



DP Newsletter 8-7th February 2020

Dear Parents

I hope that you are all well. We are now fast approaching ski week (february break). I hope that you and your son / daughter are looking forward to a well-deserved break. Within this newsletter I have tried to give you an update as to key events that have taken place as well as information about upcoming events.

### **Extended Essay**

During the last two weeks, DP students have been working through an online workshop to better develop their understanding of the Extended Essay. The aim of this workshop is to support students through all stages of writing their EE; from choosing a topic and framing a research question to structuring and writing the essay itself. At the beginning of next week, Dr Brown and I will be following up with students to ensure that they have completed this workshop and to check whether they have been able to identify some ideas for the Extended Essay and whether they have already made contact / had a meeting with a supervisor.

Further information about the workshop can be found by following the below link:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/ib-extended-essay>

### **International Celebration Day**

On Wednesday 29th January 2020 from 3.45 to 5.30pm we had our annual International Celebration Day Event. I would like to thank all of the DP students for their engagement in the event and for their willingness to work with and support our younger students. The event was a big success and really demonstrated (and celebrated) the international mindedness of our school community. Thank you also to our parents who supported the event, whether through attending / supporting the planning afternoons or by preparing international foods for our community to enjoy.





### University Fair

I would like to inform you that I am currently organising a trip to an International University Fair for Grade 11 (MYP5) and Grade 12 (DP1) students in Florence on Monday 16th March 2020. The fair is being hosted by the International School of Florence and during the fair, students will have the opportunity to engage / watch presentations and meet with an admissions officer. I am now finalising the details of this trip but can tell you that we will likely depart school at approximately 2.30pm and return at approximately 6.00pm.





## Safer Internet Week



Safer internet day is on Tuesday next week (11th February 2020). Safer Internet Day aims to create both a safer and a better internet, where everyone is empowered to use technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. The campaign aims to reach out to children and young people, parents and carers, teachers, educators and social workers, as well as industry, decision makers and politicians, to encourage everyone to play their part in creating a better internet. (<https://www.saferinternetday.org/web/sid/home>)

During the week, students will be encouraged and prompted to reflect on the aims of the day and will attend an assembly with this as a specific focus.

## Grades 10 - 11 - 12: trip to London-Message from Ms Letizia

Ms Ines has already shared with parents the information letter for this trip, and I am happy to say that there had been a very positive answer to it.

As you know, the programme is still a draft of various “free afternoons” listed.

I would like to reassure all parents that it is not our intention to leave students wandering across London by themselves (although I am sure they would like it) but the reason why the programme is still a draft, is because we think that students of that age could take some responsibility also for the organisation of their school Residential Trip. Dr. Brown has been working with them and collecting a series of activities they would like to experience in London and our travel agency is currently working on that.

That said, I also would like to confirm that students will have some free time to spend in a specific area agreed with their teachers, as independence is an important skill to develop.

During next week, you will receive via ManageBac all details for all of the three trips.

## MYP & DP Disco

On Thursday 13th February 2020 from 6pm to 8pm, there will be an MYP-DP Disco held at school. The decorative theme for

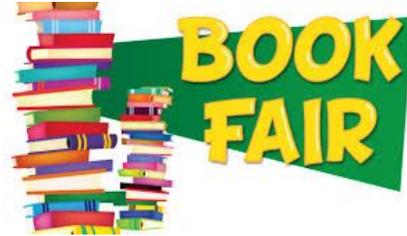




the event is Valentine's Day-students (mainly MYP) will help to produce decorations, specifically for this event.

### **Book Fair**

I would like to inform you that we have Book Fair taking place at school on the 14th of February from 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Grade 12 students will have the opportunity to look at the books available, either during their lunch break, during a non-contact session (if they have one during this time) or after 3.50pm



### **International Mother Tongue Language day and multilingualism workshop**

International Mother Tongue Language Day is on Thursday 27th of February. During the day many activities will be set up to: celebrate the mother tongue languages of our school community; promote awareness of the importance of mother tongue language development.

In addition to this, Ms Simona and Ms Letizia will run a Parent Workshop about Multilingualism. The workshop will start at 9.00am, in the multipurpose area. I would encourage you to attend the workshop. You will be able to sign up for the workshop using I-cloud page will be set up for parents to sign up.

### **Local Events**

I would like to inform you that on the 22nd and 23rd of February there will be the first edition of "Siena Comics for Kids", an event organised by Scuola del Fumetto. Please find below the web link for the event:  
<https://www.sienacomunica.it/siena-comics-for-kids/>

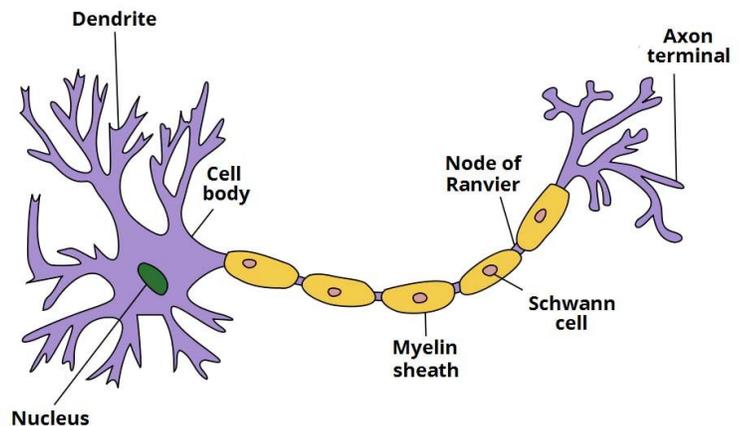
If you have any information about any in local community, please share this so that we can promote this to the rest of the school community. Thanks!



## Teaching & Learning in DP in the last two weeks

### Biology

During the past two weeks students have been working to develop their knowledge and understanding of neurones and synapses when learning about the nervous system. As part of this, students have discussed the following TOK question: “To see is to believe” How advisable it is for a biologist to trust their senses? When can our senses deceive us?



### Physics

We have almost completed our discussion about Mechanics. We have introduced impulse and momentum and we are now working with collisions and conservation of momentum. The students also worked on the data analysis relative to a simple experiment we performed in our lab last week which had the goal to check if mechanic energy was or was not conserved through the motion of a ball on an inclined plane (See attached pictures in the next pages)



