



ICSA TODAY

Director's Message



[@ICSAbidjan](https://twitter.com/ICSAbidjan)

What is Your Job?

No, really. What is your job? This was a questions asked to a group of students, staff, and parents the day we worked on the mission statement. This fun exercise was meant to illicit what it is we really do. Answers such as "student" or "businessman" or "accountant" could not count. In thinking about what it is we really do, we are able to pinpoint with more confidence what is important in our various jobs as teachers, students, professionals, and parents.

Here are some "jobs"...see which ones are from students and which ones are from adults!

Here to collect information.

I am a learning stakeholder. I am not easily convinced and ask questions.

I learn new things and am a happiness maker.

I learn to learn.

I succeed and help others succeed.

I do what needs to be done.

I am a helper and a thinker, striving for success.

I help to develop and implement strategies.

So, talk about it around the dinner table this weekend - what do you really do? Do you want to change jobs and be a "happiness maker"?

Enjoy the weekend

Peter

UPCOMING

September

- 28: Half Day/Teacher In Service
- 28: Lower School Back To School Night
- 29: Upper School Back To School Night

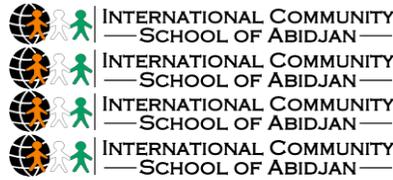
OCTOBER

- 3: Board Meeting @6PM
- 5: Counselor Corner with Parents
- 6: Half Day/Teacher In Service
- 6: US Field Day
- 6: PTO Meeting @8:00AM
- 7-10: Long Weekend
- 15: Terry Fox Run

Below in this edition of the ICSA Today you will find information on our school information system (RenWeb) that is used to communicate with parents and other information on TEOFL, PSAT, SAT testing, upcoming college visits, Gratitude Journals, Nurses notes, PTO, and few more tidbits.

Lower School News

William Seward
Lower School Principal



Lower School News

September 16, 2016



At ICSA we use Renweb to interact with students, parents, and staff. If you or your student has not yet logged on to Renweb please make it a priority to do so. This is where you can find a wealth of information. First and foremost your student's academic progress is available at any time. You can check grades, whether assignments have been turned in, absences, discipline among many other items. The teachers post homework and their websites on Renweb as well. Help your students get in the habit of checking Renweb regularly and you as parents should also frequent the site. It is very valuable.

If you do not know how to access Renweb please follow the directions below:

Registration with the School Information System

We request you to please register with the School Information System to monitor your child's performance in school if you haven't already done so.

Follow the instructions below to register:

1. Go to www.renweb.com
2. Click on Log in
3. Choose Parent Web Login
4. Enter the District code which is "CS-CIV"
5. Click on Create New Account

You will be asked to enter District code (CS-CIV) and your email. Once you do that, you will receive a link from Renweb Support in your inbox which enables you to create your own username and password.

If you encounter any difficulty please contact Ms. Rokhy Tanon rtanon@icsabidjan.org in the Lower School Office for assistance.



Save the Date

LS Back to School Night
Wednesday
September 28th



- Attendance - students are marked tardy if they arrive to class after 8:00 AM.
- You will receive an automated email via RenWeb on days your child is marked absent or tardy.
- Dismissal is at 3:00PM. Please be on time.
- Gate Passes - Passes must be requested via e-mail. No passes will be distributed via a telephone call. Email rtanon@icsabidjan.org

William Seward, LS Principal wseward@icsabidjan.org

<p>Upper School News</p> <p>Jim O'Malley Upper School Principal</p>	 <p>INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY — SCHOOL OF ABIDJAN — INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY — SCHOOL OF ABIDJAN — INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY — SCHOOL OF ABIDJAN — INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY — SCHOOL OF ABIDJAN —</p>	<p>Upper School News</p> <p>September 2nd, 2016</p>
---	--	---

Welcome to the ICOSA 2016/2017 School Year!

Renweb- ICOSA's Student Information System:

At ICOSA we use Renweb to interact with students, parents, and staff. If you or your student has not yet logged on to Renweb please make it a priority to do so. This is where you can find a wealth of information. First and foremost your student's academic progress is available at any time. You can check grades, whether assignments have been turned in, absences, discipline among many other items. The teachers post homework and their websites on Renweb as well. Help your students get in the habit of checking Renweb regularly and you as parents should also frequent the site. It is very valuable.

If you do not know how to access Renweb please follow the directions below:

1. [Registration with the School Information System](#)

We request you to please register with the School Information System to monitor your child's performance in school if you haven't already done so.

Follow the instructions below to register:

1. Go to www.renweb.com
2. Click on Log in
3. Choose Parent Web Login
4. Enter the District code which is "CS-CIV"
5. Click on Create New Account

Friday, September 16, 2016

You will be asked to enter District code (CS-CIV) and your email. Once you do that, you will receive a link from Renweb Support in your inbox which enables you to create your own username and password.

If you encounter any difficulty please come to me, Mrs. Shah in the Upper School Office for assistance.



Counselor's Corner

College Visit- Five U.S. universities will be visiting ICSA on Tuesday, September 20th. The representatives will be setting up tables in the Middle School Preau area and will share information and speak to our students during their lunch from 11:20-12:05. Parents are welcome to attend as well.

1. California State University – Bakersfield (California)
2. Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (Indiana)
3. Northern Kentucky University (Kentucky)
4. Troy University – Montgomery (Alabama)
5. University of Bridgeport, (Connecticut)

TOEFL: The *TOEFL* test is the most widely respected English-language test in the world, recognized by more than 9,000 colleges, universities and agencies in more than 130 countries, including Australia, Canada, the U.K. and the United States. Wherever you want to study, the TOEFL test can help you get there. Below are the upcoming test dates in Abidjan and Grand Bassam. **Seniors applying to English language universities may be required to take the TOEFL. Please check with Mr. Mellman for details on registration. Cost is \$170.00**

Upcoming Test Dates

Sat., Sep 17, 2016	Fri., Sep 23, 2016	Sat., Oct 08, 2016	Fri., Nov 04, 2016	Fri., Dec 02, 2016
Sat., Dec 03, 2016	Sat., Dec 17, 2016			

PSAT: The PSAT will be administered to all 10th and 11th grade students on Wednesday, October 19th at 8:00 am at ICSA.

The PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 are highly relevant to your future success because they focus on the skills and knowledge at the heart of education. They'll measure:

- What you learn in high school
- What you need to succeed in college
- If you think the key to a high score is memorizing words and facts you'll never use in the real world, think again. You don't have to discover secret tricks or cram the night before.

The best way to prepare for the test is to:

- Take challenging courses
- Do your homework
- Prepare for tests and quizzes
- Ask and answer lots of questions
- In short, take charge of your education and learn as much as you can.

SAT: Seniors will be taking the SAT on Saturday, October 1. The next opportunity to take the SAT is on Saturday, November 5th. The deadline to register is October 7th. Juniors will have the opportunity to take the SAT in May and/or June of 2017.

Gratitude Journals: This year in Advisory, your students are completing a weekly Gratitude journal in class. In this journal, they are writing down the things, opportunities and people for which they are grateful. They are also listing achievements that they completed in the past week. Finally, they have the chance to reflect and say what they could have done to make the week better. After they write, the students and their advisors can share any part of their gratitude journal with each other or the class as a whole. The science behind gratitude and its correlation with happiness is strong. Please ask your students about their journal, and even think about setting up a daily ritual with your child, either at dinner or at bedtime, where each of you share one thing for which you are grateful. It will decrease your stress, strengthen your bond with one another, and actually make you healthier. The science is right here: [7 Scientifically Proven Benefits Of Gratitude That Will Motivate You To Give Thanks Year-Round](#)

Steven Mellman
Upper School Counselor



WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME WITH ILLNESS

Sometimes it can be difficult for a parent to decide whether to send children to school when they wake up with symptoms of an illness or complaints that they do not feel well. In general, during cold and flu season, unless your child is significantly ill, the best place for them is in school where they have all already been exposed to the same germs. Remind your children to discard used tissues promptly, not to share personal items, to cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze, to keep their hands away from their face, and to wash hands thoroughly and often with soap and water. However, there are some situations in which it is best to plan on keeping your child home for a day to rest or to arrange for an appointment with your doctor.

The following are a few situations that warrant watching and possibly calling your doctor:

- Persistent fever greater than 100.4° orally, including a fever that requires control with medication such as Tylenol/Paracetamol
- Child is too sleepy or ill from an illness, like vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Cough that makes a child feel uncomfortable or disrupts the class

Friday, September 16, 2016

- Sore throat that is severe along with fever and feeling ill for more than 48 hours, OR after known exposure to a confirmed case of Strep throat infection
- Honey-crusted sores around the nose or mouth or rash on other body parts; OR a rash in various stages including boils, sores and bumps that may be chicken pox; OR a significant rash accompanied by other symptoms of illness such as fever
- Red, runny eyes that distract the child from learning
- Large amount of discolored nasal discharge, especially if accompanied by facial pain or headache
- Severe ear pain or drainage from the ear
- Severe headache, especially if accompanied by fever
- Any condition that you think may be serious or contagious to others.

Whenever there is an outbreak of a specific contagious infection, the school sends out a notice to alert you to watch out for any symptoms. If your child starts to develop symptoms, it is important that you alert your own health care provider that your child had a possible exposure. Be sure to ask your doctor when it is safe for your child to return to school, both for your child's health and for the health of the rest of the school.

Finally, if you know your child is still running a fever, it is not a good idea simply to give them pain reliever and send them onto school because as soon as the medicine wears off, you are apt to get a call from the school nurse to leave work and come to pick up your feverish child. It is better to let them stay home in bed with a fever and take their medications at home until they are off all medicines and ready to learn for a full day in a classroom.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Morris
School Nurse



Welcome back to ICSA, and a heartfelt welcome from our community to new students and families! Last week elections were held, and we have a new PTO executive committee in place for the 2016–2017 school year. Our team is very excited to contribute to a positive learning and social environment for everyone. It really does take a village to make a great community like the one we have at ICSA, and we encourage everyone to get involved.

The executive committee will be convening over the next couple of weeks to roll out a plan for this school year. Please stay tuned and we will let you know when the next meeting will be held.

We are looking forward to a fantastic school year, filled with friends, learning, and growth.

President: Carole Kessler

Vice President: Chisala Mibenge-Kilembe

Representative to the Board: Saija MacCartney

Friday, September 16, 2016

Treasurer: Aminata Kamara

Secretary: Elena Molina