

# ISL PTA NEWSLETTER



**November 2007**

The PTA, after a few personnel changes, is now full operation.

As well as the usual social activities, the PTA also organises meetings between the Class Representatives or Language Representatives and the parents of their classes or Language. These meetings are meant to give you the time to get to know each other better and to exchange views, feelings and concerns about the school.

The ones that have been organised until now have been a success in the sense that they have given us the opportunity to have, with the teachers concerned, some very constructive exchanges based on a very concrete base established by the parents.

We can only be the link between you and the school if we know what you feel. So we wanted to thank all the parents who took (or will take) part in this process and especially the teachers who are so receptive to the parents' concerns and ideas.

If you haven't been contacted yet, no worries, you will have plenty of chances to catch up with each other and with your children's class representatives. The next one will be an all school

**Coffee morning on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at 8:45 am  
in the school Dining Room.**

We will also have lots of activities coming up for which we will be counting on your presence! The Transition Seminar, the Book Fair with storyteller - Sean Taylor, a secondary disco, visits and Musicals are all still to come. So if you want to help us, do not hesitate to contact any member, you will always be welcome.

And now, sit down comfortably and enjoy your newsletter.

# PTA News & Activities

## Class & Language Representatives

A few changes have taken place in the PTA organization.

Unfortunately, Pauline, our Y2 CR had to leave us - she has been replaced by Vanessa Preudhomme (020 8997 5410; 078 7640 1648; [vanessatds1@hotmail.com](mailto:vanessatds1@hotmail.com)) and a new ECP CR has joined the team: Betsy Goldstein (020 8742 8727; 077 1433 5407; [betsygolds@aol.com](mailto:betsygolds@aol.com)).

We also have a new Portuguese language Representative joining us: Rita Nascimento (020 7361 1787; 078 0957 4501; [ritacass@hotmail.com](mailto:ritacass@hotmail.com)).

## Clubs

### Transition Seminar

The first Transition Seminar will be held on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30 am until 11:30 am.**

This Transition Seminar is given annually, in 3 sessions (the 2 others will probably take place on 11<sup>th</sup> March and 10<sup>th</sup> June), to parents in order to increase their awareness and understanding of transition issues.

Various aspects of Transition will be discussed from various points of views:

- Your personal experience of change and what it means to you and your family;
- Difficulties and obstacles preventing from smooth and painless adaptation and adjustment to new conditions;
- Ways of dealing with difficulties, what works best;
- The role of the school.

### Book club

The next book club will be held at Zahra's house on **Friday 9th November at 10.00.** The address is 20 Princes Avenue (very close to the school, next to the pedestrian bridge). Acton Town is the closest tube station.

If you are interested, contact Karen Lee-Campbell at [karen@lee-campbell.co.uk](mailto:karen@lee-campbell.co.uk)

## Cooking club

Want to have some fun learning recipes from around the world then join us in the school kitchen on Friday's from 14:00 to 15:30.

This month we will have:

2<sup>nd</sup> November: Aiman & Zarema from Kazakhstan cooking Manty and Belyashy

9<sup>th</sup> November: Irene from UK will show us how to make a Rice Pudding

16<sup>th</sup> November: Zahra from Somalia

23<sup>rd</sup> November: Esther & Maria from Spain will cook the famous Paella

If you are interested, if you feel like cooking or if you just want some more information, please contact Kamala Aliyeva (020 8878 5058) or [nar\\_ley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nar_ley@yahoo.co.uk)).

## Feel like going out?

We have been asked by some parents who went there last year to organize a visit of Sunbury market this year again. Let us make your wish come true on ...

### **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November: Sunbury Antiques market**

Meeting point: Gunnersbury Park Car Park (off Popes Lanes) at 9.00  
We'll then drive to the place sharing the cars.

For those who don't know about it, Sunbury Antiques Market is the largest & longest running Bi-monthly market in England. This market has been at Kempton Park for over 20 years and since the beginning in 1979 has gone from strength to strength. It attracts well over 700 stallholders, 350 stalls inside & over 350 outside stalls, offering a wide variety of Furniture, Silverware, Jewellery, Pottery, Porcelain, Kitchenalia, Garden ephemera, Clocks, Paintings, Cameras, Books and all collectors items etc.

Many continental stallholders drive here loaded with local delicacies such as French Farmhouse Tables and Belgian Chandeliers etc. The abundant availability of good European rustic furniture at Kempton has persuaded some British dealers to give up the cross-channel run altogether and buy at Kempton instead. It now attracts a huge number of customers from all over the world, particularly those from Europe, America and the Far East.

## PTA ISL Theatre Outings

London is an extraordinary city, full of culture and opportunity. What better time than now to expose your children to fabulous theatre. Through the PTA, we can take advantage of discounted group rates for top west end shows. This season we begin with...

# The LORD OF THE RINGS



The magic of THE LORD OF THE RINGS comes to life in a stunning new onstage spectacle with over 70 actors, singers and musicians...

An amazing live event, filled with jaw-dropping theatricality, that transports you to Middle-earth as breathtaking special effects, thrilling music and dazzling performances

Tickets for this wonderful musical are available for the performance on

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2007 - 19:30 at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane**

£17.50 per ticket - must be paid by Monday 5th November at the latest

**Back by popular demand before she flies away from  
London**

**The SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIDOCEOUS**

# MARY POPPINS



This Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's musical stage production is a triumphant spectacle, full of stunning choreography and unforgettable songs.

Tickets for this flying show are available for the performance on

**Tuesday 20 November, 19:30 at the Prince Edward Theatre**

£25.00 per ticket - must be paid by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October at the latest

**Finally, due to the huge success of the show, we have booked in advance a number seats for the ELECTRIFYING....**



**THE PARTY IS BACK! IT'S THE BIG NIGHT OUT IN THE WEST END**

# **GREASE**

Tickets for this brilliant production are available for the performance on

**Tuesday 29 April 2008, 19:30 at the Piccadilly Theatre**

£19.50 per ticket - must be paid by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at the latest

For all ticket information and reservations please contact  
Benedicte Minvielle - [bbminvielle@hotmail.com](mailto:bbminvielle@hotmail.com) - 079 6018 6041

**All cheques made payable to ISL**

Cheques can be given to the school office or directly  
to Benedicte Minvielle

## **ISL Baby-sitters**

The following list contains names and contact details of Year 12 /13 ISL students (aged 16+) who are available for baby-sitting

Antonia Sammans – German speaking  
tel. 020 7603 0695

Babette Van Dijk – Dutch speaking  
tel : 020 8996 0396

Milou Kommers – Dutch speaking  
tel. 020 8992 0661

Philip Kunick – German and French speaking  
tel. 079 1477 7139

Antoine Minvielle – French speaking  
tel. 078 5214 5691

Martin Minvielle – French speaking  
tel. 078 7895 9769

Also, the daughter of a staff member is available: Sophie Carter – French and Spanish speaking tel. 020 8579 7127

## Messages from Deputy Head – Guidance

### OFSTED INSPECTION

Following the OFSTED inspection on 27th and 28th of September, the following extract is taken from the OFSTED evaluation of the school:

"The International School of London provides a good quality of education and care and achieves its stated aims very well. The good curriculum is a major strength of the school, as is the good teaching, which supports pupils' very positive attitudes and good progress. These ensure that pupils learn through their second language while also preserving their skills and continuing their mother tongue learning at appropriate levels. The school has an outstanding transition system which enables pupils with a multiplicity of different mother tongue languages to enter the school smoothly and to leave as part of a system of international education. The community and services programme is outstanding in its promotion of understanding between nations and cultures."

The full report (which will be sent to all ISL parents) is also available from the Admissions Office upon request.

### ISL Graduate wins Prestigious Prize

Congratulations to Keli Kumordjie who graduated from ISL 3 years ago, for winning the Institute of Mechanical Engineering Award at King College In October of this year. He scored the highest marks in his year and is now in his second year of a Master's Degree in Computer Aided Mechanical Engineering



## ISL Calendar – Key dates for the next month

### October

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> ECP- Year 6 Parent-Teacher Meetings

### November

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> – Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Boys Volleyball Tournament - Ankara  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Girls Volleyball Tournament – Lisbon  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Year 3 – Year 6 Macbeth Workshop  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> PTA Transition Seminar  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> Boys Football Tournament – Madrid  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Year 9 & Year 11 Parent-Teacher Meetings  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Year 7 - Year 8 Parent-Teacher Meetings

### Some dates to remember in November

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November: Bonfire Night fireworks**

Celebration of the failure of a plan by a group of Catholics to blow up the Houses of Parliament on 5th November 1605. The king at that time (James the First) was unpopular with Catholics because he passed laws which made them pay extra taxes unless they went to Anglican churches.



*Bonfire*



*Sparkler*



*Fireworks*

A Catholic man called Guy Fawkes was found in a cellar underneath the Houses of Parliament with barrels of gunpowder. He was executed. The

failure of this plan is celebrated each year by lighting a big fire (called a bonfire) with a "guy" on top (this is a model of a man, representing Guy Fawkes). In recent years the bonfire is combined with (or is sometimes replaced by) displays of fireworks.

### **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November: State Opening of Parliament**

The Queen travels from Buckingham Palace to Westminster to open a new year's programme for Parliament. Parliament has two main chambers: the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The House of Commons has most of the power these days: its representatives (known as MPs: Members of Parliament) are elected directly by the people in a general election. The main role of the House of Lords is to review the decisions taken by the House of Commons, and to recommend changes. Before the State Opening ceremony starts, the cellars of the Palace of Westminster are searched by the Yeomen of the Guard - a precaution dating back to the Gunpowder Plot of 1605 when Guy Fawkes and others planned to blow up Parliament.

The Queen enters the House of Lords and sits on a throne. An official known as "Black Rod" walks to the House of Commons, but the door is closed in front of him (this represents the occasion when King Charles the First was refused entry, at the time of the English Civil War). Black Rod uses his ornamental mace (a heavy stick) to knock on the door, after which he is allowed into the House of Commons. He asks the MPs (Members of Parliament, who are chosen in a general election) to move into the House of Lords to listen to the "Queen's Speech". The Queen reads out details of planned changes to the law over the coming year (this is written by politicians from the government). The ceremony, which is a tradition which started over 500 years ago, is shown on television (usually on BBC1: 10.45am - 12.30pm). You can watch the Queen arriving or leaving in her coach: it leaves Buckingham Palace at 11am, follows The Mall to Horse Guards, passes through to Whitehall and then travels past the Cenotaph to Parliament Square. At 11.15 a cannon is fired in Hyde Park. Possible places to watch include the northern and north-eastern edges of St James's Park and in front of the Houses of Parliament. For further information, see: [http://www.parliament.uk/faq/lords\\_stateopening.cfm](http://www.parliament.uk/faq/lords_stateopening.cfm)

### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November: The Lord Mayor's Show**

Since 1189 there has been a Lord Mayor of London elected each year who represents the City of London, the traditional business centre of London (do not confuse the Lord Mayor with the Mayor of London, the role currently taken by Ken Livingstone). Each year a new mayor is elected and by tradition must travel from the City to Westminster to promise to serve the king or queen (on the second Saturday in November). There is a street parade which starts at the Guildhall at 10:55am; this is watched by the new

Lord Mayor from outside of Mansion House. The parade includes 200 horses, 60 floats (displays on top of a vehicle), 200 motor vehicles, 20 marching bands and 23 carriages and lasts for one hour. The Lord Mayor follows at the end of this procession in his golden coach (built in 1757).



*The coach which takes the Lord Mayor to Aldwych*

The procession travels past St Paul's Cathedral and ends at the Royal Courts of Justice in Aldwych. At 1.00pm the procession returns, starting near Temple tube station and following Victoria Embankment and Queen Victoria Street back to the Guildhall. If you cannot go to the parade yourself, you can watch it on television on BBC1 between 10.45am and noon. Later in the day (starting at about 5pm) there are fireworks which are set off from a boat on the River Thames. Good places to see the fireworks are along Victoria Embankment, on Blackfriars Bridge or on Waterloo Bridge (all of these are near Temple tube station). For more details and the timetable of events during the day, see: <http://www.lordmayorsshow.org>.

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Day events**

Wild poppies grew in the fields of France and Belgium where many people died during the First World War. Paper poppies are sold and worn from the start of November to raise money for the Royal British Legion, a charity which supports the families of people who have been killed or injured in wars.

The Queen and representatives of Parliament, the Armed Forces and the Commonwealth lay wreathes (rings) of poppies at the Cenotaph. The Cenotaph is a memorial for those who died in the First and Second World Wars (it is located in London in the middle of the road called Whitehall to the north and called Parliament Street to the south, near Westminster tube station). 10,000 veterans (former soldiers) march past the memorial. There will be a two-minute silence at 11am. The ceremony can be seen on television (on BBC, starting at about 10.30am).

### **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November: Thanksgiving Day**

Americans celebrate the harvest season, often eating a family meal including turkey and pumpkin pie. Although this day is not widely celebrated in the UK, some restaurants offer the traditional meal.

## **Tips for October**

### **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November: The Language Show**

An exhibition for people who are interested in learning or teaching a foreign language, held at London's Olympia, Hammersmith Road, London W14 (nearest Tube: Kensington Olympia). For details see: <http://www.thelanguageshow.co.uk>.

### **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November: Bonfire Night fireworks**

Some of the London parks with fireworks displays are shown below (larger events are shown in bold). In some cases there is further entertainment before this. Some of the events are free, but many require a small payment.

**Alexandra Palace** (Tube: Wood Green, then W3 bus) - Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. - 7:30

**Battersea Park** (Tube: Sloane Square or train Battersea Park) - Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. - 7:30

**Bishop's Park** (Tube: Fulham Broadway) Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov. - 7:15pm

**Clapham Common** (Tube: Clapham Common, Clapham South) - Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov. - 7:30pm

**Ravenscourt Park** (Tube: Ravenscourt Park) Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. - 7:30pm

### **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November: Veteran Car Classics & London to Brighton Run**

On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> old cars (built before 1905) travel from London to Brighton. This traditional event celebrates the removal in 1896 of the law which forced drivers to have a man walking in front of the car holding a red flag (at the same time the speed limit was increased from 4 miles per hour to 14 miles per hour).

The official website for the event is <http://www.lbvcr.com>. The event starts at 7:30am at the Serpentine Road in Hyde Park. About 400 cars take part - the last of these leaves Hyde Park at about 8:30am. Some of the cars will be on display in Regent Street on Saturday (<http://www.regentstreetonline.com>).

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November: Oxford Street Christmas Lights** are turned on.

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November: Country Living Fair (Christmas)**

British crafts and small businesses display their products. A good place to find unusual Christmas presents. There is an entrance charge. The event is held at the Business Design Centre in London near Angel underground station). For details, or to buy tickets in advance, see: <http://www.countrylivingfair.com>.

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November: Regent Street Christmas Lights** are turned on

## I recommend

### A Taste of Asia...

**...in Ealing: Sillom Village (57 The Mall; tel : 020 8567 5566)**

Don't go there for the decoration but just if you feel like having a nice Thai dish for a more than reasonable price and always with a smile. Perfect for a quick nice and healthy lunch.

**...in Belgravia : Hunan (5 Pimlico Road, tel : 020 7730 5712)**

Something totally different. Don't look for the menu, there is no menu ! The only questions asked by the owner is: "Do you like everything? Fish? Spicy food?" Then the dishes (around 8 or 10) appear at a nice path on your table and it is so good...

### And some sporting activities for the kids during the Holidays

The main activities take place at the University of Westminster Sports Ground, Cavendish Road, Chiswick. It is open to girls and boys from 3 to 10. The sports programme include: football, gymnastics, rugby, netball, basketball and many other ball games. For more info see: <http://www.sport4alltd.co.uk>

***Each month we will print some suggestions and recommendations from ISL parents. So if you have been to some restaurants, some shops, some exhibitions... that were really worth it, let us know! (vanessatds1@hotmail.com)***

## Classifieds

**A long black, silk evening dress**, JS BOUTIQUE, uk size 12, brand new, never worn. Price £40.00. Contact : [uk.betty@googlemail.com](mailto:uk.betty@googlemail.com) or by phone: 02089946260.



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**Two charcoal grey rear seats from a VW Sharan** but they will also fit in a Seat Alhambra or a Ford Galaxy. They have almost never been used and are thus in a very good condition (bought in 2004). Price to be discussed. Details: [vanessatds1@hotmail.com](mailto:vanessatds1@hotmail.com)

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### **Do you want or need to learn Italian?**

Then I can offer:

- Italian classes at all levels for adults and or children studying Italian at GCSE level;
- editing/ re-writing/ proof reading of documentation;
- conversational Italian for daily life or preparing to live in Italy.

Native speaker fully qualified teacher with 15 years of experience in secondary schools. One to one or collective classes, also at your place.

Contact info: 020 87470144 - 0773 8006498 - [cinziaaustralia@yahoo.it](mailto:cinziaaustralia@yahoo.it)

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### **A Party soon ? Personalize your cake !**

Mara will help you choose the most appropriate cake and she will bake it with all her experience as an “Artisan Pâtissier et Chocolatier”.



To place the orders, contact: [mara.difino@hotmail.com](mailto:mara.difino@hotmail.com) or 0781 6269440

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### **Football coach**

Acton Ealing Whistlers FC is looking for a coach for the under 7 team. Trainings take place on Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00 and matches are on Sundays. A small salary is linked to the job. If you are interested, please contact : [vanessatds1@hotmail.com](mailto:vanessatds1@hotmail.com)