



International Community School
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Dear ICS Parents and Students,

Thank you for choosing to educate your children at the International Community School of Addis Ababa (ICS Addis) this year. I am delighted to welcome you to the new school year!

This packet contains information that all families will need at the start of the school year. More information from our principals and others is also available on our web site.

ICS Addis is a model of diversity, but we share a common culture of reflection and a focus on steady improvement. The families and faculty of ICS Addis represent over 60 nationalities, and all of us have our own experiences and visions of schooling. However, the school cannot be all things to all people. This is why the ICS school culture is so important to us...we must work together, deliberately, to create a common culture of high academic and behavioral expectations and achievement. We invite parents to support us and participate in our culture-building endeavor. Two tools that we use at ICS Addis to help us build this common culture are the ICS Way and the IB Learner Profile—both of these tools are included in this packet and you are invited to post them at home for your own reference and use.

My role as the school's leader for learning is to insist on quality teaching and to ensure that all students have access to a viable curriculum based on high standards of learning. If we can achieve these two things we will be laying a strong foundation for our students' futures. All our staff members work hard to make ICS Addis a premier international school in Africa at providing a 21st century education. This year will we be focusing the attention of our faculty on improved assessment and feedback to students—all the research tells us these two areas will have the strongest effect on improving learning.

Finally, my office door is always open to you. I hope to meet many of you in the coming weeks and months at gatherings on and off-campus. I encourage you to share your thoughts.

All good wishes to you and your children for a happy, successful year of learning!

Best regards,

James Laney Jr.
Director

The International Community School of Addis Ababa, accredited in the United States, develops the talents and intellects of a multicultural student body using learner-centered, holistic instructional methods, empowering each student to contribute to an evolving world.





The ICS Way

I can make a difference by...

- Taking Care of Myself
- Taking Care of Others
- Taking Care of This Place

All ICS Addis families are invited to use *The ICS Way* at home and to become familiar with the expectations of the *IB Learner Profile*. This profile guides our leadership team and our faculty in planning for learning activities in and out of the classroom.

The IB Learner Profile [©]

The aim of (an IB World School) is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world. IB learners strive to be:

- Inquirers** They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.
- Knowledgeable** They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.
- Thinkers** They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.
- Communicators** They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.
- Principled** They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.
- Open-minded** They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.
- Caring** They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.
- Risk-takers** They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.
- Balanced** They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.
- Reflective** They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.



Information for All Parents

Upcoming Events

- Monday 15 August, 8:00 AM: Orientation for New ICS Families
- Tuesday 16 August, 8:00 AM: First day of school for all students
- Tuesday 16 August, 8:00–9:00 AM: Director's Welcome, coffee/tea available in cafeteria
- Monday 22 August, 7:00 PM: Open Board Meeting (all parents welcome)
- Tuesday 30 August: approximate date of Eid al Fitr (no school on date called by government)
- Wednesday 31 August: Middle and High School Back to School Night
- Friday 2 September, 4:00 PM: Parent Teacher Association Meeting (all parents welcome)
- Friday 2 September: Elementary School Back to School Night

Our weekly newsletter, the Yezare Samint, includes a weekly calendar and upcoming events and will be in your email inbox every Thursday, beginning 18 August.

Weekly Timetable Includes 2:00 PM Early Dismissal Every Wednesday

(Early Childhood students will finish at 12 PM as usual)

All students in kindergarten to grade 12 are dismissed at 2:00 PM every Wednesday, beginning on 17 August. Drivers and students will be reminded of the early dismissal every week, with a signboard at the front gate. Our early dismissal days give our faculty extended time together to collaborate on curriculum, professional development, common assessments, school improvement issues and other tasks that cannot be completed in normal faculty meeting times.

Please be prepared for the first early dismissal day at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, 17 August.

Documents Available on Our Website

This welcome packet includes information for all families, but it is not the only information available from us. Parents are invited to browse our website for further information and documents they may find useful. On our "Downloads" page you can find, among others...

- Cafeteria menu for first week of school
- Middle/High School Dress Code
- Supply lists for elementary, middle and high school students
- PE clothing requirements
- Our plans for pandemic flu or other emergencies
- 8-day rotation calendar for middle and high school families
- Course guides
- Our PTA's "Welcome to Addis Guide"

Add a bookmark for us today! www.icsaddis.edu.et

Parent Internet Information

To use the ICS wireless network, sign up with Betty Taye in the reception area. Bring your laptop to be configured for the wireless network on school days between 7:30-9:00 AM and 2:30-4:00 PM.

School Store Hours

The ICS School Store is open on school days as follows:

This week 8-12 August: Store open upon request, 8:00 AM–12:00 noon and 1:00-4:45 PM

First week of school 15-26 August: Open 7:30 AM-12:30 PM and 1:30-4:30 PM

29 August-14 June: 7:30-8:30 AM, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM and 3:00-4:00 PM (Wednesdays 2:00-3:00 PM)

Activities and Athletics Information

ICS offers athletic teams in soccer, volleyball, basketball, track and field and tennis. ICS Eagles middle and high school season 1 sport team tryouts will begin the week of 22-27 August. Registration for all MS/HS sport teams will be done online, via the ICS website, during the first and second week of school.

ICS offers elementary after school activities in academics, performing arts, sports and general interest; activities last year included judo, ballet, drama, art, reading club and many more. Season 1 will begin with indoor activities; outdoor activities will be added at the end of September. Sign-up for Season 1 ASAs will begin during the first three weeks of school.

ICS ASAs and Athletics will be divided into three seasons for the 2011-12 school year. Season 1 will begin the first week of September and run for nine weeks through the first week of November. Season 2 will start in the third week of November and run through the last week of February. Season 3 will begin the second week of March and run through the second week of May.

ICS Cafeteria Information

ICS provides an on-campus cafeteria for students and parents to enjoy. The goal is to provide a variety of healthy and tasty food for the ICS campus. Arcobaleno (a restaurant/catering company in Addis Ababa) provides food service for a buffet lunch as well as a Fast Food window for additional service hours and food choices. Sample buffet menus and Fast Food menus can be found on the ICS website and are posted outside the cafeteria.

Arcobaleno Lunch Ticket Prices for 2011–12

Early Childhood to Grade 2:	35 Birr
Grade 3 to Grade 5:	40 Birr
Grade 6 to Grade 8:	45 Birr
Grade 9 to Grade 12 & Adults	50 Birr

The Arcobaleno lunch buffet line will be open for service starting on Tuesday 16 August. Tickets will be on sale beginning on Monday 15 August. You may purchase buffet lunch tickets at the Fast Food window.

Fast Food Window Hours

Monday–Friday: 7:15 AM–5:30 PM
Saturday: 8:15 AM–5:00 PM
Sunday: Closed except when there are school events

Quick Facts About the ICS Cafeteria

- The lunch buffet is 'all you can eat' – students are allowed to go back to the buffet lines for additional servings of food in the buffet line
- The lunch buffet normally serves beef, chicken and a vegetarian option daily
- Students in elementary school (EC to grade 5) are not allowed to order lunch at the Fast Food window
- Some dessert/snack items such as ice cream are not served at the Fast Food window until after 1:00 PM
- All of the food items prepared in the ICS cafeteria and the Fast Food window are peanut-free
- Sandwiches and other menu items may be ordered in advance at the Fast Food window by completing an order form (located on the cafeteria veranda)
- All food is prepared fresh daily in the ICS kitchen
- Middle School students (grades 6-8) are not allowed to order only French fries at lunch from the Fast Food window; students may have fries when accompanied by a sandwich.

Cafeteria Contact Information

For any questions or comments, please contact Bethlehem Ayelew at 011-371-1544 or email info@icsaddis.edu.et.



International Community School of Addis Ababa 2011–2012 Leap Year School Calendar

2011

AUGUST

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	1 / 8
9	10	11	12	13	14Q	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24T	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16Q	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

	Teacher Work Days - No Students
Q	Quarter Ending Dates for MS/HS
T	Trimester Ending Dates for ES
	August 15 - New Student & Family Orientations
	August 16 - First day for all students
	June 15, 2012 - Last day of school for students

Days Closed

August 30 - Eid al Fitr (approximate date)
 September 12 - Ethiopian New Year
 September 28 - Meskel
 October 15-23 - Fall Break (AISA Conference)
 November 6 - Eid al Adha (approximate date)
 November 25 - Midterm weekend
 December 17 - January 8 - Winter Break
 January 20 - Orthodox Epiphany (Timket)
 February 4 - Maulid (approximate date)
 March 5 - Victory at Adwa
 Mar 31 - Apr 8 - Spring Break
 April 13 - Ethiopian Good Friday
 May 5 - Ethiopian Patriots Day
 May 28 - Downfall of the Derg

2012

JANUARY

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

MARCH

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7T	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23Q	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

MAY

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Notes

182 Student contact days scheduled
 10 professional days scheduled
 August 9: First day for all teachers
 This calendar reflects the Ethiopian Leap Year

Other Dates

Muharramn (Islamic New Year) - Not observed
 May 1 - Labour Day - Not observed
 January 8 - Ethiopian Gena - in Winter Break
 May 1 - Labour Day - Not observed

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2011–12 Traffic Guidelines

Dear Parents,

Please review the following traffic guidelines with your children and driver(s). With your help, we can maintain safety for all families of the ICS community, and keep traffic moving rapidly during our peak times.

Traffic Flow and Drop Off/Pick Up Locations in the Main Parking Lot

Enter the main gate through the right-side entrance. There are two lanes of traffic:

- **Early Childhood and Kindergarten:** enter main gate and go to the right of the cones for pick up and drop off of Early Childhood and Kindergarten students.
- **Elementary, Middle and High School:** enter main gate and go to the left of the cones to bypass the EC/KG area. Circle the parking lot to pick up or drop off in the designated areas.

Available Parking For Parents

- Short term parking in the main parking lot – the second two rows of parking spaces.
- Outside Main Gate; monitored by ICS security during the school day.
- Outside Elementary Gate; monitored by ICS security on school days from 7:00-8:30 AM and 2:30-4:00 PM.
- **Do not park** on crosswalks, traffic lanes or drop off/pick up points.

Drivers

- If the student has not yet arrived, drivers should circulate around the parking lot again.
- Drive slowly and carefully: 5 km/h maximum.
- Do NOT use your mobile phone while driving on campus.
- Afternoon pickup – drivers should arrive after 3:00 PM.
- No taxis on campus – they may park in the outside parking lot.

Pedestrians

- Use the painted crosswalks to reach vehicles. Stop, look and listen before entering a crosswalk: do not run.
- Pedestrians should enter through the narrow pedestrian gates, leaving the wide gates for vehicles only.

All Parents, Students and Drivers

- Please follow safety/security guard instructions promptly and respectfully. Repeated failure to follow instructions or traffic guidelines will be reported to the administration.
- We will be conducting random searches of all vehicles at the school's gates.
- All traffic at the main gate and in the main parking lot is one-way.

With your help, we can maintain safety for all members of the ICS community.

Sincerely,

Shewangizaw Tefera
Security & Safety Officer

ICS Traffic Flow Map

Drop Off or Pick Up—in green areas
Drop Off Only—in blue areas

Remember:

- One way traffic only
- No mobile phone use while driving
- Speed limit: 5 km/hour

Parking For Parents

- Short term parking in the main parking lot
- Outside Main Gate
- Outside Elementary Gate (7:00-8:30 AM and 2:30-4:00 PM)
- **Do not park** on crosswalks, traffic lanes or drop off/pick up points.

Thank you for keeping our school safe by following the ICS Way!

