



Accredited by CIS & NEASC

The Franconian International School

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Middle School & High School Winter Celebration **What a night it was!**

This year's Middle School and High School Winter Celebration was a wonderful treat for the whole FIS community. Our Aula rang to the class bands, vocal ensembles, piano and vocal solos, percussion ensembles, and jazz band, and the audience was amazed by the drama and movement items we saw – we wanted more! FIS students excelled themselves in performance and showed initiative, creativity and style; they worked very hard and showed magnificent co-operation team spirit supporting each other and had lots of fun. Many thanks to all our performers and our Music Department for the fantastic effort you put in. Thanks also to the PTO for the beautiful seasonal decorations in our school, and for the delicious treats in the interval. Thanks also to G11 for the coat room services – what a fantastic fundraising idea.

A parent, Diana Sigmond, is kindly putting together a video of the evening's performances. If anyone has any footage they would be happy to share, please contact her at D.Banasch@gmx.de.

Don't Miss – The Kindergarten & Elementary School Christmas Play **Thursday 10th December, 9:00am, Aula**

Over the past few years, this annual FIS winter celebration has reflected international themes – highlighting the cultures and music of the many countries who are part of our school community. This year, based on the holiday of the nation where our school is located, the performance will be a traditional Christmas Nativity play – featuring dialogue, singing and movement – that will feature all children in the Kindergarten and Grades One to Four. For many of the children at the FIS, Christmas is an important annual holiday, which they celebrate with their families, and in Germany it is a national holiday. For those children whose families do not celebrate Christmas, participation in this performance is a chance to learn a little more about this festival. It will take place on **Thursday 10th December at 9am in the Aula**. Parents are warmly invited to the FIS 2009 Kindergarten & Elementary School Christmas Performance. We hope you can join us for this exciting and fun event.



Winter Break – School resumes on 4th January

A number of families are well into planning for holidays over the Winter Break. May we remind families that the vacation starts with an **11:50 dismissal on 18th December**. **School resumes in the New Year on Monday 4th January 2010.**

4KL Goes Weather Watching

On Friday, 27th November, Mrs. Larsen's fourth grade class went on their first field trip of the year. The class had a tour of the Nürnberg Airport Weather Station. This was in conjunction with their lessons in IPC on weather and weather instruments. The children were very excited to visit the weather station as it takes special permission to get admitted into the restricted airport area.



Frau Woelfel and Herr Assmanns met the class at the front of the airport and escorted the students through the employee security entrance onto the airfield. They gave an overview of what their jobs entailed and the type of education that was required to be a weather observer. The class then boarded a security bus that gave a grand tour of the fire station, runways, and parked jets. The weather station is at the far end of the runway. When the group got off the bus, we went to the weather garden where all the weather measuring instruments are located. They got to investigate and hear how each one worked. The next phase was going into the actual weather station, a small two-story building at the end of the runway. It is located there so that the weather observers can see the weather conditions on the runway. All information is used by incoming and outgoing pilots. Frau Woelfel had translated all the German weather posters in the station to English just for us, and

served us gummi bears and juice.

Frau Woelfel and Herr Assmanns were very happy at how well behaved our students were. They sent a letter of appreciation to the class saying how much they had enjoyed conducting the weather lessons. The result of this is that we have an invitation for next year. Well done 4KL!

Sport @ FIS

This week there were two very exciting **Junior Basketball** competitions. The first was on Tuesday as Coach Eric Newton took the **Junior Boys'** team to the Friedrich-Sponsel Halle here in Erlangen to compete in the city finals. It was an exciting match and the boys worked very hard. Although the team was unable to defeat an older and much taller team, they took away important competitive experience from the game. Great job boys and thanks so much Coach Newton!

Two FIS **Junior Girls' Basketball** teams played against each other in a city play-down in our very own Gym this Wednesday. The game was highly entertaining and a lot of fun! The balcony was full of cheering parents who came to support the girls. Coaches Jeanne Bouvier and Teresa Rotherham did a fantastic job of preparing the girls for the match. The girls will now wait until the schedule for the Landkreisfinal is announced. Thanks go to Coach Bouvier, Coach Rotherham (Mrs), Coach Obermanns and Coach Brittney, and to Terry 'The Bus' Rotherham, and Eric 'Neutron' Newton and Mr H for officiating.

FIS Junior Girls Basketball Team 2009-2010:

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Chandvi Asnani | Ellen Bird | Chloe Bohm | Marie Chaveriat |
| Alexandra Harrison | Lucy Kenningly | Kana Kobayashi | Celina Kolouch |
| Anne-Fleur Koster | Stephanie Lebitz | Tailor Liedtke | Kira McManus |
| Megan McManus | Ane Rudorfer | Mayu Tsubata | Mary Ashton Watson |
| Hannah Weigl | Clara Wilhelm | | |

Next, the FIS **Junior Girls' Volleyball** Team 2 will be travelling to Uffenheim next Monday for the Regional finals. They will be leaving the school at 11:30 and will not return until around 17:00.

Finally, the **Junior Boys' Soccer** team will be hosting SV Langensendelbach in an indoor tournament on December 17th from 4:00-5:30.

Fall is an exciting time for team sports at the FIS - Go FIS go!

Bookbridge

On Monday 30th November, the Community, Action, Service (CAS) programme at the FIS launched our **Bookbridge** project in Mongolia. Along with other worthy causes such as the Romanian Orphanage, FIS students will continue developing in the area of global awareness. Please read the attached flyer and donate used children's books – you can drop them off at the box at Reception – so we can meet the goal of 15,000 books and build a library in Mongolia.

World AIDS Day

1st December, 2009 was [World Aids Day](#). Students in Grade 11 raised €163 selling Red Ribbons and there were many to be seen around the school on 1st December. Thank you all for your support.



Judy Bradley, Grade 11JB Homeroom teacher

WANTED

Grade One is in need of some **circus costumes and props**. If you have any elephant, lion, tiger, clown, monkey, acrobat, horse, or dog costumes we could borrow until 16th December, please let us know.

News from the Library

Just to let you know that we now have a subscription to WorldBook Student, WorldBook Kids and WorldBook Discover.

You can access it from school or at home but there are different usernames and passwords depending on where you are!

Go to the library website (<http://library.the-fis.de>) and click on the WorldBook logo on the homepage. See attachment for passwords. If you forget the passwords, please get in touch with Mrs Smith or Mrs Rotherham.

School Photos

The deadline for bringing in your money for school photos was today. If you have not already done so, please return the photographs or money (the cost per package is €20; sibling photos cost 2 euros extra. If you wish to buy the package please send in €20 in an envelope **marked with your child's name and grade and labelled "school photos"**) to your class or homeroom teacher immediately. Purchase of partial packages is not possible. If you do not wish to purchase the photo package, it should be returned intact to the office. Extra copies can be ordered only through the photographer, Digital Schulfotografie, directly on 089/85601-113.

Thank You!

Girl Scouts would like to sincerely thank all the FIS staff and parents who supported our Raffle. It was a huge success – congratulations to our three winners. Our leaders look forward to all the fun activities they can do with the girls because of your generous support.

The French Lunches are back

The French mums are very pleased to inform everyone who is interested in speaking or improving their French language skills that "French Lunch" will be scheduled next year on the first Friday of every month!

The first one will take place in the Mexican restaurant near School (El Lobo), on 8th January, at 11:45. We kindly ask interested people to contact Christine Manzon (0151 58 87 04 52 or manzon.christine@hotmail.com) before 5th January to book a table. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

WANTED – Teaching Assistant and Substitute KiGa Teachers

We are looking for a **Teaching Assistant** who can join our Grade 3 classes on a part-time and Mini-job basis (up to € 400 per month). The candidates must be able to speak fluent English and have a valid work permit for Germany. Prior experience and qualifications as a Teacher or a Teaching Assistant would be an advantage. Please send a letter of application and C.V. to Kathleen Gründig, Kathleen.gruendig@the-fis.de. For queries relating to the position, please contact Mr Lawler.

The FIS seeks **Qualified Substitute Teachers** for the Kindergarten on a Mini-job Basis (up to € 400 per month). We are looking for flexible people who can substitute in the Kindergarten on a short-term basis in the case of an absent teacher. The candidates must be able to speak fluent English. German language skills are also an advantage. Candidates should also have a valid work permit for Germany. Please send a letter of application and C.V. to the Kindergarten and Elementary School Principal: Glenn Lawler, glenn.lawler@the-fis.de. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Lawler if you have any questions.

Music @ FIS – Drum Lessons now available

Introduction (presenting the components of a drum set), aptitude test (determining the level of the pupil), hearing test, basics (holding the sticks, position for right-handed and for left-handed pupils, chair position, adjusting the drums etc.), rhythm learning, many auditions of different drum styles, presentations of videos of famous drummers. For info, contact: Andrei Marza andreijen@yahoo.com.

PTO News & Thank You

That was quite an impressive performance our children gave last night. The amount of cake and cookie donations was overwhelming. A special Thank You to all for helping to set up, clean up and for donating those delicious cakes, cookies, cupcakes and sandwiches: Denise Corcoran, Barbara Weigl, Anja O'Connor, Laura Craig, Amanda Cartwright, Jutta Jackwerth, Tom Kerster, Beate Schüppel, Heidi Laurens, Silvia Augsten, Geri Choudhury, Sarah Bühler, Claudia Windesheim, Cosimo Gaudio, Bettina Wiegel, the PTO members, and everybody else who donated or jumped in to help in the last minute.

We hope you enjoyed not only our FIS parents' delicacies but also the Lebkuchen donated by "Lebkuchen Schmidt" and the Stollen from "Neef Confiserie" in Nürnberg who gave us a good discount.

Another Thank You to Betty-Ann Kruger, Denise Corcoran, Audra Watson, Alison Forbes, the French Ladies who donated the French basket, artists Calie Amini and Beate Schüppel, and Matthias Malessa for donating and organizing the prizes for our Silent Auction. We hope the winners enjoy the auction items.

Thank you also to those people that thought our prices were too low and gave more than necessary – 10 € for a Glühwein and 10€ for a piece of Stollen were here the biggest donations. We still need to figure out how much we actually made, but we would like to use the money to the benefit of the Middle and High School students. If there are any ideas and suggestions, please let us know at pto@the-fis.de. We will also get in touch with the Student Council.

Furthermore, I would like to thank all the mothers who helped decorate the school so nicely: Denise Corcoran, Betty-Ann Kruger, Melani Poet-Jones, Mr and Mrs Bartz, Amy Thompson, and Audra Watson.

We, the PTO Board members, were very busy getting this event organized as well as with the organization of the new board and its "duties". We know there's room for improvement and we are working on it. We are all involved for the fun of it and because we believe it is for the benefit of our children. Nevertheless, we very much appreciate the support we have received from you so far this school year. The many donations last night were more than we ever dreamt of. Please, keep supporting us.

The uniform orders will be sent out next week and there will as well be an opportunity to **buy uniforms** after the KiGa/ES Christmas performance on **Thursday morning (9:00am), 10th December**, at the PTO room.

Have a good weekend,

Diana Sigmond (PTO Board President) on behalf of the PTO Board

TV Wanted

The wunderbar flatscreen TV that I was lent had to be returned to its owners, now back from the USA. I wish to buy a flat-screen HD-Ready TV. Are there any parents who may be moving on, or de-cluttering, who would like to sell one? Please contact celia.andrews@the-fis.de if you are interested.

Help Wanted

I'm an Erlangen-University student looking for au pairs and host families who are interested to participate on a study. I'm writing my thesis about "How it is to live with a host family or an au pair" and what effects this has. You have to have at least one child between the age of 3 and 10 years. So if you are interested just let me know and I'll explain more. Hope to hear from you!!! My email address is: ndn_pannach@web.de.

FIS School Newsletter The FIS newsletter is published on a weekly basis and is emailed home each **Friday**. Contributions to the newsletter should be emailed to the school at info@the-fis.de by **Wednesday**. The newsletter contains items of information relating to school operations, PTO News, for-sale items placed by members of our community, and much more. The editor reserves the right to... edit... This newsletter and other important school information can also be found on the school's web page. Newsletters are usually placed on the web site www.the-fis.de a day or two after publication and will remain there until the end of the school year.



Next Week @ FIS

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|-----------|----------------------|---|
| Monday | 7 th Dec | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 11:30 Junior Girls' Volleyball Championships - Uffenheim ➤ 15:45 – 16:45 ASAP ➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Basketball, Junior & Senior Boys practice ➤ 15:50 – 16:50 French school, CP-CE ➤ 15:50 – 16:50 French school, CM2 |
| Tuesday | 8 th Dec | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Girl scouts regular meeting ➤ 15:45 Volleyball Practice - Junior Girls |
| Wednesday | 9 th Dec | <p style="text-align: center;">Grade 10 1st Semester Exams Start</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 08:45 – 09:45 Pilates classes, Gym ➤ 15:45 – 16:45 ASAP ➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Soccer, Senior Boys practice ➤ 16:00 Basketball Practice (Junior Girls) ➤ 15:35 – 16:35 French school, Decouverte 1 ➤ 15:35 – 16:35 French school, Decouverte 2 ➤ 15:50 – 16:50 French school, CM1 ➤ 15:50 – 16:50 French school, College |
| Thursday | 10 th Dec | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 08:45 – 10:45 Toddler Group, ES Music Room (1.59) ➤ 9:00 KiGa/ES Winter Celebration <li style="padding-left: 20px;">PTO Uniform Sale ➤ 15:45 – 16:45 ASAP ➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Soccer, Junior Boys practice |
| Friday | 11 th Dec | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 17:30 – 20:00 Jingle Bell Rock Disco Party Grades 3 & 4 ➤ 08:45 – 09:45 Pilates classes, Gym ➤ 14:15 – 15:15 Cub scout meeting |

Coming up: **16th December – Roll Up, Roll Up! Grade 1 Circus Assembly**
 21st December to 1st January – Winter Break
 4th January – School Resumes at 8:30
