



Accredited by CIS & NEASC

The Franconian International School

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From our Director, Mr. Fred Runkel:

We have now completed two weeks of our new school year at the FIS. Classes are running smoothly, parent info evenings and Middle School week long field trips are coming up, and our popular After School Activity Program or ASAP will be starting up as of October 5. The school year is getting into full swing.

Last week I started with introductions of our teachers and this week I would like to introduce the Middle School team. This is an area of the school where the teaching is departmentalized by subject, with the homeroom teachers being the primary point of contact for parents regarding the pastoral care of their children. Our new Middle School Principal is Mrs. Marsha Huitt, who comes to us from Atlanta in the USA. The homeroom teachers are a mix of teachers who have been at the FIS and new teachers who are joining us for the first time. In our two Grade 5 classes the homeroom teachers are Ms Jeanne Bouvier, and Mrs. Fiona Whiting. In Grade 6 we have Mr. Franco Manna, and Mr. Doug Manning. Mr. Bill Field comes to us from the USA via the Stavanger International School in Norway as our Grade 7F homeroom teacher, while Ms. Christy Luukonnen from Canada is our new Grade 7L homeroom teacher. Mr. Terry Rotherham is our Grade Eight homeroom teacher as well as resident chemistry specialist. Each of these educators teach in one or two specific subject areas, and will give more information about the program at our Parent Information Night for Middle School this coming Monday evening.

Our Middle School subject teachers generally also teach in the High School. I would like to mention those who are not homeroom teachers here. Ms Bettina Müller, Ms Beatrix Lux who is new to the FIS having come to us via Singapore, Mrs. Alexandra McGettigan, Ms Connie Bruening and Ms Corina Stickforth sprechen Deutsch, while Mrs. Laura Pontones, Ms Stickforth, Ms. Teresa Carballes and Ms Tabita Sandoval hablan Espanol. Mrs. Alice Astorino maps Social Studies. Mrs Cristel Collins, and Ms Slawa Wrzesniewska paint our Art classes, while Mr. Rene' Löhnert is the IT expert for Grade Eight. Ms Connie Panagakis expresses our new Drama program as well as sounding Music with Ms Andrea LaRose. Last but not least, Mr. Adrian Haug is a very sporty person for the MS students and Ms Judy Bradley teaches Ethics as well as being our counselor. All in all we once again have a very talented and child-centered teaching team in charge of the students in our Middle School.

Reminder Grade 11 and 12 Students

Registration for the **10th October 10 SAT** exam ends 9th September. Register online at www.collegeboard.com
Ms. Bradley, School Counselor

From the High School Principal, Dr Liam Browne

High School Accreditation

May and June may seem like distant memories now but it was undoubtedly an extremely busy time in the High School. Firstly, we had an accreditation visit by the [Council of International Schools \(CIS\)](#) and the [New England Association of Schools and Colleges \(NEASC\)](#). The FIS received the reports from both organizations over the summer and I am happy to report that the High School (Grades 9-12) has been successfully accredited by both organizations. The reports highlighted the following:

- The level of investment in facilities and resources to support the school's programmes;
- The deep sense of community that permeates the school, and the obvious sense of teacher commitment to the students in their care;
- The school's sound financial situation;
- The structures that have been put in place to support the High School.

This accreditation now gives even more weighting to our FIS High School Diploma to satisfy university entrance requirements in many countries. With the original High School Development Plan now almost at an end, many suggestions in the accreditation report will be implemented into a strategic plan that will aid with the further improvement of the High School.

IB and IGCSE Results

July and August are also the months when students receive the results of their [International Baccalaureate \(IB\)](#) and [International General Certificate in Education \(IGCSE\)](#) exams. This is a worrying time for Grade 10 and Grade 12 students as they wonder: Did I pass? What grades did I get in each subject? Did I do well enough to get a scholarship/entry to university?

Students from the FIS had no reason to worry. In fact they are to be congratulated on their excellent IGCSE results this year. Not only did they perform very well, but their results were better than the equivalent UK figures¹. 82% of the school's Grade 10 students achieved passes at the all important A* - C grades. The equivalent percentage for the UK's GCSE results as a whole was 67.1%. At the FIS 22 % of our students received an A or A* compared to 19% in the UK. The hard work of the students and their teachers has been justifiably rewarded by these results – well done to you all.

Grade	FIS students %	UK students %
A*	7.3	6.4
A	14.7	13.1
B	30	18.6
C	30	25.2

A special congratulations is also extended to the school's first graduating class who achieved excellent results in their IB examinations. The FIS Grade 12 students had a combined IB average of 34 points putting the FIS at the top of the IB results table among international

¹ <http://www.teachit.co.uk/index.asp?T=M&M=3>

schools in Germany. All FIS students who sat for the IB diploma received it and those students who sat the certificates option also had excellent grades.

	FIS 2009	Worldwide 2008 (09 not yet available)
Total number of candidates	10	87,777
Number of diploma candidates	7	38,842
Number with 35+ points	4 (57%)	22%
Number with 30+ points	6 (85%)	50%
Diploma passes	7 (100%)	79%
% of grades in 6-7 range	55%	27%
Subject pass rate (grades 4-7)	98%	82%

Congratulations to all students on their excellent performance, and best wishes to them in their future endeavours. Please find below a list of our FIS graduates and their plans for next year:

Ivo Chadlek – Leeds Metropolitan University, UK;
 Felix Katzer - London City University, U.K;
 Kevin Klenke – pursuing his studies in California, US;
 Marco Kotterer – doing an internship before pursuing his studies at Babson College, US;
 Nik Grinjuks – currently studying in Spain and applying to Lufthansa Pilot training;
 Declan O’Flaherty – Oxford University, UK;
 Kersten Peters – currently pursuing an internship in finance, Germany;
 Daniel Rehorst – Ravensburg University, Germany;
 Melanie Stenzel – Queens University, Canada;
 Ellie Welsman – University of Sydney, Australia.

Middle School Parent Information Night – 7th September 2009

Middle School Parent Information Night is scheduled for Monday, 7th September to give parents of students in Grades 5 to 8 the opportunity of meeting their child’s teachers as well as giving all of the teachers the opportunity of presenting their programs and expectations for the school year. The Middle School Parent Info Night will be held at the FIS beginning at 7:00 pm (19:00) in the auditorium and should be finished before 9:30 (21:30). If possible, we ask that children be left at home, but limited babysitting by volunteer students will be available for the evening. The PTO will provide refreshments. The evening is scheduled as follows:

- 7:00 Opening remarks and introductions by Marsha Huitt
- 7:10 Student Support and Counseling—Deb Obermanns & Judy Bradley
- 7:15 Information Technology (IT) – Rene Löhnert & Doug Manning
- 7:20 Art – Slawa Wrzesniewska & Cristel Collins
- 7:25 Music- Andrea La Rose
- 7:30 Drama—Connie Panagakis
- 7:35 PE – Adrian Haug
- 7:40 Break – refreshments in the foyer provided by the PTO
- 7:50 Programme continues with parents attending presentations by various subject teachers in the designated classrooms

Time	Grade 5 Parents	Grade 6 Parents	Grade 7 Parents	Grade 8 Parents
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	Room 235	Room 142	Room 125	Room 261 (Chemistry Lab)
7:50	Homeroom Jeanne Bouvier Fiona Whiting	Homeroom Franco Manna Doug Manning	Homeroom William Field Christy Luukkonen	Homeroom Terry Rotherham
7:55	Grade 5 English & ESL Fiona Whiting Jennifer Michalsky Sabine Lang	Grade 6 Spanish Laura Pontones Franco Manna	Grade 7 Math/Science William Field Ian Armstrong	Grade 8 Science Terry Rotherham (261)
8:10	Grade 5 Social Studies Alice Astorino	Grade 6 English/ESL Fiona Whiting Jennifer Michalsky	Grade 7 Spanish Laura Pontones Tabita Sandoval Franco Manna Corina Stickforth	Grade 8 German Bettina Müller Beatrix Lux Alexandra McGettigan
8:25	Grade 5 Mathematics & Science Jeanne Bouvier	Grade 6 Social Studies Alice Astorino	Grade 7 German Bettina Müller Alexandra McGettigan Corina Stickforth	Grade 8 English Social Studies ESL Christy Luukkonen Steven Fogarty
8:40	Grade 5 German Laura Pontones Constanze Brüning Bettina Müller	Grade 6 Science Jeanne Bouvier	Grade 7 English/Social Studies ESL Christy Luukkonen Franco Manna	Grade 8 Math Andreas Sayer
8:55	Grade 5 Program Finished	Grade 6 Math William Field	Grade 7 Program Finished	Grade 8 Spanish Laura Pontones Corina Stickforth Franco Manna Tabita Sandoval
9:10		Grade 6 German Bettina Müller Beatrix Lux Corina Stickforth		Spanish 8 Field Trip Info Laura Pontones Tabita Sandoval Terry Rotherham
9:25		Program Finished		Program Finished
9:45	Building Closed			

Grade 9 & 10 Parent Information Night - 10th September 2009

The Grade 9 and 10 Parent Information Night is scheduled for Thursday 10th September to give the parents of students in Grades 9 and 10 the opportunity to meet their child's teachers as well as give all of these teachers the opportunity to present the programme and expectations for the school year. The programme will begin at 7:00 pm (19:00) and should be finished at 10:00 (22:00). The PTO will also provide refreshments. The evening is scheduled as follows:

- 7:00 Opening remarks and introductions by Liam Browne
- 7:10 Counseling - Judy Bradley

- 7:15 Information Technology (IT)- Rene Löhnert
- 7:20 PE – Eric Newton
- 7:25 CAS & Student Support –Deb Obermanns
- 7:30 International General Certificate in Secondary Education(IGCSE) - Martina Thomas

Break – refreshments in the foyer provided by the PTO

- 8:00 The programme will continue with parents visiting the classrooms.

The following schedule will take effect after the coffee break:

Time	All Grade 9 parents in Room 133		Grade 10 Room 132 Mrs. Thomas
8:00	The G9 Year – Liam Browne		Martina Thomas (Grade 10 homeroom teacher)
8:05	Foreign Languages Spanish - Tabita Sandoval Steve Fogarty Teresa Carballes German - Bettina Müller Beatrix Lux Alexandra McGettigan		Coordinated Science Ian Armstrong Tara Bay Michael Reid Terry Rotherham
8:25	Coordinated Science Ian Armstrong Tara Bay Michael Reid Terry Rotherham		Music Connie Panagakis
8:35	History Kim Sonderborg		Foreign Languages Spanish - Tabita Sandoval Steve Fogarty Teresa Carballes German: Bettina Müller Martina Thomas
8:50	Move to respective homerooms		
8:55	Grade 9 C Room 134	Grade S Room 133	
9:00	Andrew Collins (Grade 9C homeroom teacher)	Kim Sonderborg (Grade 9S homeroom teacher)	Mathematics Andreas Sayer
9:05	English Andrew Collins	English Phillip Bird	History Kim Sonderborg
9:20	Mathematics Andreas Sayer	Mathematics Bryan Landmann	
9:35	Move to respective homerooms		
9:40	Music Connie Panagakis	Art Slawa Wrzniewska	English Andrew Collins
10:00	Evening Concluded		

After School Activities @ FIS

Our popular After School Activity Program will begin on 5th October. The courses will run for ten weeks, ending on 18th December before our Winter/Christmas holidays. A list of offerings is attached to this newsletter.

ASAP activities are open to students from Kindergarten 5 upwards, on a space-available basis. KiGa 5 and Grades One and Two students are limited to one course per week. Students in Grade Three and above may sign up for a second course.

Students who sign up to participate in the ASAP are committed to the activity for the specific day of the week and for the full ten week period of the course.

Course selections should be given to the homeroom teacher **no later than Friday 11th September**. Late enrolments in the ASAPs will not be accepted. Letters informing you about the activities into which your child has been placed will be sent home on 25th September. Please note that there is **no bus transportation** provided after the ASAP activities, and that parents are responsible for ensuring their child/ren participating in the ASAP are picked up from school on those day/s.

Sport @ FIS

This is a reminder to all those students who wanted to sign up for FIS team sports training that forms should be handed in to the front office or Mr. H as soon as possible. Also, the following teams will begin training on the dates listed below. Please note that if a particular team does not have enough players to train properly, training for this team will be cancelled and replaced with something of greater interest to students. Adrian Haug, A/g HOD

2009-10 FIS Sports Teams (Fall/Autumn)

Junior Girls Basketball (1995-1998) – Wednesdays, starting 30th September – Jeanne Bouvier

Junior Boys Basketball (95-98) – Mondays, starting 28th September – Eric Newton

Senior Boys Basketball (93-96) – Mondays, starting 28th September – Terry Rotherham

Junior Girls Volleyball (95-98) – Tuesdays, starting 15th September – Mr. H & Jennifer Michalsky

Senior Girls Volleyball (93-96) – Tuesdays, starting 15th September – Mr. H & Jennifer Michalsky

Junior Boys Soccer (96-98) – Thursdays, starting 1st October – Mr. H & Bill Field

Senior Boys Soccer (94-96) – Thursdays, starting 1st October – Ian Armstrong

FIS Student Planners have arrived!

Don't forget that you can still pick up your FIS Student Planner from the Reception for €12. And those students who might not care for the covers that were selected for this year might like to start pulling out their drawing boards and sharpening their pencils to submit their own design for next year's editions!

SAFETY

Adults entering the FIS must speak to Reception!

For the safety and security of the whole FIS community, we would like to reinforce with families of importance of **all adults in the building signing in at the Reception Desk** and **wearing a visitor's badge** when in the building. The only exception to this is if they are briefly entering the school at drop off or pick-up time to drop off or pick up a child.

Parents who need to pick up their children earlier than the normal dismissal time **must** make themselves known to the Receptionist. The Office/Receptionist will contact the responsible teacher and arrange for pick up to take place.

Parking – Help us keep good relations with our neighbours!

By week two of school, we have already had complaints from our neighbours about the behaviour of members of our school community in the mornings during drop off time. Please do not model inappropriate behaviour by driving on the wrong side of the road, parking on the wrong side of the road, parking in another person's parking place or crossing the road unsafely.

Smoking: is not allowed anywhere on the FIS campus. If your children smoke, please remind them that if they must smoke, it is inappropriate to do so in the car park of the building across from the school.

No Glass: Many thanks to all those parents who are providing their children with drinks bottles – keeping hydrated is important, particularly in hot weather, and water is brain food. Please do not let your children bring glass bottles to school.

H1N1: Although there has been no change either to WHO or German alert levels, we attach for your reference a copy of the letter which was sent home to all parents concerning H1N1 and the FIS response.

Thank you for your cooperation in these important issues.

Music @ FIS

Do you love to sing? If your answer is “yes”, please come and join the **FIS Adult Vocal Ensemble**. Contact Ms Panagakis (Connie.Panagakis@the-fis-de) if you would like to be a member of this group. Details of the day and time of rehearsals will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

Private MUSIC tuition at the FIS

The FIS Music department will offer private instrumental tuition again this year on a fee for service basis. Tuition is available after school in the FIS Music Rooms on a range of instruments including Piano, Woodwind, Brass and Percussion. If you are interested, please contact Ms Panagakis (Connie.Panagakis@the-fis.de) and she will provide you with further details.

FIS Toddler Group

The FIS Toddler Group is open to all families with children aged 0 – ca. 3 years old. We will meet on Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 10:45 in the Music room (room no. 1.59). Please remember to sign in and out at the main Reception.

Is your child losing things at school already?

Have you considered the Stuck on You range of labels for every imaginable piece of property they might bring to school? Please see the attachment for details – all sales through our FIS community member Kirsten Higgins raise money for our school.

Cub Scouts @ FIS

Cub scouts is kicking off on 11th September immediately after dismissal. Boys from grades 1 to 5 and their parents are welcome to meet in the Cafeteria. Please see attachment for detail. Phone Kathleen Kostouros on 015112761600.

Erlanger Nachtlauf – Calling all Runners!

Sporty members of the FIS Community will be interested to know that the seventh Erlangen Nachtlauf (night run) will be held on 11th September beginning at 8:30 (Right by our school!) in Roethelheimpark). The course is 4,3 km long – please check out the run online at www.nachtlauf-erlangen.de.

Keen to learn German? For German tutoring please call Petra Kampmann on 09135/211268 or 015153724855.

Bamberg Families interested in Sharing the Driving?

Dear FIS. Families from Bamberg/Bamberg County, Do any of you (like me) travel twice daily from Bamberg to Erlangen to drop off/pick up their child (son in K5) ? I'm wondering if anyone would be interested in sharing the driving, and offering to help out, with a view to eventually getting a Car Pool or shuttle going. If you are interested please contact Sonja Elster, Bamberg Tel.: 0951-91797020 or 0173-3130337, or Sonja@Elster-Hubertus.de

PTO

Please feel free to contact the PTO anytime at pto@the-fis.de.

REMINDER for all **returning parents**: It is once again time for the new PTO PARENTS CONTACT LIST. If you would like your name to be included in the list, kindly fill out the attached Contact List form and return it by email to roohee@t-online.de or hand in a printout to the school office no later than Friday, 11th September, 2009. Thank you. The PTO BOARD

Next Week @ THE FIS

Monday	7 th Sep	➤ 19:00 Middle School Parent Information Night
Tuesday	8 th Sep	
Wednesday	9 th Sep	Deadline for Oct SAT exam registration: www.collegeboard.com
Thursday	10 th Sep	➤ 9:00 - 10:45 Toddler Group, ES Music Room (1.59) ➤ 19:00 Grades 9 & 10 Parent Information Night

Friday	11 th Sep	➤ 14:00 – 15:45 First Cub Scout Meeting of the Year! Boys Grades 1-5 and parents welcome! LAST DAY for ASAP course choices! PTO Contact forms due back
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FIS School Newsletter The FIS newsletter is published on a weekly basis and is emailed home each Friday. The newsletter contains items of information relating to school operations, PTO News, for-sale items placed by members of our community, and much more. Contributions to the newsletter can be emailed to the school at info@the-fis.de. 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.