

Newsletter



No. 4/2017



International School Braunschweig – Wolfsburg

Dear Parents,

We hope everyone had a great Break and an enjoyable holiday! If you are returning, welcome back. If you are new to our school, we are glad to have you join us! Our Open House was well attended and so was our first parent-teacher consultation day.

You must have noticed that our coat and shoe racks have been replaced by fire-proof lockers (see last page). This is only a trial phase with these. These are on lease and we have to pay a monthly charge for using them. If it is found to be convenient we will come back to you with information about the fees to pay.

We would also like to inform you that we have more subjects for our IGCSE (Year 10) and IB (Year 12) courses that students can choose from. In Year 10 they now have an additional Science subject – Physics – to choose from and, in addition, Music and Art. Students in Year 9 have already started with these additional subjects! In IB online courses have been introduced since last year – Business Management and Economics. We hope to improve on our offers on elective subjects even more in the years to come. On behalf of all of our staff we wish you all a restful Autumn Vacation.

Kind regards,

Arundhati Mukherji
Academic Dean

Ursula Hellert
Head of School

School Life

Year 1 enrolment



On August 5th, we celebrated the enrolment of the Year 1 students. Families and friends gathered in the school assembly hall for the festive programme organized by Year 2 students. We all enjoyed their impressive performance. Families then enjoyed some light refreshments while the teachers took the children to the classroom for their very first lesson.

We wish our Year 1 students all the best for their first year in primary school!

News from the PTA

Welcome to the new school year!

Welcome back to familiar faces and a warm welcome to all our new students, parents and staff members at CJD International. We have had the pleasure of meeting many new families and are encouraged by many of you who have joined us for a coffee and a chat on Friday mornings.

Everyone is welcome so please join us when you have time.

For those of you who don't know, the PTA is group of parents dedicated to building community within the school. We organise bake sales, the Lantern Parade, the Christmas Party, the Carnival Party and Summer Party each year. With the proceeds from each of these events we buy items the school needs. Last year we purchased, among other things, sports equipment, library books and furniture for the Afternoon Room. We hope to once again support our school where we can and we look forward to your support as the year goes on.

Scholastic Book Club



A reminder that the School is part of the Scholastic Book Club. Grab a catalogue and log on to

<https://eu-shop.scholastic.co.uk/schools/cjd-international-sch>

to search for some amazing books, at competitive prices, and place an order. You can also get to the Scholastic page through the homepage of

the CJD International School Website at <http://is.cjd-braunschweig.de>

Halfway down the page you will see the Scholastic Book Club button.

Support your child through their learning and support the school at the same time. Please check out the Scholastic's site.

Second Hand Uniform Sales



Just to let you know that the PTA has second hand uniforms available for purchase each Friday morning. If you need an extra polo shirt, hoodie, vest or pants then please come and see us. Nothing is over €10 and the clothes are clean and ready to be worn!

Lantern Parade

Coming up on 9 November is the St Martin Lantern Parade, hosted by Years RC, 1 and 2. We look forward to seeing you all at the Bake Sale and seeing all the wonderful lanterns the children will be making in the afternoon rooms. We hope to see many of you there joining your children in the parade.

Support where you can!

We always welcome new parents and new ideas so please join us for a coffee, cake and chat on Friday mornings! We welcome any support you can give so even it's a little time at one event, or a batch of cupcakes for a bake sale, please feel free to contribute!

If you have any comments, questions or concerns feel free to email us at anytime at ptais@cjd-bs.de

Ruth Basso, Laila Djemailovic, Jane George, Katharina Karnahl and Melissa Retzlaff



IB Class of 2017

Our IB Diploma results for the May 2017 session

Nicole Bortfeld – Topper with 44 points – The best score for the whole of Germany

It gives us great pleasure to inform you that the results of the IB Diploma May 2017 session have been good with a rate of 87.5% pass rate. The World pass rate is 80% for the year 2017.

4 candidates have been awarded Bilingual Diplomas and 3 candidates have been awarded Diplomas. The school record with respect to the previous years was broken this year. Nicole Bortfeld has scored 44 points out of the maximum 45 points. Only 7% of students worldwide have a score of more than 40 points. The global average and our school average score is 32 points. Thanks to all the colleagues who have put in their heart into making it a success.

Naresh Seetharam, IBDP Coordinator

IGCSE Ceremony and results 2017

Cambridge
IGCSE

This year's IGCSE Ceremony will take place on Friday, 10th November 2017. After a long time of waiting, former Year 10 students will receive their IGCSE Certificates.

Parents, grandparents, friends and members of staff are invited to come together and celebrate their success.

A number of students could achieve passing grades in all subjects to be recognized as the equivalent to the "Erweiterte Sekundarabschluss I" which is the highest degree after ten years of education in Germany.

We are very proud to announce an increase of our students' performance in some subjects which is to be seen in the table below. Please note the comparison to the results of our school in the previous session and this year's world average.

	International School in (2015/16)	International School in 2016/17	world total in 2016/17
English	72%	87%	71%
German	93%	100%	88.2%
German FL	100%	100%	93.3%
Spanish FL	100%	100%	95%
Geography	100%	63%	74.7%
Maths	92%	71%	74.8%
Biology	63%	72%	75.4%

Percentage grade c or better/ Students with complete IGCSE quota

Congratulations!



Introduction

Dear Parents, Those of you that have been at our school for two years may remember the introductory note of Ms **Emese Zsaki** in one of the previous newsletters. She is a trained Elementary School teacher who had taught English in Hungary, where she comes from. To enable her to get accustomed to the new school structure, she decided to join as a Professional Educator and we felt it was correct, as well. Now after two years, she and we feel the time has arrived for her to step in as a teacher for the primary classes. Hence, from now on, she will work as a primary school teacher.



Hello, my name is **Megan Woodson**, the new PE for Year 2. I come from the United States but not before travels in-between. I spent the last two years living on New Zealand's North Island as an Assistant House Manager to residential Waldorf students with specialised learning and behavioural differences. When I am not at CJD, I am practicing my yoga or at the library looking for new books. I look forward to my time here in CJD, and will see you around!



Hello, my name is **Naomi Seamark**. I am the new class teacher for Year 4 and will also be teaching English to Year 2 students. Before coming to Braunschweig, I taught at an international school in Düsseldorf. Prior to that, I taught at an international school in China for three years. I have a degree in English Language and Literature and a Post Graduate Certificate in Primary Education. I am looking forward to an exciting year with you and your children. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at: naomi.seamark@cjd-braunschweig.de.



My name is **Qian Lu**, I am the class teacher of the newly created extra Class 10. It is a great pleasure and a privilege for me to start my career here in the International School. I have moved to Germany with my family from China where I have achieved my Bachelor degree in Pedagogy. I have taught in schools, training centers in China and Germany. Now I will be teaching English for the extra Class 10, and I am looking forward to an exciting and fruitful school year with you all!



Hello, my name is **Jason Koons**. I traveled with my family from the United States to Germany 3 years ago. Before coming to Germany, I enjoyed 19 years of teaching Social Studies to secondary students. I served as the school's Head Track coach for 14 years, assistant Football coach for 12 years, Wrestling for 2 years, and Diving for 1 year. I acted as the House manager for our school musical, and gave after school driving lessons to our students. I enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking and fishing, and traveling to the many beautiful areas of Germany.



Hello, my name is **Dr. Yaser Hasan** and I am the new Science and Mathematics teacher. I have accomplished my M.Sc and Ph.D at Leibniz Universität Hannover, Faculty of Natural Sciences. It is my pleasure to work and share my knowledge and experience with your children at the International School Braunschweig – Wolfsburg.

Meet and Greet

On Saturday, 26th August, the International School held its traditional Meet and Greet event in school. Parents, students and staff, old and new, came to school and spent some relaxed time together meeting other families and staff. The buffet table was full of delicacies from all over the world. A big thank you to all the families for enabling everyone to taste a bit of their traditional food! The CJD kitchen also supported the event by providing light refreshments. Year 11 and 12 students organised games for all and offered some activities for the young visitors. The highlight of the day was the instrument recital by **Ms Thet Su Hlaing**. She played the Burmese harp, a traditional instrument from Burma. Everyone enjoyed its soothing, gentle tune.



Houses – election of Captains and vice captains

The beginning of the new school year heralded the elections of the Captains and vice captains of the Houses. We had several interested candidates for the posts and they introduced themselves in the Primary Assembly on 11th September.

On 14th September, elections took place in the Entrance Hall and with much enthusiasm we would like to announce the winners:

Friedrich Gauss (Blue house) –

Captain: Rachel

vice captain: Nakshatra

Konrad Koch (Yellow house) –

Captain: Lars Christoph

vice captain: Anton

Georg Westermann (Red house) –

Captain: Osama

vice captain: Layan

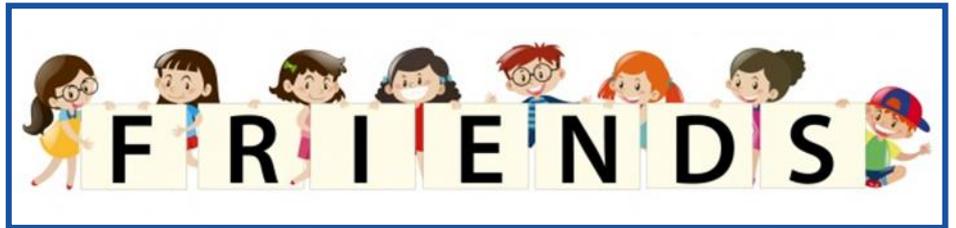
Ricarda Huch (Green house) –

Captain: Filippa

vice captain: Peter



Congratulations to you all!



Assemblies

Assemblies contribute to the individual's personal development as well as the social and moral values which we consider to be part of the ethos of our school. Our school holds regular assemblies and the theme of the **first primary assembly** held on Monday, 11th September, was "Friendship". This topic plays a vital role in any international school where students come and leave regularly for various reasons – private, business purposes etc. The two basic questions put to the students in this assembly were:

- What does friendship mean to you?
- Why is it important to have friends?

We spoke about the meaning of friends, the qualities of a good friend, how lucky we are to have friends and how sad and lonely life would be without them. At the end of the assembly, each class was asked to reflect on the idea: "What does being a good friend mean to me?". They then filled out six bricks on the friendship wall with words they considered important for being a good friend. We hope this will help all new children integrate in the class community and for those who miss their friends who have left school, have someone to play with and share their thoughts. This is what is important in all international schools.

GISST Volleyball Girls and Boys



On Saturday, September 23rd, the CJD International School Braunschweig – **Wolfsburg** Girls and Boys Varsity Volleyball teams travelled to Berlin to compete in a GISST Volleyball tournament. They participated in a friendly tournament against International School Berlin (BerIS) and Berlin Brandenburg International School (BBIS). Both our teams played 3 matches on that day. We would like to proudly announce that the girls varsity team was able to pull out a victory against the hosting school – BBIS. In the first match our female players lost 1:2 after the very close game but in the second match, they did not hesitate to collect the victory, winning 2:0. It was a first ever triumph in the history of the GISST Girls Volleyball team

of our school. The players who have been committed to the volleyball training for the last seasons and who earned that remarkable success were the following: Olivia (Y12), Jule (Year 12), Ann-Kathrin (Y12), Anne (Year 12), Charline (Year 12), Astrid (Year 12) and Riley (Year 8). **Good job girls and way to go!**

Go CJD International!



Fit 4 Future Workshop

Once again we had a fantastic workshop with Fit 4 Future! It was a lot of fun doing the various stations ranging from Cup Stacking to even a Relaxation station. Although we had fun, the purpose of the workshop was to make sure we understand that moving and exercise is needed for our daily life to stay healthy!

RC / Year 1 Afternoon Room

We have many new faces and enjoyed starting off the new school year by getting to know one another closer with our 'Get to Know You Week'. We then ventured into our international week about 'South Africa'. We would like to extend our thanks to Sef and Samiha for coming to our afternoon room to show us their presentation about this country. We got to see and learn so many new interesting things from them.



The past few weeks have been used to explore the world of 'Senses'. The children were able to test all of their five senses through different activities in- and outdoors. They not only enjoyed the sensory walk path, but also making their own juice to test their taste buds with, using their listening skills to find their animal partner and many, many more activities.

Primary Afternoon Room

At the Primary Afternoon room we had a great start to the year. First we had our annual Competition week and the next week



we had a week of learning about South Africa. During the competition week we had different games but making the Paper Planes and flying them were especially fun.

Sef and Samiha made an informative presentation about life in South Africa and their mothers even made typical South African desserts for us!



Thank you again to the moms for their contribution!

Information about the classes

RC

The Reception Class team would like to wish a very warm welcome to the parents and children. We are looking forward to a happy and successful school year together. It is a great joy for us to have a class of children with rich international backgrounds! The children are now beginning to settle with their routine and are learning to follow the school rules enthusiastically. We started the new school year with the theme on 'Being at School, 'All About Me', focusing on familiarising the children with school and to value themselves as special.

We are now learning about senses as part of our bodies and how they work together in harmony. We started by experimenting with tasting fruits and drinking activities. In order to highlight our learning experiences we also conducted a drinking survey for tasting. The tasting activity helped us to learn vocabulary such as sweet, sour, bitter and tangy. We created our own Xylophone for sound effects by filling water in glass jars and then playing music.

In numeracy we are learning about the concept of numbers. We are using numbers to count forwards and backwards as well as arranging them in the right order. The children are also enjoying number songs and stories such as, 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We are beginning to use numbers in the environment as well as focus on number bonds.

In literacy we are beginning to learn about the importance of letters such as s, a, t, i, p, n with



the help of crafting and reading activities. Some of us are also learning to write a story using visual aids and imagination!

To consolidate our learning experiences with the theme on senses we went for a visit to the bakery. Our visit to the bakery helped us learn how we use all our five senses. We were able to see, smell, taste, hear and touch altogether! **The Reception Class Team**

Year 1



In our SST lessons, we came to understand that all living things need food, water, sun and air. Furthermore, we learned that all living things grow and change that includes being born, developing into an adult, and eventually becoming old. We also had a special visitor, Leopold Harms, a three months old baby. His mummy told us what new born babies need and how their habits, needs and daily routines differ from ours. We are all looking forward to meeting Leopold again in couple of months. It is going to be quite interesting to see how much he has grown and changed.

Year 2



Year 2 started off the school year by performing a wonderful play to welcome to new students of Year 1. It was great to see all the hard work that the students put into practicing in and outside of school and come together during the final show. We would like to say thank you to all parents of Year 2 for their support and effort at home.

In the classroom, we have been learning and engaging in activities focused on and around the Jungle Fever theme. In SST particularly, students thoroughly enjoyed observing the life cycle and metamorphosis of the butterfly. It was exciting to watch the caterpillar grow and undergo the change into a butterfly. In the end, we set the butterflies free in front of the school.

Year 3



Year 3 was happy to begin the new school year. We have lost a few students due to the families moving back home, but we have also gained a new student. Yuria comes from Japan and is a great addition to our class! We will do our best to make sure she enjoys her time in our class!



Year 4

Wonderful Writers!

The new term has begun for Year 4 students and that ushers in a batch of fresh faces. We have welcomed Simone to our class who is from Sweden and our new teachers, Miss Seamark and Ms. Schmidt. The children have made a good start to the new school year and are facing new challenges with enthusiasm. In English lessons, we have been reading historical fiction and even wrote our own stories set in the past! When planning their writing, students had to consider what life was like for students going to school without the technology we have today. Some children were surprised to learn that school pupils used to write with chalk on a slate! Eventually, students could compose their own imaginative stories complete with adverbial phrases and dialogue.



Keep up the great work, Year 4!

Year 5



Year 5 has gotten off to a great start. Joseph Baffo paid us a visit from the Braunschweig Eintracht Football team. The students were excited to ask questions to Mr. Baffo, and had a short kick around and signed autographs afterwards. Mr. Baffo enjoyed his

time with the students, and he is looking forward to coming back in the future. We also have given a warm welcome to Taleen, a student who joins us from England. We welcome her as the class continues to look forward to the many challenging and rewarding opportunities to come.

Year 6

Interactive lessons of Year 6 with Year 12

Year 6 were invited by Mr. Selvadurai and students from Year 12 to the interactive lesson. Young students were shown at first, an educational video with the stories of three different plastic bottles. It was explained in the movie why it is so important to take care of the human environment. Children learned that they can save the environment by disposing trash at the right places. Also, everybody was given examples on how disposable items can be reused. This way the humans are creating less of the pollution. Being careless can lead to killing other species on our Planet and causing harm to ourselves. Students of Year 6 had many questions and that was when their older mates came with help. Important words as fear, home, responsible, racism were explained by Year 12 students. Everybody who has actively taken part in this lesson has been rewarded with some...chocolate treats. What a sweet start of the regular day at school?!



Year 7



On 17th August, we went to a classmates house, well actually he lives in a Castle, because they have a farm in Samleben, Schöppenstedt. We started at 7:56 by train and drove to Dettum. At approximately 8:15, we came to Dettum. Dettum is a hamlet so we waited 20 minutes for the bus to go to Samleben. We arrived at the farm around 9:00 o'clock.

When we came out of the bus, Christoph and Gregor were waiting patiently for us. First Gregor showed us the Castle and the farm. After that, we played hide and seek in the house. It was very funny. When we did not feel like playing anymore we went around in small groups. Some of us even went in the freezing cold swimming pool and for a long time we felt cold after coming out.

At 12:30, we ate lunch which the mothers of Gregor and Christoph cooked. It was very delicious. Later on we went to the silo and we played with the leftovers. Afterwards, we made a group picture which was in front of the castle. Then the mothers took us all to the train station which was in Schoppensedt.

The entire day was very fun and exciting and we want to say thank you again to Gregor's and Christoph's mom, that we could go to visit the Castle. **By Nila and Filippa**

Year 8

Year 8 has had a good start into the new school year so far. The students have not only welcomed new students but also made new friends. Right now, the students of Year 8 are working hard and diligently in order to fulfil their learning goals and do well in the upcoming exams. Keep up the good work!

Moreover, the students have also taken part in two day trips. One of them was the Roadshow which the students thoroughly enjoyed since they were able to learn a lot of new facts about the traffic and how a car works and has to be maintained. Additionally, the students were able to ride a motorbike in order to understand how long the braking distance lasts and were twisted around in a car to feel the effect of an accident and the power of the car.



Now the students of Year 8 are surely looking forward to their Autumn Break which they will surely enjoy.

This year will be exciting for the students since most of them are going to participate in the Student Exchange in Badalona, Spain. The Student Exchange will give them the opportunity to experience a new culture, way of life and also improve their language skills. On top, they will also get to know the Spanish family lifestyle and will be able to make new friends in Spain.



Year 9

Planning our future career at the Job Centre – pilot, gardener or educator?

Year 9 has started preparing for their internship which is part of the educational programme in Secondary 2. Students will be out of their classrooms for two weeks and have their first working experience in companies. This is prepared in their German and English lessons where they learn how to write a CV and a letter of application. They also find out about different job profiles. The local Job Centre offers help to schools and the Year 9 students spent an afternoon there, mainly working with an online programme that considers personal strengths through quizzes and self-evaluation lists. The outcome was a list of professions that might be opportunities for the students' future career. Students also got some more hints on how to get information about interesting jobs and will now use their new knowledge to apply for their internships in June 2018.

Year 10

Welcome back everybody!

Year 10 would like to welcome Perrine who has joined the class and has settled in well. We have already had several activities such as the IGCSE kick off, a visit to documenta in Kassel, and the White Horse theatre performed Othello for us in school too!

Senior School

Year 11: “Food Matters” – English B HL Project

As a part of their English B HL option on “Health, year 11 students chose a series of tasks spread an entire week doing research at local supermarkets, organic produce stores and take-away eateries to gain a better understanding of local agriculture and the importance of eating fresh, seasonal foods in a fun and interactive way. We believe that your body is worthy of good care and that no one is more suitably qualified to care for it than yourself. Students learned a range of skills and techniques including, basics of a balanced diet, nutritional values, health hazards from fast foods, budgeting and shopping skills.

The main objectives of this project were

- To promote supply, access and use of locally produced foods.
- To increase the knowledge and practical skills to grow, prepare and store food.
- To educate and advocate for food security related issues.
- To build a strong network of food producers and consumers, government agencies, and non-government agencies.
- To create awareness amongst members of our school community
- To organize an organic-breakfast for our school community thus linking TOK and CAS aspects



Good Going Year 11!

Naresh Seetharam – IBDP Coordinator–Language B faculty



Last minute information

We sadly said goodbye to Ms Zorn who was with us from the very first beginning when the International School was founded in 2004. We can't count the number of hungry mouths she fed during all the years – thank you very much for all your work effort and all your caring support! **The whole school community wishes you a wonderful start into your retirement – enjoy your free time!**

New lockers



Left side: Primary section
Right side: Secondary section

Indication of source:

- S. 4 http://all-free-download.com/free-photos/download/welcome-heart-blue_196388.html
- S. 6 http://www.freepik.com/free-vector/friendship-background-design_1063146.htm
- S. 7 https://www.united-kids-foundations.de/was-wir-machen/cleven-stiftung_-_fit-4-future_
- S. 9 <http://www.girlscoutleader101.com/2015/11/brownie-badge-making-friends.html>

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Every year the CJD offers 155,000 adolescents and young adults' orientation and prospects for the future. 9,500 employees and many volunteers at over 150 locations offer support, teach training skills and provide education. The Christian concept of the human being linked with the motto "Let no one fall by the wayside" make up the core of our work.