



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Ikast-Brande

Letter from the Head of School 8 January 2021

Dear Parents

Looking back, looking ahead

The ancient Romans believed in a god called Janus, who had two faces: one facing the future, and the other looking back to the past. As the Roman god of beginnings and transitions, it is appropriate that the month of January is named after him. With the first week of the new year already bearing witness to dramatic events across the world, 2021 promises to be a year with two faces: hope and fear. The recent strict lockdown extensions in Europe, the gradual roll-out of coronavirus vaccines, and the shocking events in Washington all point towards a year of significant changes - changes for the better, one hopes. But hope on its own is not enough; we must work together to ensure that this year will be better than 2020 - for ourselves, our children, and our planet. As ABBA put it: *May we all have a vision, now and then, of a world where every neighbour is a friend.* My colleagues and I look forward to another successful year working alongside you and your children. Happy New Year!

Our school is not a building...

Our buildings may be closed to all but a handful of students and staff, but ISIB is very much open! Classes for Years 1 to 11 have been taking place online this week, and I've had the pleasure of dropping in on some of them and seeing what the children are learning. Learning in a virtual environment instead of a cheerful classroom is inevitably a challenge, especially for younger children, but it has been particularly pleasing to see how readily the children have adapted. ISIB students really are resourceful and resilient!

Our teachers have worked exceptionally hard to produce suitable resources for our students to work with independently, or with their parents' help, and our online teaching skills and techniques are improving every day. I would like to thank Mr Marshall for helping our teachers use Microsoft Teams and Purple Mash to best effect, and Mr Connell for producing updated Microsoft Teams guides for the teachers. Finally, I would like to thank you, the parents, for your support and positive comments. Your children's teachers appreciate every kind word. It's also been great to see many parents taking part in their children's learning online, supporting your children as they work.

Online coffee mornings

Our first online coffee morning will take place on Tuesday 12 January, starting at 10.30am. Invitations have been sent to twelve randomly selected parents across the full age range of our students, from Early Years to Year 11. If you were among them, please confirm your attendance as soon as possible, and by Monday 11 January at 12 noon at the latest.



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I will be joined by Ms Christiane Conradt-Eberlin, our newly appointed Marketing and Admissions Officer, who looks forward to meeting some parents and introducing herself. The intention is to hold such coffee mornings at least fortnightly throughout the year.

The Year 11/10. Årgang Programme

Earlier this week, a recorded presentation about the Year 11/10. Årgang Programme was sent to parents of children in our senior year groups at ISIB. We are proud of this unique in-house programme, which has been developed for our oldest students. Our current Year 11s demonstrate how well it develops confidence, and the wide range of experiences and opportunities it offers – despite the restrictions caused by the coronavirus! Our Year 11 programme offers the distinct advantage of being tailor-made to the interests of the students each year - and because we know your children well, we are able to support and challenge them in the ways that will benefit them most. If you would like to know more about how we prepare Year 11 students for success in their future educational, professional, and personal lives, please email Ms Henny Brayd at office@isib.dk.

Enjoy the weekend,

Regards / Venlig hilsen

Tom Wilde, Head of School