

Ref: ISB/sec/n/26-0069  
5th December 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

**Re: HoS Letter: End of Term One 2025-2026 – Daring to Do**

As Term One draws to a close, we celebrate more than just reaching the finish line. We celebrate the significant advancements our students have made across the board in academic progress, in cultivating a supportive culture of well-being, and in maximizing the many enrichment opportunities available. This term has been a period of sustained effort and impressive achievement, confirming our position as a leading international school committed to excellence.

A brief round-up of this half term can be found overleaf. You can also see many of these and more stories in [ISB Spotlight Term 1 25-26](#) and on our social media. These snapshots provide us with some idea of the positive culture we have at ISB. Throughout the term, we have been privileged to welcome esteemed visitors from the Ministry of Education, Diplomatic Corps, universities, and the business community. These visitors consistently refer to two of our greatest strengths: our students' exceptional attitude, focused approach to learning, and the tangible warmth and inclusive ethos of the entire ISB community.

Reinforcing this feedback, I am delighted to share the highly positive findings from the Council of International Schools (CIS) Preparatory Evaluation conducted in November. The CIS team identified numerous institutional strengths, validating the quality of education and care provided at ISB:

- Strategic Direction: Our guiding statements are clear, well-articulated, and effectively support strategic decision-making.
- Safety and Well-being: Safeguarding and child protection procedures are robust, widely understood, and fully implemented.
- Facilities: Our well-developed facilities, including common areas, enhance the learning experience academically and socially-emotionally.
- Continuum of Learning: Transitions between program levels are thoughtfully planned, supporting student well-being and a seamless progression across divisions.
- Teaching and Learning: We demonstrate high levels of teacher and student engagement across all areas, fueled by a passion for teaching and learning among our licensed, professional staff.
- Inclusivity: We have a strong commitment to inclusive education and differentiated instruction, supported by experienced and engaged teaching staff.
- Residential Services: Our Boarding House provides well-developed services with suitable safeguarding, well-being, and risk management provisions.

Further cementing our standing, we are proud to have been nominated for the TES International School Award for "Specialist Provider." Additionally, our Residential Services have been nominated by the Australian Boarding Schools Association (ABSA) for two highly prestigious honours: International School of the Year and Most Innovative Idea in a Boarding School.

These accolades affirm that we are performing exceptionally well, BUT our vision is to continuously strive for even greater excellence.

Aligned with the CIS evaluation, we are launching three strategic, whole-school development initiatives over the next 18 months. These initiatives will ensure that every part of ISB, from Primary through Secondary, is focused on advancing our mission.

(see next page)

Our three key development priorities are:

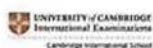
- Empowering Confident Learners Through a Cohesive Culture of Well-Being and Learning.
- Ensuring Meaningful Assessment and Feedback for All Learners.
- Developing Skills in Digital Technology to Support Learning, Well-being, and Futures within the ISB Community.

We are immensely proud of our achievements this term and excited about the path ahead. We look forward to partnering with you as we build on our strengths to make ISB the best possible environment for every student to excel. We wish you a wonderful holiday break.

Yours sincerely



Dr Peter R Jones  
Head of Secondary



## Term 1B Round-Up (October - December 2025-26)

### Academics: Excellence and Growth

We celebrated our remarkable students at the IGCSE 2025 Ceremony, marking a major milestone and reflecting our vision: "everyone excels." Sincere appreciation goes to all staff, students, and parents for their support-it truly takes a village. We look forward to our students' continued growth in the world-renowned IB Diploma Programme.

This term, we held vital support sessions, including:

- Study skills for Year 11
- Year 13 Core Day
- 1-2-1 360 tutor-tutee meetings
- Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Numerous university fairs and talks

**Next Term Focus:** Year 11 and 13 mock exams (IGCSE/IB) and comprehensive transition planning for Year 6 (to Secondary) and for Years 9, 11, and 12 future pathways (IGCSE, IB, and university).

### Academic Enrichment: Beyond the Classroom

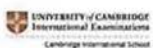
Our students excelled in various academic competitions:

- UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge: 30 students earned certificates. Congratulations to Year 12 Faiz Billy for achieving a Gold Award and Best in School!
- FOBISIA Code Breaking Maths Challenge: Secondary students earned certificates for their strong logic skills.
- ICDL Asia Digital Literacy Challenge (Global Finals): Well done to Armand Struijk (Bronze Award, Business Track), John Keasberry, and Rayyan Jacobs.

### Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) Enrichment: Holistic Achievement

We pride ourselves on providing a holistic education. This term showcased major successes in arts, adventure, and sports:

- International Day: A vibrant celebration of global diversity through music, dance, and entrepreneurial country stalls. Congratulations to Year 10 'Egypt' on winning the International Stall trophy!
- Y7 & Y8 Showcase: Every student participated in our annual musical showcases, demonstrating outstanding energy, talent, and teamwork.
- **Sporting Triumphs:**
  - Our U15 FOBISIA Team had an incredible run, winning 120 medals and five team trophies, including 1st overall in Athletics.
  - Special congratulations to Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah Ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah (inaugural Girls' MVP for the FOBISIA Games) and Xavier Chatriposayanon (Boys' MVP for the football tournament).



- We are proud of our talented student-athletes selected to represent Brunei Darussalam at the 14th ASEAN School Games.
- **Outdoor Education:** Year 10 students successfully completed the adventurous journey component for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze International Award at Berakas.
- **Other Activities:** Included a Swimming Meet, a student-led 3X3 Basketball competition, chess tournaments, and a law debate conference.

**Next Term Focus:** More CAS opportunities, CAS/Science Y12 service project, House competitions, DofE Silver and Gold trips, and a dedicated Year 7–9 CAS Activity Week.

### Pastoral and Student Leadership

- **Well-being Week:** Focused on emotional and mental health with a range of successful student-led activities (gratitude messages, mindfulness, wake-up shake-ups), and the launch of our Peer Mentor Programme.
- **Student Leadership Transition:** We celebrated the excellent work of the outgoing Year 13 team (Sequoia and Jasmine) and welcomed the new Year 12 team, led by Aaryan Hadzrin and Naomi Chong. We look forward to their contributions in furthering student agency at ISB.

