



INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
ULM/NEU-ULM

Newsletter

19.01.2024

Survey - Evening Connection
ISU Christmas Market
Social-Emotional Counselling
CAS - Sport Season 2 & ASAP Update
Art - Toast Tuesday





Survey

Dear ISU families,

We are currently planning the class structure for the 2024/2025 academic year and are trying to anticipate class sizes in order to help with staffing, resourcing and budgeting for next year.

We kindly ask that you take a few moments to fill out this brief [survey](#), even if your plans for next year are not fully confirmed. This survey will close on Friday, 26th January 2024.

Please note that this survey is a courtesy and is not binding. If you are planning on leaving at the end of the school year however, please keep the deadline in mind for handing in your withdrawal. As per the school contract it is 31st May 2024 for the end of the school year 2023/24.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Luke Osborne
Director



Evening Connection

Join us for an informative session on language learning in the IB PYP programme, led by Anne Osborne, our Lower School Language Coordinator. This hands-on session will offer insights into our inquiry-based approach, covering the language curriculum, cultural awareness, and communication skills, all within a supportive and engaging learning environment. It's an ideal opportunity for parents to understand and engage with their child's language education journey at ISU.

The Evening Connection will take place at ISU on Tuesday 6th February from 18:00 until 19:30.

Please [sign up](#) by Sunday 4th February, to give us an indication of numbers.



ISU Christmas Market

Congratulations to Grade 11 CAS for a successful Christmas market

On Tuesday 19th of December, ISU held our second edition of the Christmas market. This event would not have been possible without the excellent collaboration skills of the Grade 11.

This year's edition was to raise awareness and funds for charities with whom ISU students are supporting throughout the year. Together they raised 1.140 euros. The funds will be redistributed to the following charities:

- Nice View- Supported by Leni, Eva & Adrian
<https://www.kenia-hilfe.com/de>
- Manta Trust- Supported by Liv
<https://www.mantatrust.org/>
- Malaria Consortium- Supported Mr Finlay
<https://www.malariaconsortium.org/support-us/donate.htm>
- Nestwärme- Supported by Henri
<https://www.nestwaerme.org/jetzt-spenden/>

We would like to send a special thank you to the PTG for their support and being present with us on the day. Thank you to all the students & parents who visited our stalls and contributed to the donation.



Living Together: Fostering Cultural Humility

In international schools, “living together” reflects our global interconnectedness. These diverse microcosms unite students from various backgrounds, emphasizing the need for unity and understanding in navigating our interconnected world. The skill of living harmoniously becomes an essential life skill as our world grows more interconnected.

Within this rich tapestry, Cultural Humility emerges as a guiding beacon. Coined by Cooks-Campbell (2022), Cultural Humility is an approach to sociocultural differences that prioritizes “self-first.” It encourages individuals to cultivate self-awareness and recognize implicit biases before engaging with others. Rooted in the principles of intersectionality, Cultural Humility fosters continuous self-reflection and a respectful willingness to learn from diverse perspectives, becoming a crucial element in promoting mutual respect and understanding within international school environments.

In the pursuit of building cultural humility, it is paramount to recognize and address instances of “microaggression” (McGeehan, 2023). These are the subtle, everyday slights, put-downs, and insults experienced by various marginalized groups in their daily interactions. Additionally, mindfulness of “microinvalidation,” a form of microaggression that dismisses a person’s experiences, thoughts, or feelings, is essential (McGeehan, 2023). Phrases like “You’re overreacting; it’s just a joke” exemplify microinvalidation. Awareness and understanding of these dynamics are vital steps towards fostering a more inclusive and respectful environment.

Cultural Humility also serves as a valuable guiding principle when conflicts arise. In moments of discord, embracing a mindset rooted in Cultural Humility facilitates open dialogue and understanding. Rather than escalating tensions, individuals engage in self-reflection, acknowledging their biases and fostering an environment conducive to respectful communication. This approach not only resolves conflicts but strengthens the fabric of mutual respect and understanding, promoting a harmonious coexistence within the diverse tapestry of our interconnected world.

In summary, fostering Cultural Humility in international schools goes beyond academic excellence; it cultivates vital skills for navigating a connected world. Embracing diversity, recognizing biases, and addressing microaggressions create a community where mutual respect thrives. Weaving Cultural Humility into our educational fabric contributes to a future where unity and collaboration flourish globally.

Ms. Lin

Cooks-Campbell, A. (2022, February 14). How Cultural Humility and Cultural Competence Impact Belonging. BetterUp Blog. Retrieved from <https://www.betterup.com/blog/cultural-humility-vs-cultural-competence>

McGeehan, A. (2023). Understanding, Identifying, and Responding to Microaggressions. ISCA Virtual Collaborative 2023 webinar presentation.



Henna for ISU International day

What was it?

In this CAS experience, together with a group of friends, I set up a stall for the ISU international day on the 24th June providing a service for younger children consisting of applying simple Henna designs for them to represent our culture next to the Indian stall.

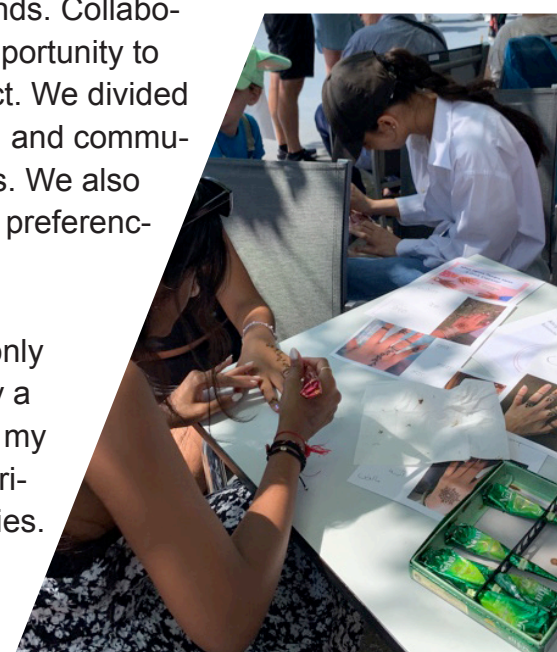
Our goal was to show the beauty and significance of Henna and work collaboratively to set up a creative fun activity for others to enjoy. In preparation for this service we spent a day together planning, researching and printing out different kinds of designs and posters and collaboratively discussed the stall arrangements.

What did I learn?

As I had limited experience with doing Henna for so many people in one day, the task had required patience, precision, and artistic abilities. I learnt that practising and experimenting with different designs was needed to challenge myself to improve my technique and develop more various patterns. Through consistent application, I mastered my skills and became more confident in my ability to create henna designs.

This experience taught me the importance of overcoming challenges, pushing beyond my comfort zone, and continuously developing my skills to achieve personal growth. It also made me realise the importance of team effort, as I worked closely with my two friends. Collaboration played an important role in our experience, and I had the opportunity to develop and demonstrate collaborative skills throughout the project. We divided responsibilities, assigned tasks based on each person's strengths, and communicated effectively to ensure a smooth day of doing Henna designs. We also interacted with the little kids and their parents. We listened to their preferences, and adjusted our designs accordingly.

Overall I found that the day had gone pretty well, and there were only minor challenges which were easily overcome and it was definitely a productive day. I enjoyed myself and was happy to share a part of my culture with others. The various things I have learnt from this experience are sure to support me further on in the future in other activities.



World Toilet Day

19th of November

CAS

1 Investigation

- **Water displacement device**
 - Saves up to 40% of water per flush
 - Looked up step-by-step process of creating our own hand-made displacement device
- **Recycled toilet paper**
 - Second & final idea
 - More sustainable & eco-friendly
 - Looked for organisations in/next to Ulm to change supply of toilet paper

2 Preparation

Introduce ideas:

1. Water Displacement Device
 2. Recycled loo roll
- Contacting loo roll suppliers
 - Persuasive letter to Mr Osborne
 - Preparing a pitch for Maintenance Team

3 Action

- **Recycled Loo Rolls**
 - Implementing sustainable loo rolls in school
- **Water displacement device**
 - Building a prototype of the water displacement device
 - From recycled materials (plastic bottle, sand. . .)
- Meeting with Maintenance Team pitching idea

4 Demonstration

Demonstration of research

-each group member was required to do in the beginning of the project

Demonstration of Water Displacement Device

-Trials and fails of the water displacement device, which we showed through picture and video evidence

Demonstration of Communication

-Weekly meetings where we shared our information with each other and came up with new ideas and emailed supervisors.

5 Reflection

Team-work:

Establishing methods of communication, especially regarding investigation and preparation phases

Reflect on ways to support/remind the maintenance team

Reflect on ways to best reach suppliers

Reflecting on the global issue, finding suitable doable methods

Contribute to improving the school's ecological footprint to tackle the global issue

Sport Season 2 Update

2

Dear ISU community, it has been fantastic to see so many students already joining our sports for season 2.

Regarding U14 and Varsity Boys Basketball, just keep in mind that there's a slight change for practice days, practices are from now on, on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. Keep in mind also that U14 and Varsity table tennis starts on **February 5th**.

If you haven't signed up for our sports, please do it, as soon as possible, by [following this link](#) to sign up or scan the QR code:

Last but not least, ISU wolves hoodies and t-shirts will be available for sale soon. We will keep you posted!



Get involved with Sports and After School activities!

Dear ISU community, we are always looking for ways to improve both our programmes, so if you would like to join this journey by leading or assisting an activity, let us know.

In order to make it happen you need to do a Police Check (Erweitertes Führungszeugnis).

School provides a confirmation form that parents can give to the authorities (Bürgerbüro).

More information regarding this you can get in touch with me: a.alves@is-ulm.de or our

Human Resources Department: hr@is-ulm.de

Looking forward to seeing you involved with our ASAP and Sports Programmes.

Let's go Wolves!

Alexandre Alves

Athletics Director and After School Activities Coordinator





Art

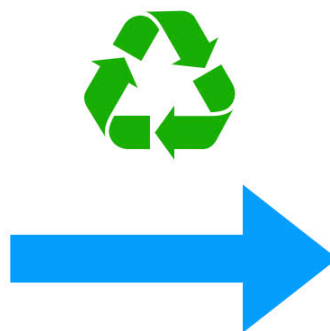
NEWSPAPER APPEAL

Please send in your unwanted newspapers - the Art Department needs them for our sculpture projects! Just think, your junk mail, could turn into a wonderful Bird! support your local artists and give us your old newspapers!

Many thanks,

Ms Thomas

This could be transformed into THIS!



By Polina M 2017

Toast Tuesday

**Toast
Tuesday**

Every Tuesday
before school starts
& MSUS breaktime

Price: 0,50€



Fundraising for the Duke of Edinburgh Aventures

Come and enjoy a piece of toast before school and during MSUS morning break!