

International School Pointe-Noire

Pointe-Noire, Republique du Congo

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Family Newsletter

#2

August 5, 2010

Dear New and Continuing ISPN Families,

Opening News: We look forward to opening the 2010-11 school year with nineteen students in seat, nine returning and ten new, on Wednesday, September 1! As we shared in our first newsletter, we would love to meet you as a family before the start of the school year and look forward to making arrangements to do so on Thursday and Friday, August 26 or 27. An email with details will be sent following our arrival in Pointe Noire August 11!

French Classes and the Daily Schedule: In making final preparations for the 2010-11 school year, we want to share a change that reflects community input from last year. We are pleased to announce that ISPN will include instruction in French as a foreign language. It is customary for international schools to offer the language of the host country, in this case French, as part of the curriculum. As ISPN celebrates and builds upon its first two successful years, the time is right to add the study of French to the school program.

In order to accommodate this additional area of instruction, the school day will be lengthened—8 am to 2:30 pm, for students in Kindergarten through Grade 6, an extension of thirty minutes. Pre-Kindergarten students will continue to attend from 8am – 12noon.

Please know that French instruction will begin approximately four to six weeks into the school year, so that appropriate materials and methodologies are in place. In order for students to become familiar and comfortable with the schedule change, we will open the school year using the 8 am to 2:30 pm schedule. Extending the school day beginning September 1, will also allow us to devote additional time to building our relationships with the children and theirs with each other, and to establishing a community of learners. We hope that you are as excited as we are to add this area of instruction!

School Calendar: Attached with this email is the overall calendar for the 2010-11 school year. It, too, reflects community input.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to work with your children and you and we look forward to a rich and rewarding year of learning.
Our very warmest wishes,

Traci and Jeff Bushnell, co teaching principals (jeff.bushnell@gmail.com)
Nancy Hoppe, ISS contract executive (nhoppe@iss.edu)