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# The Franconian International School

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## ***Middle School Field Trips***

### ***From the Principal of the Middle School, Marsha Huitt***

During the week of 21<sup>st</sup> September, all Middle School grades embarked on their annual field trips. The field trips serve many purposes in the lives of our MS students as learning takes place outside the classroom as well as inside. Students gain valuable lessons not only from the sights they see and the new experiences they have, but also from the feeling of independence and accomplishment that comes from spending time away from home and overcoming fears and homesickness. This year's field trips were no exception.

The Grade 5 students traveled to Hintersee and participated in a variety of activities, including hiking, rock climbing and rappelling. In addition, they explored a glacier and took a boat ride along Lake Königsee. Grade 6 ventured to Belgium for a week of Space Camp, and all agreed that the experience was worth the long bus ride. Training as astronauts is lots of fun, but very challenging and everyone was ready for their space "mission" before the end of the week. In addition to our space activities, we explored a cave, a slate mine, one of the oldest castles in Europe in Bouillon, and took a safari ride through an animal park. In Grade 7, students were probably the most challenged physically as they worked with the Outward Bound program at Oxenkopf Outdoor Park near Bischofgrün, sleeping in tents and cooking many of their own meals. They also took some long hikes and challenged themselves on rope courses and other physically demanding activities. In Grade 8, students flew to Spain, spent time in a Spanish school and lived with families for the week. Being in their third year of Spanish instruction, this week of language immersion was an eye-opener for them all. In the spring they will welcome the Spanish students to the FIS and return the hospitality.

More than anything else, field trip week allows for the bonding of the classes and helps with relationships during the remainder of the school year. I am very proud of our students and their behaviour. They received compliments everywhere they went and represented their families and the school very well. Thanks to all of the parents for entrusting your students to us and allowing them these valuable experiences.

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## ***Grades 3 – 9 ISA testing 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October***

Families of students in Grades 3 to 9 will have received information about the forthcoming [ISA](#) International Schools' Assessment tests which will be conducted on the mornings of Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Students are reminded to get a good night's sleep the night before, eat a hearty breakfast and bring two pencils with them to the tests. Good luck everyone!

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### ***Don't Forget - Tomorrow is a Public Holiday - Tag der Deutschen Einheit***

This Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October is a public holiday to mark German Reunification Day. Most shops and many places of business will be closed, but there should be a range of activities for families to enjoy. Have a look at [www.erlangen.de](http://www.erlangen.de) or your local newspapers.

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### ***Update – Parent-Teacher Conferences***

The first Parent – Teacher Conferences for the year are as follows:

**20<sup>th</sup> October**            **Kindergarten and Elementary School** students  
**21<sup>st</sup> October**            **Middle and High School** students.

Shortly before these dates, a progress report for each student will be sent home. Please note that in your child's progress report there is a **check box** next to each subject that will indicate if the teacher has **requested an interview**.

As in previous years, conferences will take place during the day, and from **Grade 2 onwards, students are expected to attend** the conferences with their parents. Letters to Middle and High School families should have been received end of this week or early next week. Would the parents of Kindergarten and Elementary School students please return your forms with requested time slots to the Office by 5<sup>th</sup> October.

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### **MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER - LAST CHANCE TO BUY BOOKS!**

The deadline for returning your order form for the latest Red House/Scholastic Book Club catalogue is **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October**. Please mark the envelope "Book Club Order" and return it with payment to the school office the Monday deadline. We are sorry but orders received after Monday will not be processed.

This is a great opportunity to buy books in English at very competitive prices. They make great presents for friends and family! The FIS earns commission on the book sales and we use this to purchase books for both of our libraries and for various departments in the school. Remember, there is no minimum order!

When the books arrive we normally give them directly to the students to take home in carrier bags. However if you would prefer the books to be a surprise, please email Mrs Smith ([elaine.smith@the-fis.de](mailto:elaine.smith@the-fis.de)) and let her know and she will then contact you when the books have arrived to arrange a mutually convenient time for you to collect them.

Happy reading!

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### ***After School Activities @ FIS – starting next Monday***

The After School Activity Program will begin next **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October**. If you have not already had advice on which activities your child/ren will be participating in, please contact the Office or [info@the-fis.de](mailto:info@the-fis.de). The courses will run for ten weeks, ending on 18<sup>th</sup> December before our Winter/Christmas holidays.

Remember that **students taking part in the ASAP will not be able to use the FIS bus service**, and families will need to make their own arrangements at the end of the school day.

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### ***ESL (English as a Second Language) Information Morning – 15<sup>th</sup> October***

In my role as the Head of the ESL Department I would like to invite all parents of ESL students who are new to the school this school year (ES, MS and HS) to an information morning on **Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> October**, in the conference room. It will start at 10.30 am and the event will be finished at about 12:00 noon. The purpose of this event is to get to know the parents of all our new ESL students and share a little about our ESL Programme. A presentation with general information about our ESL Programme will be held. After the presentation there will be time for asking questions.

Please be aware that unfortunately we are not able to provide babysitting services. If you'd like to come to the presentation, please send an email to [sabine.lang@the-fis.de](mailto:sabine.lang@the-fis.de). I am looking forward to seeing you then!

***Sabine Lang, Head of ESL Department***

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### ***TUTORS NEEDED***

Any parent interested in offering tutoring to students in a variety of subjects at different grade levels please send your contact details to [judy.bradley@the-fis.de](mailto:judy.bradley@the-fis.de).

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### ***Parking –neighbourly behaviour***

Please remember that the **car park across the road is not for the use of FIS families** – unless you are visiting the dentist there.... Please model appropriate behaviour for our students and use the FIS car park at the back of the school – including for after school activities.

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### ***Franconian Hospitality – Student Teachers***

The FIS is again delighted to be in a position to welcome student teachers from Longwood University in the US to teach at the FIS from early February until the end of April, 2010. This school year we may have as many as three student teachers coming. To complete the experience for them, we are looking for accommodation amongst the FIS community. The student teachers could be housed singly or with two or more together. Please contact the Director, Mr Runkel, on [Fred.Runkel@the-fis.de](mailto:Fred.Runkel@the-fis.de) if you are interested in hosting.

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### ***SAT Dates for FIS Campus***

Scores from the SAT (the Scholastic Aptitude Test for college entry in the US) can also be combined with the FIS High School Diploma for entry in to universities in various jurisdictions including Germany. The SAT will be administered at FIS on the following Saturdays:

10<sup>th</sup> October 2009  
7<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
5<sup>th</sup> December 2009  
5<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Other test dates may be available at other schools in Germany. Please check [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) to register before the deadlines. The deadline to register for the December administration is 30<sup>th</sup> October.

## Cub Scout Bake Sale

Give your children some loose change on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October for them to enjoy a tasty treat at the Cub Scout Bake Sale – on all day. Proceeds to the troop.

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### From the PTO

Hello Everyone!

The PTO would like to invite all FIS parents, teachers and staff to our first PTO meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> October at 6:30 pm. A detailed program with more information will be sent home next week. Please make plans to attend!

Thank you again for coming to the last Newbees coffee-welcoming meeting! As promised, we have come-up with a few ideas that may be of interest to you.

To jump-start our activities this year, we would like to suggest an **historical tour through Erlangen**. The two-hour tour takes place during the daytime... and no worries the guide speaks English as well ;) . The cost depends on the size of our group but if we gather a group of 20 people it is around **€6 per person**. As a date, we are thinking to go **October 13th - around noontime after our first Newbees coffee meeting at Mr. Bleck's in the morning**.

If you are interested in taking part please **RSVP at [fis.socialactivities@gmx.de](mailto:fis.socialactivities@gmx.de) until 8<sup>th</sup> October** so we can take a headcount. Once we get a group together we will get back to you with more information. Thanks for your interest!

Looking forward to you joining us!

Cheers,

The Newbees :)



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## **Wanted - English native speakers**

We are looking for an English native speaking **High School student** who would like to **earn some money** by playing with and **babysitting** our four-year old son. We returned from our three year stay in the States two months ago and would like our son to keep up his English. (He went to day care in the US and had an American babysitter.) We live very close to school (about 5 min by bike in Erlangen-Sieglitzhof). Interested students should contact: 09131 - 908 7692 or 0157 – 81910131.

Lea, an **11-year-old German girl** who has just finishing Grade 5 at Mary Ward Gymnasium in Nuremberg, seeks contact with British/American/Australian girl(s) to talk, write letters/emails, do things together etc. Lea's interests: music, singing, reading, travelling. Please send an email to: [gh.webmail@gmx.de](mailto:gh.webmail@gmx.de).

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## **Work Wanted**

Hi, My name is Josh Eckersley; I am sixteen years old and I am originally from England. My native language is English although I do speak a little bit of German.

I am looking for a part-time job so that I can earn some money. I live in Dormitz and I would prefer to work in the Erlangen area. I am available to work at the weekend and possibly weekday evenings.

The subjects I took for GCSE were Maths, English, English Literature, Double Science, German, I.C.T, Sport Science, R.E and Product and Design (technology). I passed all my GCSE's with 4 A's, 2 B's And 3 C's. The subjects I am studying for I.B are Standard level – Maths, English and German and Higher level – Business, Physics and History.

My pastime hobbies include football, swimming and golf. I am willing to consider any type of work.

Thanks for your time,

Josh Eckersley

Contact me at – [joshack1993@live.com](mailto:joshack1993@live.com) or [joshua.eckersley@fis-students.de](mailto:joshua.eckersley@fis-students.de) or on 017635439078 or 09134708470.

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**Want to be able to Dance like the ones on MTV?**

**CENTERSTAGE** Dance School in Drausnickstraße is offering classes in Videoclip dancing. For details, please see the attached. All enquiries to Gabi Herdegen, 09131 / 5331890, 0157 72526075 or [gabi@centerstage-erlangen.de](mailto:gabi@centerstage-erlangen.de).

**Anyone for Golf?**

FIS Community members are welcome to come to play golf every Wednesday at 10:30, followed by a relaxing lunch afterwards. Beginners welcome. E-mail Linda Eviston [reiki@energy-healing.eu](mailto:reiki@energy-healing.eu)

**Swimming Lessons**

We would like to introduce our swim school named "Waasserschule" , to all parents who joined the FIS this year. In our school for parents, babies and children from 10 weeks to 7 years we work towards supporting our students' physical capabilities and skills and cement their relationships with their parents. We enjoy our lessons in the warm (32°) water of the Waldkrankenhaus in Erlangen. You will find more information about our offers on our homepage: [www.wasserschule.de](http://www.wasserschule.de)

**Morning Pilates Class on Fridays @FIS**

Lynn S Walton will be teaching Pilates Matte class in the gym starting Friday 3rd October from 8:45-9:45 please bring a yoga mat!! Please contact Lynn for more info on [Lynnalec@aol.com](mailto:Lynnalec@aol.com).

**Next Week @ THE FIS**

Monday	5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>Book orders due</b> <b>Kiga/ES Parent-Teacher Conference Responses due</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 15:45 – 16:45 ASAP</li> <li>➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Basketball, Junior &amp; Senior Boys practice</li> <li>➤ 15:50 – 16:50 French school, CP-CE</li> <li>➤ 15:50 – 16:50 French school, CM2</li> </ul>
Tuesday	6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ ISA Testing, Grades 3-9</li> <li>➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Girl scouts regular meeting</li> </ul>
Wednesday	7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ ISA Testing, Grades 3-9</li> <li>➤ Cub Scout Bake Sale</li> <li>➤ 15:45 – 16:45 ASAP</li> <li>➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Basketball, Girls practice</li> <li>➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Soccer, Senior Boys practice</li> <li>➤ 15:35 – 16:35 French school, Decouverte</li> <li>➤ 15:50 – 16:50 French school, CM1</li> <li>➤ 15:50 – 16:50 French school, College</li> </ul>
Thursday	8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 8:45 – 10:45 Toddler Group, ES Music Room (1.59)</li> <li>➤ 15:45 – 16:45 ASAP</li> <li>➤ 15:45 – 17:00 Soccer, Junior Boys practice</li> </ul>
Friday	9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 08:45 – 09:45 Pilates classes, Gym</li> </ul>

**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](mailto: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](http://www.the-fis.de)) a day or two after publication and will remain there until the end of the school year.