

# The Weekly

News from the International School of Havana

## From the Director

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Michael Lees | Director



### Soccer Tournament

Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate with us last week forcing us to postpone The Soccer Tournament. Stay tuned for news on an alternative date.

### International Food Fair

By all accounts, this year's PTA sponsored Food Fair was a magnificent event. As I was completing my accreditation visit in Spain, I was unable to attend. I would like to sincerely thank the PTA and all our community members who contributed to making this a great success.

### Drama Trip to Peru

As part of our school's mission and vision, we want to provide opportunities for our students to experience the world outside the classroom. Eleven students and two teachers are currently in Peru on an exciting trip at an international school event focused on drama. I am sure the memories and friendships that will be forged during this visit will last a lifetime.

## Events Calendar

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### November 18

Shankar Painting Competition 9:00 am

### November 25

AFSC Athletics Festival

### December 1

International Cultural Festival 4:00 pm

### December 4

Winter Music Concert 5:00 pm

### December 6

PTA Executive 4:15 pm

### December 9

AFSC Tennis Tournament

### December 15

School Closed (Winter Break)

### January 8

School reopens for Term 2

# From the Secondary School

Anna Brunskill | Principal, Secondary School



## Mid-year and mock exams

As per last year, students in Grades 9 to 12 will have their mid-year and mock exams in January. There is a two-week block when all exams will take place and the schedule is as follows:

Grades 10 and 12	Monday 15 – Friday 26 January
Grade 11	Monday 15 – Friday 19 January
Grade 9	Monday 22 – Friday 26 January

Please note that Grades 9 and 11 have different dates for exams, related to when they are on Work Experience (see below!).

## Work Experience at ISH

### WHAT?

In January 2018, we will be running the first ISH 'Work Experience' week, for students in Grades 9 and 11. For those who may be new to the concept of Work Experience, it is a common practice around the world in which students of high school age undertake a week's placement with an employer.

### WHY?

In doing this, students are encouraged to start thinking about possible career paths and plans for the future. They are also learning to make a difference in unfamiliar contexts and applying their skills to new situations.

### HOW?

Our Work Experience will take place in parallel to the mid-year exams, so that students will be on work placement for one week and writing their exams in the other. The **tentative** dates are:

Grade 11	Monday 15 – Friday 19 January	EXAMS
	Monday 22 – Friday 26 January	WORK EXPERIENCE
Grade 9	Monday 15 – Friday 19 January	WORK EXPERIENCE
	Monday 22 – Friday 26 January	EXAMS

This is subject to change depending on how the placements are organised.

### WHAT DO WE NEED FROM OUR COMMUNITY?

We are on the hunt for places for our students!

A letter has gone home to all parents at ISH with information about what kind of placements are appropriate, what the expectations are of those who host students and ways in which you can help us. If you, or anyone you know, would be able to host a student for a week of meaningful work experience, please let us know by returning the form attached to this edition of the Weekly to [anna@ish.co.cu](mailto:anna@ish.co.cu).

# From the Lower School

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## Georgina Schofield | Principal, Lower School



Many thanks to everyone in the community who supported the International Food Fair on Friday evening. As always, there was plenty of delicious food thanks to the families who spent hours baking and serving, great music and loads of laughter as everyone enjoyed themselves. Thanks especially to the PTA Executive Committee for organising the event and the ISH Support Staff who stayed long after everyone else had gone to have the school clean and tidy for Monday morning.

This coming Saturday is the annual Shankar painting competition, beginning at 9:00 am. Come along and join your children painting – the competition is open to all age groups. This year, there will be an additional prize available to honour the memory of Ms Malena.

The PTA are looking for nominations from interested parents who would love to help make a difference to ISH by becoming a member of the PTA Executive Committee next year. If you are interested, please speak to a member of the current PTA Executive Committee or send an email to [pta@ish.co.cu](mailto:pta@ish.co.cu)

## Hands-On Learning!

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Grade 2 students went to a farm in Artemisa to learn about habitats. The Ortiz Toledo family invited us to their farm to see the plants, animals and their habitats; we even saw how the farmer milks the cow! They offered us a hearty lunch and showed us around the farm. We were able to observe, identify, touch and even smell different habitats! At school, we created a plan of the farm and individual students made a plan of the habitat of their choice. Their work was wonderful - a testament to the importance and value of hands-on learning!

Grade 2 students and teachers are very grateful for this experience!

## Remembering Ms Malena

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As a way to remember and celebrate the life of our art teacher Ms Malena, there will be a special award given for The Most Promising Artwork from the entries of this year's Shankar competition. The winner of this award will have their piece of art framed and displayed in the school.

# From the PTA

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## Jessica Macor | PTA Chair 2017

The parent body of the PTA Executive Committee is in office until December 31 2017.

We are now looking for new, enthusiastic volunteers to join our team next year!

The PTA organises many events throughout the academic year including; The International Food Fair, New Parents Welcome coffee, Teachers Appreciation Day, Garage Sale and Family Fun Day.

The PTA Committee plays a key role within the ISH Community linking Room Parents, parents, teachers and students.

If you would like to join our team please send an email to [pta@ish.co.cu](mailto:pta@ish.co.cu) before Thursday, November 23.

Thank you in advance for your support.

## “Find out more about the PTA Executive Committee 2018”

Friday, November 17 at 8:30 am. Coffee @ Cafetería Main Campus.

Come and meet the present PTA committee and ask questions and learn about being part of PTA committee 2018!

Looking forward to seeing you there.

## PTA International Food Fair 2017

Thank you so much to everyone for all your hard work and enthusiasm at the Food Fair last Friday. The food was delicious and the atmosphere magical!

It was great to see so many people enjoying themselves, it certainly was a wonderful evening.

All the profits have gone to the PTA book project ONE WORLD, MANY STORIES where the PTA is investing \$1500 in books for the school library, every year for 5 years.



Work Experience and Job Shadowing at ISH

If you feel you would be willing and able to host ISH students, please complete the following form and return to Ms Anna Brunskill (Secondary Principal) either in person or by email at [anna@ish.co.cu](mailto:anna@ish.co.cu), by December 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

What is your company and field of employment? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the place of employment that the student would go to? \_\_\_\_\_

What work would the student be engaged in? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the location of your place of employment? \_\_\_\_\_

How many students do you feel you could host? \_\_\_\_\_

Will fluency in Spanish be a requirement? Yes No  
If another language may be required, what is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be able to host a student for: One week (January 15-19 or 22-26)  
Two weeks (January 15-19 and 22-26)

*If you can facilitate one week, please circle the week: Jan 15-19 Jan 22-26*

You or someone at your place of employment would need to commit to:

- providing a safe, secure environment for the student/s.
- providing introductory information for the student/s you are hosting.
- finding suitable activities for a student to undertake during the work experience week.
- being available to the student, or facilitating someone else, in order to meet with them during the work experience to provide support and answer questions.
- completing a feedback form at the end of the process.

In signing this form, you confirm that you can commit to all of these things and are willing and able to host ISH students at your place of employment for their Work Experience.

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_