue 6

24 February 2011

Primary School News

PYP Workshop Feedback

At the PYP workshop held last week we ended with a few questions that I know to be of broader interest.

What does teaching look like in the PYP and how do teachers not revert to chalk and talk or go overboard on brainstorming?

Teaching the PYP embraces all best practice, in so doing, there is very little new to the approach. It is based on sound research and it works. The staff are very aware of the importance of using a variety of teaching strategies as children learn in different ways. This is guided by the formative assessments that are conducted, which assess how the children learn and if they are able to apply the skills learnt. In the PYP classroom you will at times see children learning by rote, i.e. time table and bonds or spelling, but more importantly, you will also see them experimenting to make sure that the patterns they have learnt work in reality. There will also be times when the teacher teaches a formal lesson as this is the best way to get some information across and to learn some skills, i.e. handwriting or scientific process, or how to use a computer or a type of apparatus. There will also be times when the children work either in groups or individually to produce a piece of research or work, creatively or by following clear guidelines.

The continuum is not 'always to never' but 'more often to less often'. The teachers plan collaboratively. They are constantly extended through professional development throughout the year. The International Baccalaureate insists on this training and regularly reviews the evidence that their standards and practices are met.

How are religion and politics handled?
As an international and PYP school we believe that religious beliefs and political opinions are formed in the context of the child's home. We embrace the different cultures and beliefs and support our

families in celebrating the various religious festivals to try and give the children an overview and understanding of different belief systems from around the world. We encourage the children to share what they and their families believe and celebrate. This is part of the unit of inquiry – HOW we express ourselves and WHO we are - often form the basis for these investigations.

Politics is covered in HOW we organise ourselves and is dealt with in age-appropriate ways. The Year 6s, for example, have been studying different forms of government and the impact this has on how people live within the different systems – from Democracy through to Communism and Dictatorships. They are encouraged to question and find out more about the different systems, their history and why, how and if they work and forming opinions based on sound research from a good variety of text and information sources.

I will be addressing the following two questions in next week's Newsletter.
What Teacher /Parent forum exists to continually improve or simply communicate or feedback both ways?
What simple approach can we apply to our interaction with our children to reinforce the learner profile and PYP principles?

Attached to this newsletter you will find a copy of some of the work the parents did at the workshop on reflecting what a Parent would look like if trying to model the Learner Profile. Please take a look and let me know if you would like to add anything to the list.

Best wishes and thank you for your continued support.

Denise Michel



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Primary School News cont...

Gift of Love



Charity Outreach to iKhaya le Themba, Mandela Park

February 2011

As part of our outreach into the Hout Bay community this term, the ISHB students were asked to bring 'gifts of love' into school. These were to be donated to iKhaya le Themba, an aftercare facility in Mandela Park, for children affected by HIV/AIDS. This act of kindness coincided with our celebration of giving and receiving love on Valentine's Day.

These 'gifts of love' comprised of second-hand children's books and foodstuffs, i.e. flour, sugar, tea and coffee, tinned foods, pasta, etc. The response was overwhelming!

Thank you so much to those families who gave so freely. Your gifts were much appreciated. We were met at iKhaya le Themba with very enthusiastic singing and many heartfelt 'thank-yous'. Your gifts will go a long way in providing a stimulating and nourishing environment for these children.



Room', where they were able to see and touch various stuffed animals as well as artefacts such as the famous bow and arrow used by the San people. It was a very exciting, worthwhile experience and great fun was had by all.



Parents visit Early Years

This term Early Years 2 has been delving into the world of *Family and Friends*. As part of our learning experience we invited the children's mums and dads to come to class and share with the children what they do for a living. Our guest speakers did an amazing job opening the children's minds to the *world of work*. We are so lucky at ISHB to have such an array of interesting and accomplished parents, from doctors, housewives, BBC reporters, training consultants, make-up artists to helicopter engineers, entrepreneurs, political consultants and nurses. Each parent went to a lot of trouble, bringing in visual aids and even small gifts for the children. The Early Years team would like to thank all those parents who took the time out of their busy schedules to come and spend some valuable time with the Early Years 2 classes.



Dates to Diarise

Open Day

We will be having an Open Day on Wednesday, 23 March 2011. It will be advertised in our local paper but the best way of promoting our school is through word-of-mouth. With this in mind, if you have friends or family with children of school-going age who might be interested to come and hear more about our school and the International Baccalaureate Curriculum, please ask them to join us on this day. There will be tours at 09.00 and 11.00 with a presentation at 10.00 by Andy Wood and Denise Michel and a number of our senior students will be talking about their school.

Afrikaans Day Change to Human Rights Day in South Africa

Mrs Kruger now also teaches at Amblestone School on Thursdays and Fridays, so is unable to run our South African Cultural Day as was planned for Friday, 4 March. This event will now be moved to **Tuesday, 22 March**.

This is straight after the Human Rights Day public holiday and will tie in quite well.

You will receive further information about the programme and what the children will be doing closer to the time.

Wednesday, 2 March

- U11 Cricket Match
vs Sea Point @ Home

Friday, 4 March

- Outdoor Education
Years 5&6

Monday, 7 March

- U10 Cricket Match
vs Eisleben @ Home

Wednesday, 9 March

- U11 Cricket Match
vs Reddam Atlantic - Away

From the Classroom

Year 4 Outing to The South African Museum



The Year 4s are busy with an exciting unit where they have been learning about the different cultures

of South Africa. Last Friday we visited the Iziko S.A Museum in Cape Town, where the class had a lesson and tour of the San and Khoi cultures. It was fantastic for them to see the lifelike models of the San and Khoi people as well as some of the real artefacts and materials they use for hunting and gathering. The children had great fun in the 'Touch

Primary School News cont...

The Sports Page

Outdoor Education

Last Friday children from the Outdoor Education club went snorkelling. We visited the little cove called Cosy Bay, along Victoria Road toward Camps Bay, where the children kitted up with wetsuits, goggles and snorkels and took to the waters. Unfortunately the water was a little more murky than previous visits to this bay, but it was not going to slow this group of adventure-seeking children down one bit. We all explored the little bay with its cold water and the murkiness added a little fear of the unknown to the experience. The small swell rolling in and out of the bay rocked us back and forth and as we acclimatised, the children felt more and more at home. The club's next adventure and the last one for this term will be a hike up Bokkemanskloof to Skoorsteenkop, perhaps the toughest of the HBH5 peaks.



Cricket

On Monday our U10 cricket team played, what was for many their first cricket match, against a team representing Fish Hoek Primary. The Hout Bay boys went in to bat and the first wicket was lost very early when the batsmen tried to take a single which resulted in a run out. As the nerves settled, the boys seemed to get going a little and were scoring some runs to the great delight of the crowd (possibly the biggest ever at an ISHB cricket match). Coach Gavin Riley retired Peter Hart after he stayed in for quite a while, playing some great shots, in an attempt to give all the boys a turn to bat. Marcus Thoree also managed to stay in for a while and when Peter was eventually allowed back in to finish his batting turn, there was only one over left. Peter and Marcus saw the match through with Peter on an unbeaten 19 and Marcus an unbeaten 10 runs. Hout Bay set a target of 76 for the visiting team.

After tea the ISHB team took the ball to bowl and field, once again a nervous affair for most. Gus Farara opened the bowling and took a wicket in the first over, a perfect start for any match. Again Coach Riley wanted to give everyone a turn to have a bowl, so he worked through the field giving everyone an over, with the most successful bowlers getting one or two more. The top bowlers were Gus Farara, Peter Hart, Joshua Bearne and Daniel Bearne. Joshua and Daniel also had a spectacular run out each, both with direct hits on the wickets.

As the game progressed and wickets kept coming, the scoreboard was still ticking over, mostly from the countless extras, which is generally the case in U10 cricket. When Daniel Bearne took the ball to bowl the last over, Fish Hoek needed 7 runs to win and they had a lucky boundary on the 4th ball. With 2 balls left, 3 runs to win when an wide ball was bowled, which took the runs needed to 2 off 2. Dot ball, 2 runs, 1 ball and we all thought we had it in the bag, with all the fielders on the boundary to stop the two runs, but the sneaky Fish Hoek batsmen stole

a run after the ball 'snuck' past the wicket keeper and scored the single run needed to draw the match. A very unlikely result for a cricket match but a good match with a fair result none-the-less.

Well done to our boys for their fantastic show of sportsmanship – you made us all proud.

Next week the U11s take on Sea Point Primary at Swan Cottage.



Inter-House Swimming Gala

On Friday, 18 March, we will be having the Senior Primary Inter-House Swimming Gala from 15:00 to 16:00. This event is not compulsory for participation or attendance, however, all children in the swimming club are expected to participate. Other children who are confident swimmers will be invited in the coming weeks to join the gala's fun events in order to represent their house in the pool. More information on this will follow in the coming weeks.

Cricket World Cup

Children may come to school wearing something in support of their team on a Friday for the duration of the Cricket World Cup.

This is not a 'civvies day' but merely an addition to their uniform or replacement of an item, e.g. hat or shirt or scarf or badge. This is not compulsory.

High School News

International Cuisine Evening

Tickets for the International Cuisine Evening, which will be held on **Friday, 4 March** at 7:00pm, go on Sale from Monday. The evening promises to be huge fun. Please get your ticket soon to avoid disappointment. More details to follow.



CIA Activities

A group of students is busy completing their Level 1 First Aid course as part of their Outdoor Education programme. Pictured here is Stacey Plasket (IG1 – Year 10) giving her patient the kiss of life!



Gala

The swimmers will be taking part in a Gala on **Tuesday, 1 March**, which will be held at Cannon's Creek. Swimmers will depart by bus at 2:45pm from Riverside Terrace.

Inter-House One-Act Plays

Please diarise **Thursday, 24 March**. This evening is our annual **ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL**. The four houses, Penzance, Hillcrest, Rhodes and Tarragona, will battle it out on the stage for house points and will ensure that you are well entertained! Students are working hard at preparing for the One-Act Play Festival for



the end of this term.

InterSEK Ecuador Deadline

All interested parents are urged to confirm and return the signed forms to Ms Marnitz by latest tomorrow, Friday 25 February, as the SEK deadline is tomorrow.



Summer CIA Photographs

Due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to reschedule the date with our photographer, which was arranged for the last day of term. We will be now be taking individual, team and class photographs on **Monday, 14 March**.

Anyone interested in ordering photographs for the Summer Season must please complete and return the order form, with payment attached, to their child's tutor by Monday, 7 March. Please look out for the order form which will be emailed to parents shortly.

Late Student Arrivals

There are a number of students who are consistently arriving late for school each morning. Parents are reminded that students need to be at school **BEFORE** 8:00am. Tutor class commences promptly at 8:00am. Students who are not in tutor by then are marked down as late. Please assist us by ensuring that you drop your child off by 7:55am, at the latest.