



PYP SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ATHENS

Message from the PYP Coordinator

Dear ISA Primary Families,

I would like to welcome you all, to the new academic year, here at ISA. For everyone, 2020 has been a unique year and one to remember. We are dealing with a global pandemic that has affected us in many ways. Children have proven that they can adjust to any new situation with the guidance and support of each other and the adults in their lives.

In the Primary School we are all working hard to develop global and international minded learners while trying to instil our students the values of the IB Learner Profiles; to understand them, make a difference with one another, our school, and within our community.

The 'Primary School Newsletter' is a bi-monthly communication tool that reflects some of the remarkable work and activities our students are achieving and participating in within the school community. The goal of the newsletter is for you and your child(ren), to engage in discussions surrounding learning experiences that have occurred within the school setting.

Enjoy!

Athanasia Savvas

Message from the Principal

Dear ISA Primary Families,

While our school year was certainly off to a "different" start, it was definitely a good one! The first few weeks have gone well. Our Primary students have adjusted well to the health and safety procedures put in place related to COVID-19. I am so proud of all of them!

On October 23rd, we had our Student Council elections. This year we had a record of 39 nominees who demonstrated explicit behavior and gave inspiring speeches. Our display area on the ground floor was filled with amazingly creative and colorful posters as you will see in the images. Congratulations to all students who got elected and to all the rest for the great

responsibility and respect they showed during the election period.

A week later, on October 30th, we had our Halloween celebration. Our school filled with colorful costumes, Jack-O-Lanterns, and creative artwork. It was a day of fun and joy for all of us!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Primary families for supporting our students during our online classes. Your continuous support is much appreciated, as well as necessary. I strongly believe that "It Takes Team Work to Make a Dream Work." This is our moto in ISA Primary for this challenging

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year. We can only get passed the storm if we stay open-minded, supportive to each other and work closely together.

Sincerely,
Nancy Kaza



Profile Attributes: 'Caring' and 'Inquirer'

This year, to bring our students to a better understanding of the learner profile attributes, we are introducing one profile word a month into our Personal and Social Education lessons (PSE) and into our curriculum (PSE). The IBO states that, "The attributes of the learner profile represent a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that encompass intellectual, personal, emotional and social growth. The development and demonstration of these attributes are foundational to students becoming internationally minded, active and caring community members who respect themselves, others and the world around them." ©International Baccalaureate Organization 2013 Our aim in the primary school is to develop these attributes in our learners and for them to create a better and more peaceful world. The profile word for the month of

September was CARING and for October, INQUIRER.

Caring was the profile word of September, as students began the new academic year. They practiced showing empathy, compassion and respect while making a difference in their lives and other's lives. All students adjusted to new routines due to the pandemic, and some to a new school environment. This transition allowed aspects of the profile word to be evident in everyday interactions.

In October, students reflected the attribute of 'Inquirers' as they delved into their first unit of inquiry. They inquired into the unit central idea and lines of inquiry, recalled their prior knowledge, and developed questions that would guide their inquiry throughout the unit.

Teachers and students in all subject areas focused on incorporating the profile word into their teachings, everyday interactions, and curriculum.

Some examples of activities relating to the profile word CARING included, students writing down ways a person can be caring towards one another (grade 2). In French (grades 4 and 5), the students conjugated the verb caring, and students 6B created "Caring Jars" where they placed notes reflecting different ways they were caring over a period of a week.

For inquirer, students formulated questions to drive their inquiry, and researched aspects of their unit.

Below is a table identifying the month and the corresponding profile attribute for the 2020-2021 academic year.

PYP Learner Profiles

As an International Baccalaureate Continuum School running the Primary Years Program, we strive to "...develop internationally minded, and responsible global citizens of the world. Knowing and understanding the profile words, helps to develop life-long learners of the world."



Month	Profile Word of the Month
September	Caring
October	Inquirers
November	Knowledgeable
December	Thinkers
January	Communicators
February	Principled
March	Open-Minded
April	Balanced
May	Risk-takers
June	Reflective

Student Council Elections: Promoting Student's Voice and Choice!

Congratulations to our newly elected 2020-2021 Student Council. Students in grades 4-6 elected their representatives after an extended week of campaigning.

Congratulations to all nominees for being risk-takers, respectful and communicators throughout the election process. Your dedication towards this year's elections was commendable.

This year's student council representatives are:

Grade 4: Melina Christodouloupoulou 4A

Dimitris Georgoudis 4B
Faris Abu Ata 4B (sub)

Grade 5: Sarandes Almyroudis 5A

Dimitris Daskalakis 5C
Tatiana Daoula 5C (sub)
Kamile Maciulyte 5B (sub)

Grade 6: John Georgoudis 6B
Darina Shopova 6C
Nicolas Livanos 6A (sub)



Parents' Corner

In the past, parents have approached teachers inquiring information regarding the learner profile words, what they are and ways that they can incorporate them in their daily interactions with their children.

Below is a list of activities you and your child(ren) can do to reinforce the learner profile words, Caring and Inquirer.

Caring

- Become a role model for your child. A child hears and sees things, even when you do not think they are. Model behaviors that you would like to see your child demonstrate all the time.
- Even though there are restrictions due to the pandemic, think about how your family can get involved

with organizations within your community.

- Show that you care about the environment and the world around you. Conserve, reduce, reuse and/or recycle. This helps children to care about the environment and the future of our planet.

Inquirer:

- Reinforce inquiry by listening actively to what your child is asking you and finding possible answers together. Use resources like the internet, interview someone that can make a connection to the inquiry, etc.
- Visit an online bookstore and persuade your child to buy books relating to their

inquiries or interests. This will promote further knowledge or understanding of a topic.

- "Surf the Web" together. Brainstorm topics you and your child are interested in learning more about and look up information together.

Reading Corner

Here is a list of books connecting to the learner profiles 'Caring' and 'Inquirer'. These books may also be available online as PDF'S, and on YouTube for our younger learners as read alouds.



Early Childhood/Lower Elementary:

- Lily's Purple Plastic Purse, by Kevin Henkes
- The Giving Tree, Shel Silverstein
- Yertle the Turtle, Dr. Seuss
- The Grouchy Ladybug, Eric Carle

Middle/Upper Elementary:

- Pay It Forward, by Catherine Ryan Hyde
- Those Shoes, by Maribeth Boelts
- Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White

Upcoming Events

November 2020

- Nov. 19th- Tag's Day
- Nov.27th- End of Term 1



PYP in Action



Figure 1: Grade 1 Transdisciplinary Theme: Who We Are. Students created self-portraits.



Figure 2: Grade 6 German; Caring around the world



Figure 3: Grade 1 Art, Transdisciplinary Theme: Sharing the Planet. Students reused magazines to create the initial letter of their name.



Figure 4: Grade 4-Math and Science Interconnection to Unit: 'Humans Have a Direct Impact on the World's Oceans. Students created a graph identifying the amount of saltwater in comparison to fresh water around the world.



Figure 5a: Grade 2 Connection to Unit Art Activity. Students inquired into shadows and the relationship between shadows and figures.



Figure 5b: Grade 2 Connection to Unit Art Activity. Students inquired into shadows and the relationship between shadows and figures.



Figure 6: Grade 5A Drama: Profile of the Month: Caring. We applaud at the end of performances to show our fellow actors that we care.

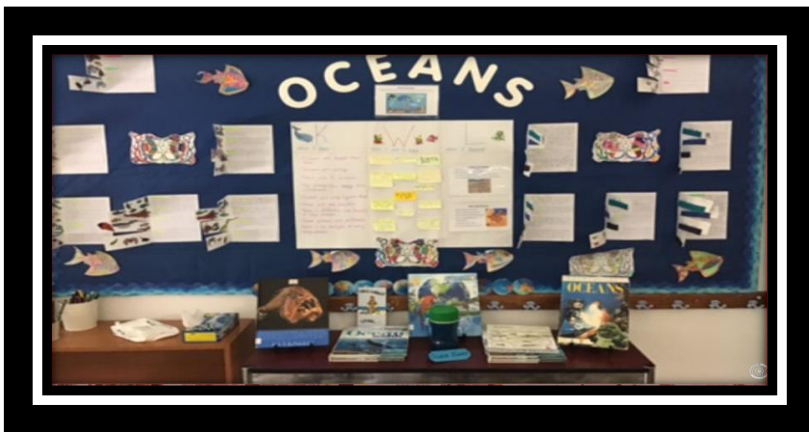


Figure 7: Grade 4;Unit of Inquiry Central Idea: Human actions have a direct impact on the world's ocean. In October, students in 4th grade showed they were inquirers as they explored the ocean and ways humans impact ocean life and habitats. Specifically, students discussed, brainstormed, shared ideas/solutions, and made personal connections from their past experiences, as they inquired more into how they can positively impact the ocean environment and world around us.



Figure 8: Now more than ever, we realize how important it is to keep our hands clean and follow all the necessary procedures to protect ourselves and stay healthy. In connection to learning about the scientific method, this valuable life skill was demonstrated to Grade 5 students by conducting the "Bread Experiment". Students applied hand sanitizer, soap, water as well as hand sprays to their hands. They then touched sliced bread and placed the slices into individual zip-lock bags. Over the course of a month, the students observed the changes which occurred to the bread. The results were impressive, and the students were able to connect to the importance of personal hygiene through inquiry and the scientific method.



Figure 9: Grade 4 Science "Oil Spill" Experiment relating to the line of inquiry "The impact of humans on the ocean environment."

Halloween Parade



Primary School Pumpkin Patch



Student Council Election Posters

