



# YEZARE SAMINT

## INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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### Friday, August 22: Half Day of School

Friday is a half day of school for all students. Teachers will be engaged in many professional activities on that day, such as preparing for the following week's Back to School Night. All students, except those in grade 12, should plan to leave the campus at 12:00. There will be no lunch served in the cafeteria for students that day.

### Gum-Free Campus

Parents and students are reminded that ICS is a gum-free zone! Parents, you can help by making sure your children are not chewing gum when they leave the house, and that they do not keep gum in their school bags.

### FUN CARDIOVASCULAR WORKOUT FOR ADULTS AT ICS

Want a **Cardiovascular Workout** that hits the **Ideal Target Level** without the usual grunting, groaning and huffing and puffing? Then join us for Nia classes on Tuesdays and/or Sundays!

### Classes start this Sunday, August 24!!

Nia is a high energy practice which combines movements and concepts from Yoga, Tai Chi, Tae Kwon Do, Akido, Jazz, Modern Dance and other movement forms.

Nia classes offer **total-body conditioning and cross-training for any sport or activity**. All Nia movements are adaptable and can be personalized for any level of fitness and agility. No prior training is necessary.

Tuesdays: 4:00 to 5:00 PM in the Stables (near the nurse's office behind the gym)

Sundays: 10:00 to 11:00 AM in the Stables

Price: 50 birr a class

Please contact **Brenda Lyons** if interested at: [brenda.lyons@icsaddis.edu.et](mailto:brenda.lyons@icsaddis.edu.et) or 011-371-2259

### Important Calendar Dates

Tuesday, August 26	MS Student Council Election 9:00 AM
Wednesday, August 27	Back To School Night for Gr. 1-5 at 7:00 PM in the Library
Thursday, August 28	Back to school night for Gr. 6-12 at 7:00 PM
Tuesday, September 2	Literacy Night in the Library at 7:00 PM
Friday, September 5	Welcome Back Dance (Middle School)
Monday, September 8	General Board Meeting in the Library at 7:00 PM
Tuesday, September 9	Math Night in the Library at 7:00 PM
Thursday, September 11	Ethiopian New Year (No School)
Friday, September 12	Professional Day (school closed for students)
Tuesday, September 16	College Evening Gr. 11
Friday, September 19	IB Group 4 Trip

### First Parent Volunteer Meeting

You are welcome to join the first Parent Volunteer Meeting at ICS on Monday, August 25, at 8:00 AM in the Cafeteria. Here is a great opportunity to meet each other and share ideas and thoughts in an open way for this new school year. Morning tea, coffee and refreshments will be available. Please, come and enjoy the meeting.

### Body Exercise

I teach a set of exercises and movements that strengthen the arms, waist, stomach and thighs as well as the overall body. There will be some dancing, stretching and deep relaxation focusing on breathing. I have been teaching for 20 years to groups of women, actors, bus drivers, priests and teachers. My background is practice and experience with body work like Yoga, Qigong, Classical and Modern Ballet, and African dance.

The classes will be in the Stables on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 - 9:45 AM. The semester consists of 28 lessons; single lessons are 60 birr and a half-semester (14 lessons) is 600 birr.

For further information call:  
Catherine Esdaile: 0913-088-516 (cell)  
011-371-4740 (home)

*The School Mobile Phone number is 0911-333-650. Please write this number on the cover of your school directory and use it as an alternate number to reach the school whenever there is no answer from our switchboard during regular school day hours.*

## From ICS Business Office

### Tuition Fee Payment for the 2008/09 School Year

Please be informed that the school fee payment is due tomorrow, August 22, 2008. To avoid payments of finance charges, please make arrangements for the timely payment of school fees.

Please feel free to contact our accounts office, at 011-371-1544 ext. 226, to correct any billing errors which may have occurred or with any questions you might have.

## Secondary Corner

### Senior Retreat on Friday

Dr. Wadeson and Joyce Halsey, our IB Coordinator, are combining to kick off our grade 12 students' year with an important retreat on Friday, August 22, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. The retreat will begin with a pizza lunch together at 12:30. At the end of the day seniors will be better prepared for their very busy semester this fall.

### SAT Registration Deadline for Seniors

Seniors must register for the October SAT college entrance tests by August 26 at noon. The October tests are for grade twelve students only. Information booklets from the College Board are available from our counselor's office.

### Student Planners for Grades 6 – 9

Almost all adults know how important it is to use a weekly planner or agenda, and it is no different for our students. All students in grades 6–9 have been given a homework agenda planner to help them keep organized for school. Parents can help students use their planner by asking to see it every week. Students should be recording homework project deadlines, essay due dates and quiz and test dates in their planners. Students in grades 10–12 can buy an ICS planner from the school store, or buy a more "professional" planner from many stationery shops in town.

### Mobile Phone Reminder

All middle/high school students know that mobile phones may only be used before school, during lunch or after school. Parents are reminded to not call students at any other time. All teachers will appreciate your consideration and assistance with this! We try hard to minimize interruptions to learning in the classroom, and phone calls can be very disruptive.

### Community Leadership and Development: for Students

Some students in grades 8–11 may be interested in a new class we are offering this year at ICS...Community Leadership & Development. Students in this class will get out into the Addis community, looking at some of the problems and coming up with creative solutions to make a difference in the lives of people in need. Projects developed in this class will then involve other students at ICS after school or on weekends, so that everyone who wants can participate. We're hoping for lots of community service opportunities to result. Parents, if you think this class is something your child might be interested in doing, please encourage him/her to see Dr. Wadeson ASAP to learn more about it! This class will count as a social studies elective.

### Schedule Changes Completed

Middle and high school students have been dropping and adding electives since Monday, but the window for making elective choices and changing schedules is closing this week. With our school size it is not always possible for students to get their first-choice elective. In the coming weeks teachers may recommend changes for students if the student is at the wrong level: sometimes it takes time for the need for these adjustments to become clear. Students interested in our community development class will be able to request a change in electives to join this new opportunity for learning and service.

## Elementary Corner

### The ECE Playground

The playground in the Early Childhood area is open for the use of families after school, and on weekends. It is a beautiful place for children to play, and we encourage you to make use of it.

In order to help us to take care of our playground, please keep in mind the following guidelines:

**When using the playground, please sign-in at Security.**

**The playground is open after 3:30 on weekdays, and all day on weekends.** From morning until 3:30 the playground is used by our classes for recess. When picking up your child before 3:30, please do not allow your child to play in the playground.

**All children must be supervised by a parent.** We ask that a parent, rather than a nanny or other caregiver, be with the children in the playground at all times.

**Sand always stays in the sand pit.** Please supervise your child, making sure that s/he is not carrying sand into the playhouse, or putting sand on any of the play equipment.

**Return toys to the toy buckets.** No one is here to put toys away after you leave the playground. Any toys left out will still be out when the next school day begins. Please help your child to be responsible for making sure all toys are put away before you leave the playground.

**Stay on the blacktop until the rains end.** During the rainy season, we don't use any of the equipment on the grass. This allows the grass to stay healthy and beautiful, and prevents the children from getting overly dirty in the mud.

**Use bathrooms on the main campus near reception.** We ask that after school hours students do not enter the classrooms to use the bathroom, but that you plan to use the bathrooms on the main campus.

**Thank you for helping us to make sure the playground remains a great place to play. Following the ICS Way, we work together to "Take care of this place."**

## Parent Corner

### Director's Tea August 19, 2008

Mr. Plisinski expressed his appreciation to the Board of Directors and all parents for their work and interests in ICS and helping make ICS a great school.

The main purpose of the gathering was to show and discuss progress concerning the new construction and development of the school facilities. Mr. Plisinski gave a brief outline of the previous and present layout of the campus, introduced Mr. Nadav Salamon (our school Architect); Mrs. Yael Cass (Project Manger).

Mr. Salamon gave an excellent Powerpoint presentation detailing each of the four main areas of construction and renovation on our campus. A map showing the new plan is available for viewing in the school. There was then a time for questions and discussion.

One question was: "Where would the temporary location be for Pre-K and Kindergarten students?"

During the process of the construction, these students will sometimes shift between the "stables" (often currently used for dancing and yoga classes) and Elementary classrooms. Also, several general questions were asked about new Gym and Pool, and the new Admin and Performing Arts buildings. Mr. Salamon and Mr. Plisinski referred back to the illustrations showing specific locations and features of the new facilities including overall sizes and internal constructions. It was quiet impressive!

Mr. Salamon made it clear that the plan is still somewhat flexible and changes can still be discussed and implemented. He encouraged parents to make any suggestions or express any concerns openly to him, Mrs. Yael Cass and the School Administration. Afterwards, all enjoyed drinks and refreshments and further conversation.

The Director's Tea is once-a-month opportunity and all parents are welcome and enthusiastically encourage to come.

Tatiana, PVC

**2009 ICS SKI TRIP TO SWITZERLAND – SIGN UP NOW!**  
**FULLY INCLUSIVE COST: approx. \$2295**

The second ICS Ski Trip to Anzere in **Switzerland** will take place during the week of **Spring Break 2009**, departing on Friday, 27 March, and to arrive back in Addis on Sunday, 5 April.

We already have 34 students signed up and are able to take a maximum of 45, which means that there are only 11 places remaining!

The cost includes flights to and from Geneva, bus transfers to and from the resort, ski/snowboard equipment hire, ski jacket and trousers hire, accident/injury insurance, full board at the Chalet Chamossaire and six days of ski/snowboard instruction and evening activity programme fully supervised by Viamonde counsellors ([www.viamonde.com](http://www.viamonde.com)). For snowboarding there is a supplement of \$52.

The trip is **open to students in Grade 3 and above** (and those in grade 2 if there is an older sibling on the trip). Places will be allocated on a **first-come first-served** basis so if you would like your son/daughter to join the trip please pay a **\$200 (or the euro equivalent) non-refundable deposit** to Ato Tesfaye in the cashier's office as soon as possible. The balance will be due by Wednesday, 15 October.

If you are interested and would like more information please email or call Mary Kenny at [kennyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:kennyfamily@gmail.com) or 0911-684-794. Mary will be in the UK between August 28 and September 8 so during that time please contact one of the other trip chaperones, Bess Long ([bess.long@icsddis.edu.et](mailto:bess.long@icsddis.edu.et)) or Jane English ([jane.english@icsaddis.edu.et](mailto:jane.english@icsaddis.edu.et)).

Bess will be making a short presentation about the trip at the Back to School Night on August 28.