



## Our Mission

Providing a balanced and innovative international education that enables students to achieve their individual potential while preparing them to be successful citizens who make positive contributions to society and the world.



## Today's Content:

- Head of School Notes
- How to Talk to Your Child about Covid-19
- IGCSE Science with Mrs. M-B
- Year 13 English with Ms. Lynda
- IGCSE Geography with Mr. Anthony
- Swahili with Ms. Saada

## Head of School Notes

Dear Students and Parents,

We finished our first week of school using a Hybrid Model of Learning. Of course it is not the same as a full in person program, but we are pleased that the implementation of this new model was an overall success. Several teachers reported being able to go through a lot of material more quickly this week. In other words, it is good to look at the bright side of things as well.

As previously mentioned, we will re-evaluate the situation every 2 weeks while we continue to closely monitor the situation on the island, and particularly, within our ISZ community. Please understand that we cannot make a specific prediction about the duration of our Hybrid Model as any decision about the operations of the school depends on the health information we are able to obtain. For sure, the Hybrid Model will remain in place next week until our mid-term break starting on February 22. The Board will meet during the vacation, and we will share the decision then.

Unfortunately, the social distancing measures we are taking also impact our after-school activities program. **Please note that the ISZ Swimming gala planned for this Friday, February 13, will be postponed until March. Also, the Wahoo swimmers will not be travelling to Dar for the Taliss Invitational due to safety concerns for our swimmers and coaches.**

I continue to self-isolate while awaiting a test this weekend. The same is true for our Early Years Teacher. As soon as we have news, we will share those with you.

Thank you all for your understanding and continued support.

Sincerely,

Dr. James W. Pilton

## Talking to Your Child About Covid-19

Here is a wonderful resource shared by one of our parents about how to talk to your child about the current pandemic and what children can do to stay safe and help stop the spread of the disease. It even has the PDF file for download.

Thank you Maha for passing this on.

Have a great day.

<https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-reference-group-mental-health-and->

[psychosocial-support-emergency-settings/actions-heroes-guide-heart-heart-chats-children-accompany-reading-my-hero-you-how-kids-can-fight](#)

## IGCSE Science with Mrs. M-B

The Y10s have been exploring the periodic table as well as the physical and chemical properties of pure elements and compounds. The means by which atoms combine can be predicted based on their position in the periodic table and their electron distribution. The Y10s have been working hard to compare and contrast metallic, covalent, and ionic bonding and how these individual bonds contribute to larger lattice structures. Pictured is a class activity where students were asked to make lattice structures of 2 covalent compounds: diamond and sand(silicon oxide). By building these models and exploring bonds in a 3D manner they can visualize why these two compounds have similar physical and chemical properties. Furthermore, the Y10s can now name almost any compound based on its molecular structure. Feel free to quiz them on why water isn't the correct chemical nomenclature for H<sub>2</sub>O.



English with Ms. Lynda

In Year 13, we have just completed our study of *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*. Reading the play aloud together, students played roles that other students around the world have been playing in English classes and in school productions for centuries. We've composed a soliloquy from one of the characters' perspectives, composed some insightful Cambridge-style essays, and had enlightening discussions. Here are some students' thoughts on our study.

Felix:

Hamlet was first performed in 1609. More than 400 years ago, Shakespeare wrote a play that is still used to exemplify not only his own brilliance in writing skills, but also a variety of social and cultural beliefs, dilemmas and ideas that are still considered a valuable lesson to modern day society. The play features numerous monologues and soliloquies that are as interesting to analyse from a literal perspective as to interpret their meaning with regards to the many possible explanations of each. Crucial questions remain unanswered throughout the play, and the audience is left to make their own judgment. How did Ophelia die? Was Hamlet mad? Who is at fault for the many deaths?

Concepts, such as that of loneliness (which was experienced by many characters in fundamentally different ways) were first introduced on stage play and considered foreign to the general, contemporary audience. Shakespeare was ahead of his time with this play, far enough to still be relevant.

The play culminates in one of the probably most legendary showdowns of literature history. With it, Shakespeare manages to send a warning to everybody; nobody is safe, however safe they may consider themselves.

Zahra:

Studying Hamlet in English class is not only enjoyable but interesting as well. Looking at how our view on major topics as societies changes with time and place is fascinating. Of course the way we look at some topics contemporarily is entirely different in comparison to the way they were looked at in the Elizabethan era but the fact that they still matter to us and make an impact on our modern lives cements Hamlet as a timeless piece of literature.

Kumail:

It's no wonder William Shakespeare's Hamlet is so famous and beloved. Hamlet provides us with all the ingredients for a great tragedy, accompanied by its thrilling plot and multi-layered complex characters. This elaborate fusion of philosophy and comedy serves as an important piece of literature encompassing many themes such as love, hatred, family, insanity, friendships and mental health. A melancholic Danish prince sets out on a quest to avenge his father's murder, and throughout the duration of the play the audience grows with the protagonist and are kept on their toes until the tragic ending which sees the intertwining of betrayal and madness which leaves them with this:

"to be or not to be that is the question."



## Swahili with Mrs. Saada

In year 8/9 class we have been learning about Writing Skills. We started with an invitation card writing as well as what steps to consider when writing a card. Each student had the opportunity to create a card using a model provided by the teacher with the aim of simplifying understanding for students.

To practice listening skills, the students listened to a Kiswahili story called

"The Donkey and a Horse". They then wrote ten verbs from the story and made sentences using those verbs. Next week they will learn about noun classes, we will start with M-WA/A-WA class (The class of living things with blood) and how to use it in sentences by combining it with Adjectives.



## IGCSE Geography With Mr Anthony

This week brings us to the end of our section on Food Production and we will now prepare for a test on the topic next week. We have explored numerous factors in this topic from types of agriculture, the factors affecting food production and particularly focusing on food shortages, the cause and effect of this and the various aid programs. This topic bears a great significance to Africa as a whole as well as Tanzania and our island of Zanzibar. Our focused case study was on Sudan and South Sudan who have experienced severe food shortages for decades predominantly due to drought and the 20 year long civil war. I believe we came out of this section with a greater appreciation for some of things that most of us take for granted. Next topic, Tourism! Another pertinent topic for Zanzibar and our community.

## Pandemic Procedures at ISZ

According to our Pandemic Plan, we are currently at level 3 <http://is�.co.tz/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/ISZ-Pandemic-Procedures.pdf> We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of our pandemic procedures.

- Access to campus is restricted to members of the ISZ community. We reserve the right to turn away persons who have no legitimate business on campus and/or who do not comply with our procedures.
- Any person coming on campus must sanitize or wash hands and have their temperature measured.
- All adults entering campus must also wear a mask.
- All staff members and students aged 12 or older will have to wear a mask when inside and/or when appropriate social distancing measures are not enforceable.
- Throughout the school day, students and staff need to regularly wash hands and change masks. Please send at least 3 clean masks with your child every day.
- If anyone in the family experiences covid-like symptoms, we urge you to get tested and inform the school about the results.
- In the spirit of transparency, the school will share pertinent information with the community in a timely manner so that parents can make informed decisions.
- All personal information that is shared with the school is **strictly confidential**, and we will NOT use any names or specific age groups in our communications.
- There is a 14 day incubation period, and the school is reminding parents to adhere to this timeline when sending children back to school.
- Where there are legitimate reasons to assume a case of Covid-19, the school will ask for a negative test result or a clearance certificate before allowing a student back on campus. For our youngest students, we will ask for negative tests from parents.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. We will immediately update you when we receive new information.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- OFFICE HOURS FROM 8AM TO 3:30PM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
- Swim Gala February 13

- Pink Shirt Day February 19

**Nurture, Empower, Lead**