

# ICSA TODAY



## Welcome to New Academic Year 2015-2016

### Director's Message

It is my great pleasure to write to you as the new Director at ICSA. It is now just over three weeks since I arrived and I feel very much at home, now that all the paperwork has been done. I am sure that those of you who have just moved to Cote d'Ivoire will share my thoughts about settling in. Those new to the school probably know little about me so I should perhaps write a few words of introduction.

I have been involved in international education for 25 years, much of that time in IB schools. This wonderfully enriching journey began in Colombia and has taken me to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Bolivia, Peru, and, most recently, to Oman where I served as Head of School at Al Sahwa Schools. The schools have all been different and each has presented its own challenges and offered its own rewards.

I am married to Jazmine whom I met in Colombia. We are lucky enough to have a boy and a girl, both of whom are learning here at ICSA. Kaleigh, now 10, was born in Saudi Arabia, and Rafa, now 8, was born in Bolivia. As you can tell, we are an international family! These experiences in vastly different milieus, give me, a broad perspective that I believe will be valuable to my work at ICSA.

I know that international schools and their students are very special and I am very much looking forward to the coming years at ICSA. There is no doubt in my mind that ICSA has the potential to be a great school. My aim will be to take the school further in its growth and development. Over the course of the year, I will speak about this in more detail. However, my first task is to understand the school better and to assess where we are. In the next few weeks, I will be meeting the Board, the school staff and members of the school community to discuss this and set priorities for the next few years.

I wish you all a great start to the new school year.

Peter Zeitoun

#### Upcoming Dates

##### AUGUST

24: Student ID Photos

31: Board Meeting

##### SEPTEMBER

19: Back to School Potluck

16: Back To School Night  
(Lower School)

17: Back To School Night  
(Upper School)

18: Mid-Quarter report  
cards due

21-15: MAP Testing

23: Tabaski (Lunar  
Holiday, Date TBA)

## Message from Human Resources

Everything we do at ICSA is about living up to our Mission (...to educate independent, critical thinking, compassionate, responsible individuals for a purposeful life as global citizens). To help us achieve both our Mission and Vision we are delighted to welcome 21 new staff members to ICSA. They represent the diversity that we so prize in our community. We are confident that they will enrich the lives of your children and contribute to the ongoing development of our school.

**Dahlia Heath** (Grade 1A)

**Maria Acevedo** (Grade 2B)

**Janay Washington** (Grade 4A)

**Crissy O'Malley** (Grade 5B)

**Terae Soumah** (Grade 5A)

**Gwendoline Triniac** (LS French)

**Thu Le** (LS Art)

**Fabienne Eba** (TA – Kindergarten B)

**Jazmine Fadul** (LS English Language Support)

**Shambhavi Chauhan** (TA Grade 2B)

**Sanga Margaret Ikambo** (TA – Grade 2A)

**Sarah Ann Shea** (US Science)

**Hasan Top** (US Math)

**Lauren Tusso** (US Social Studies)

**Jennette Gallogray** (US English)

**Barclie Gallogray** (Head of Technology)

**Diego Fernandez** (US Mandarin, Spanish)

**Steve Mellman** (US Counselor)

**Jim O'Malley** (US Principal)

**Theresa Matthews** (TA – 3A)

**William Seward** (LS Principal)

## Message from the Lower School

Good Afternoon LS Families,

I hope this message finds you enjoying your Friday and looking forward to a restful and relaxing weekend. We have had a fantastic first two days of school. Students have been making new friends, learning about the exciting things in store for them this year and having fun. These are all good things.

I wanted to send along a few notes and reminders for all of you so we can be on the same page. We will be tweaking some of the procedures in the LS, until we find what is just right for our community. With that in mind, I know I can count on your support, patience and flexibility as we move forward.

- **Arrival** - Students arriving before 7:45 AM will have recess in the LS Playground. This is the only area students will be allowed, as we want to ensure we have plenty of adult supervision to provide a safe place for children. Students should be in their classrooms by 7:45 AM. Students entering after this time will be marked tardy.
- **Dismissal** - Dismissal is at 2:30 PM. Please be sure to arrive on time to pick up your child. Parents are asked to wait in the Preau for students in 1st - 5th grades. Teachers will escort students to the Preau and once dismissed, students may join their parents. Parents should not walk to classrooms or back to the LS, as this creates a traffic jam and dismissal is slow and not as safe.
- **Attendance** - If your child is absent from school, please notify the classroom teacher and the LS Office ([rtanon@icsabidjan.org](mailto:rtanon@icsabidjan.org)). If the absence is due to medical reasons, send in the documentation so we can mark the absence excused.
- **Passes** - Parents giving permission for their child to leave school with someone else (i.e. a friend's parents or driver) need to send an email with this request to Ms. Tanon at [rtanon@icsabidjan.org](mailto:rtanon@icsabidjan.org). Parents cannot telephone for a pass for their child. We want to ensure the safety of our students throughout the day and during dismissal. A written request allows us to better monitor where our students go and who takes them off campus.
- **Lunch Delivery from Home** - If your child has lunch delivered from home, please have the lunch delivered at the beginning of your child's lunch time (11:45, Pre-K-2nd and 12:10, 3rd-5th). The driver may wait in the Preau and give your child the lunch as he/she passes to the Canteen. Drivers cannot interrupt instructional time to deliver lunches to classrooms. Also, due to a lack of space, lunches cannot be delivered to the LS Office and held for your child.
- **Lunch Orders** - If your child buys lunch at school, please remember to pre-order their lunch using the information sent to you by Tamu Tamu. Students should bring a lunch ticket to school and their name needs to be written on the back of the ticket.
- **Classroom Interruptions** - Parents and drivers should not interrupt class time. If you need to get a message to your child or deliver something to them, you or your driver can come by the LS Office and we will deliver the message to your child. Instructional time is precious, so please do not interrupt your child's classroom.
- **Student Photo IDs** - Pictures for student photo IDs will be taken on Monday. Please send your child to school in the ICSA uniform.
- **Uniforms** - Students need to wear the ICSA uniform every day. You may purchase the ICSA polo shirts at school.

We are excited to have all of your children in the Lower School this year. We are looking forward to working as a team with you to ensure all our students thrive, both academically and socially, this year. Together, we can keep our students safe, happy and thinking.

Your Partner in Education,

William Seward

## Message from the Upper School

Good afternoon upper school parents,

As we finish our first albeit short week of school this week there is so much to be excited about at ICSA! Our new and improved cafeteria should be completed in the next couple of days. The reviews of our new food service Tamu Tamu have been very positive. There is plenty of evidence of growth all over campus. It is a great time to be part of the ICSA community!

The first two days of school have gone very smooth; we are off to a good start. There are a couple of items you as parents can help us with. Students need to make sure of the following:

- Classes start at 7:45 each day. Each student should be in their classroom by 7:45 or they will be considered tardy for school
- Students must get to each class to avoid being marked as tardy for class
- Students must be in proper school uniform each day. They may only wear a sweater that unzips with their uniform. Students are allowed to bring a sweatshirt that doesn't zip but they may only wear it inside the classroom.

### **Important Info:**

Monday is a B1 day.

School phone number: 22 47 11 52

Upper school office extensions and contact information:

Jim O'Malley, Principal

Ext. 15, [jomalley@icsabidjan.org](mailto:jomalley@icsabidjan.org)

Isaac Amany, K12 Associate Principal

Ext. 33, [iamanay@icsabidjan.org](mailto:iamanay@icsabidjan.org)

Steve Mellman, US Counselor

Ext. 16, [sbmellman@icsabidjan.org](mailto:sbmellman@icsabidjan.org)

Remziya Rehman, US Admin Assistant

Ext. 32, [rrehman@icsabidjan.org](mailto:rrehman@icsabidjan.org)

## Message from Tamu Tamu

- Please order your weekly meals online to avoid any inconvenience. The link will be sent every Friday.
- Purchase your meal tickets in advance.
- Indicate your name and grade behind your meal ticket before coming to the cafeteria.