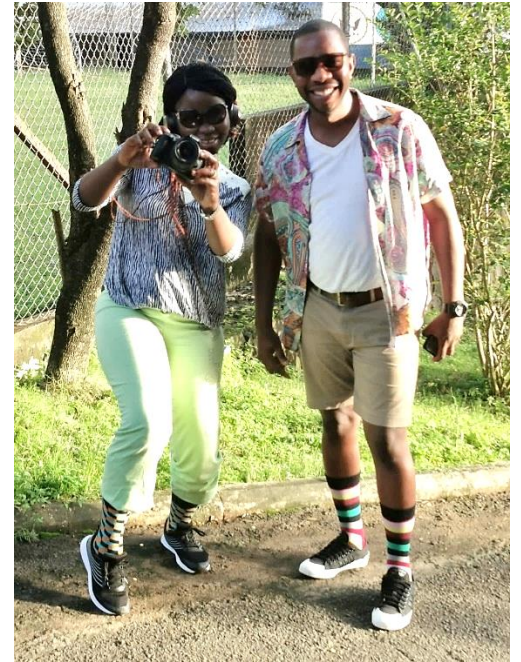


From Brian’s Desk

An Enjoyable Week

We hope that your children enjoyed some of the activities this week! We started off in our workout gear on Monday and Mr. Frederick took us through a few energizing exercises to kick off the week. After that we had a different theme each day and it was great to see so many students participating and to have the school’s admin team join in the fun! Thanks to our Special Events Committee for bringing this week to us!





MAP Testing Begins

On Monday, we begin administering our MAP tests (Measures of Academic Progress) to students in Grades 2—8. **Please note that these are not tests to study or cram for;** what the tests provide is one measure of the students' skill levels in the areas of Mathematics, Reading, and Language Usage. At the beginning of the year, these tests provide our teachers with an indication of where the students stand, what they may need extra work on, and what they are ready to learn next. When we test again in May, MAP also provides an indication of how the students have progressed over the course of the year. At the end of the year, we send home the MAP results so you can see your children's progress and areas of success and challenge.

I would like to stress, however, that these tests are only one measure of your children's learning. While there is a correlation between the test result, they are by no means foolproof. The reading comprehension section, for example, involves reading a few sentences or a paragraph and answering a multiple-choice question. That is very different from most of the reading that we all do in our day-to-day lives, and I find—when confronted with difficult questions at work or outside—I rarely have the luxury of choosing *a*, *b*, *c*, or *d*. Additionally, some students are better test takers while others struggle in the a testing environment and that can skew the results a bit. So...what I am saying is that the results are useful, but other measures of student learning such as the student's performance in class are at least as important.

Grades 2—4 will take their tests this coming week and Grades 5—8 the following week. Encourage your children to take the MAP tests seriously but also encourage them not to worry or stress over them.

Important Upcoming Dates

26th September to 7th October	MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing in Grades 2—8
Monday 10th October	Mawlid (The Prophet's Birthday) School Closed. Mawlid is expected to begin the evening of October 7 and continue through Saturday which means that Monday may be a public holiday. To hopefully make life easier, Monday 10 th October will be a school holiday.
Wednesday 26th October	Parent-Teacher Conferences
Thursday 24th November	American Thanksgiving/School Closed
Friday 25th November	AISF Closed for Thanksgiving Long Weekend
Friday 2nd December	End of Trimester One (Trimester Two payments due)
Friday 16th December	Last day of school before the holiday
Monday 9th January	School Reopens after the holiday

Quote of the Week: *A winner is a dreamer who never gives up.* Nelson Mandela

ECC

We started this week with so much energy. All members of the school gathered on the basketball ball court for some stretches and spirit week exercise.

In IEYC we are learning about healthy habits and good personal hygiene. We role played doctor visits and learned some vocabulary words associated with human and veterinary hospitals. In literacy we learned the basic parts of a book and did a prediction of our first literacy book for the year.



Grade 1-2

This week, the Pangolins have been learning loads! In Math Grade 1 has been practicing their number bonds, and Grade 2 has been learning to use rulers and meter sticks to measure.

In IPC we have been learning about countries and their climates. We learned that climates affect the way we live, including our houses, clothes, and food.

In ELA we have worked on family trees. We have also made comparative writing pieces, finding similarities and differences between houses in different climates.



Grade 3-4

We have really enjoyed dressing up for Spirit week. Our favorite day was Thursday when we dressed up as superheroes! In PE, we were challenged to put together the muscle parts of the human body.

In Math, Grade 3 continues to solve multiplication and division problems using arrays. Grade 4 are learning how to round up numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000.

For IPC, our challenge this week was to write a speech about why pets should be allowed in school.



Grade 5-8 (English and Social Studies)

We had another productive week in Middle School Humanities.

In Language Arts, 5/6 finished the graphic novel, "The Unwanted". The graphic novel has helped us become more familiar with the Syrian Civil War and the refugees that resulted from it. We then began the novel series, "Refugee". In 7/8, we read the short story, "Button, Button" and practiced writing argumentative paragraphs.

In Social Studies, 7/8 finished presenting their pamphlets on female micro entrepreneurs to their classmates. 5/6 continued to practice map skills by examine different map projections.



Grade 5-8 (Math and Science)

Grades 5 and 6 learned about predator and prey relationships this week in Science. Grades 7 and 8 learned how and why adaptations occur.

In Math, Grade 5 learned how to convert from standard to expanded to the written form of decimals. Grade 6 showed just how much they have learned about integers by completing a mid-module assessment in which everyone did an excellent job! Grades 7 and 8 continued in their unit of solving equations and will have a quiz next week to determine just how they are doing so far.

We had a great, spirit filled week!



High School

Welcome back Gifty! The High School students continued to work on their online courses. In Language Arts, the Grade 9 students started to learn about *Characters*, Grade 10 about *Ancient Creation Myths*, Grade 11 about *Native American and European Interaction*, and Mahawa, who is taking an AP course, studied about *Aristotle's Triangle & Appeals*. Mr. DeCoste and the other specialist teachers continue to come in and to assist the students. Adeline has worked on her Swedish online program. After all this online work, a little bit of Art and physical movement is well appreciated...



Meet our Specialist Teachers



Anna Van Malder

Bonjour,

My name is Madame Anna and I'm excited to start my fourth year as a French teacher in Middle School and High School at AISF. The four main competences we will focus on in class are understanding, reading, speaking and writing. There will be a lot of interaction in class, a lot of talking in French, games to memorize new vocabulary and written exercises. The lessons are not only an introduction to the French language but also to French culture. We will listen to French songs and learn about French historical figures. We also like to follow the themes of the week in our own French way. For most students French is a foreign language, while others have a more advanced knowledge and will work in adapted school books.

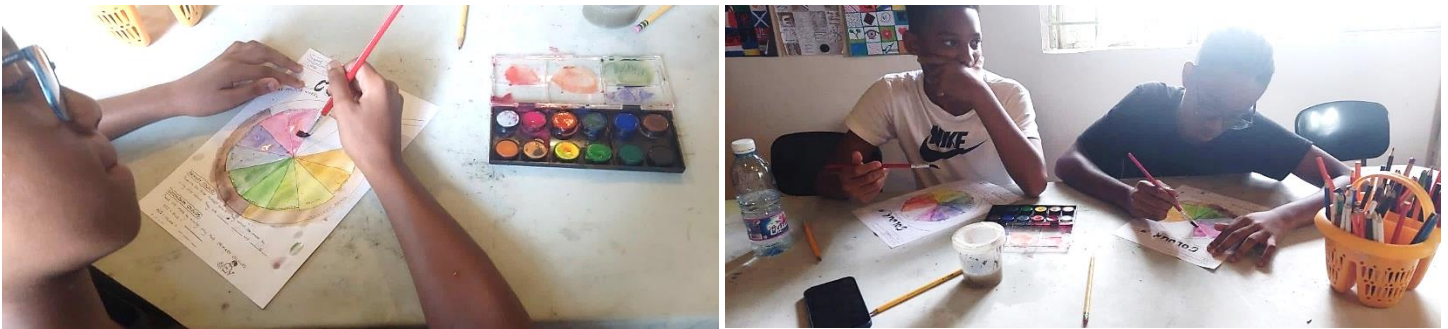
Au plaisir d'apprendre le français ensemble!





All classes at AISF now have 2 classes of art per week. We started off with all the children leaning about lettering and writing their name in different ways and inventing a new logo. Now we are exploring color mixing with watercolors and acrylic paints. They are learning new skills and having fun.

Kathrin van Rensburg

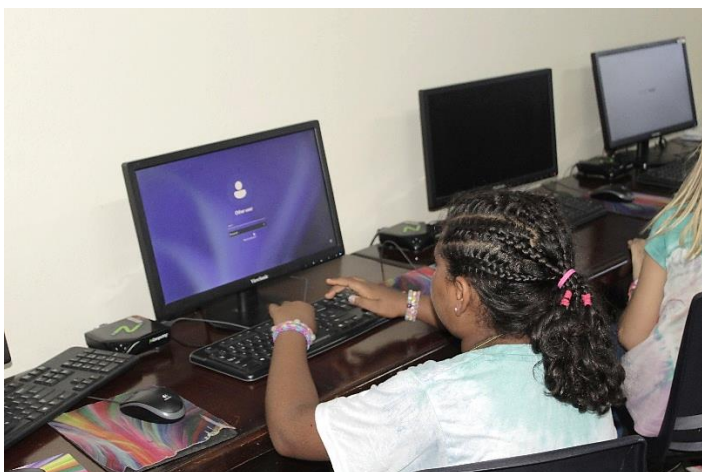
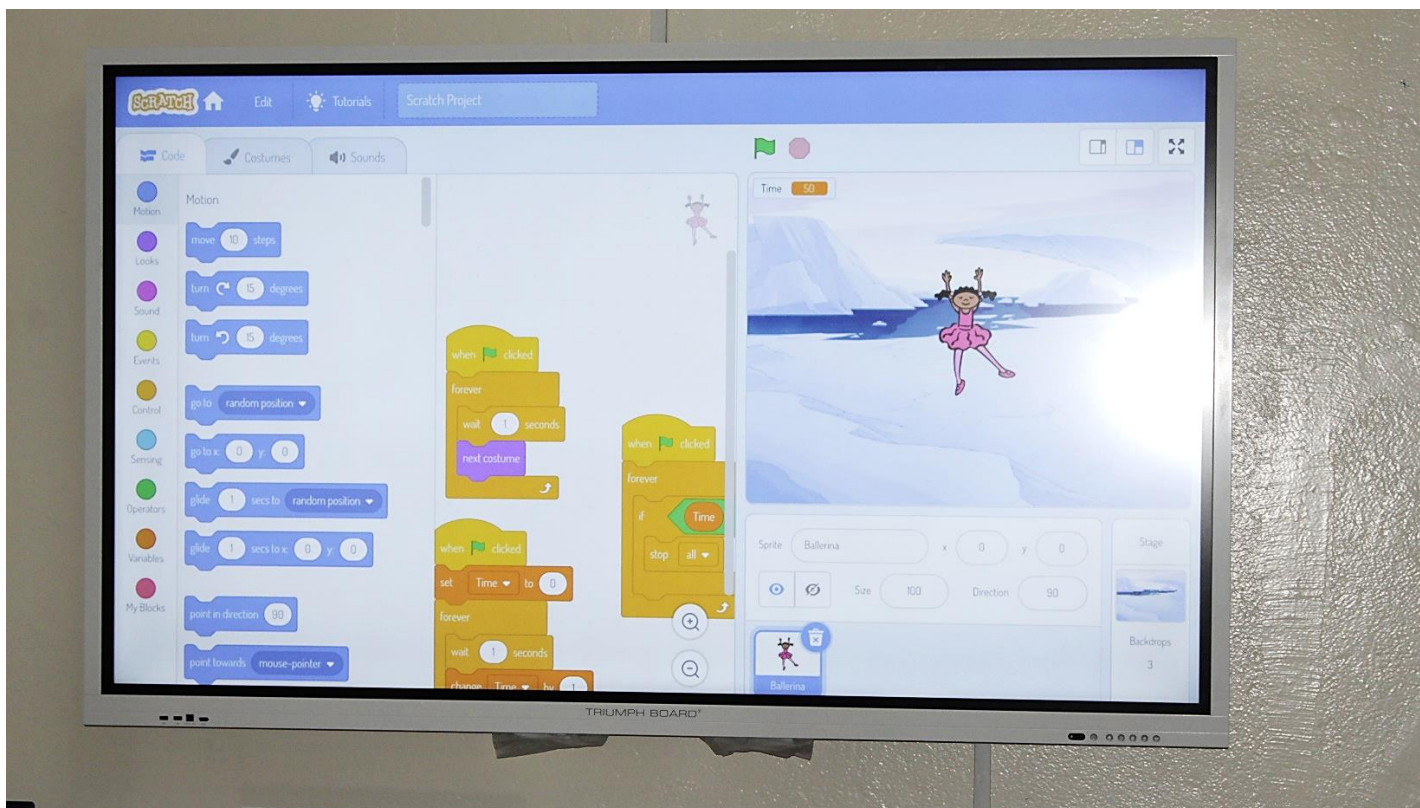




Hello. I am Mr. Kelvin.

I teach programming to students in grades 2-4. We use a coding software called **Scratch**. Scratch is a high-level block-based visual programming language and website aimed primarily at children as an educational tool for programming, with a target audience of ages 8 to 16. I am also offering coding for older students as an after-school activity.

Kelvin Savage



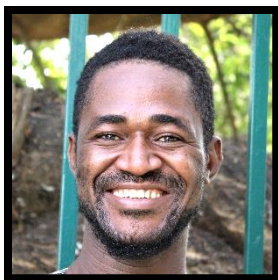


Music this week was really fun as we embark on our new approach moving off virtual music and developing our musical concepts using various instruments. The kids were able to create their own beats suitable for the songs we're working on.

We're certain that this approach helps us identify our full musical potential.

Joseph Thomas





This trimester, grade 3-4 will be engaged in doing team-building activities. The goal for these activities is to help kids build their awareness, attention, and focus. It also helps them work collaboratively with their classmates.

Frederick Conteh

