



## SCHOOL PROFILE

### Vision

*'Inspiring our learners to thrive in a world of change'.*



### Mission

*Inspire, Empower, Lead*

*We will inspire our learning community through an inquiry curriculum and commitment to on-going improvement.*

*We will empower our learning community to find solutions to real life challenges through creative and critical thinking.*

*We will lead our learning community to promote a spirit of internationalism by thinking globally and acting locally.*

### Welcome to the International Preparatory School (IPS)

The International Preparatory School (IPS) is a private English medium pre-primary and primary school situated on spacious grounds in Labourdonnais Village, a rural sugar growing area in the north of Mauritius. The school was founded in 1989 to meet the needs of the many expatriate and Mauritian families living in this rapidly developing region. We are conveniently located just off the main highway which links Grand Bay, a sought-after coastal resort, to the island's international airport, via Port Louis the country's federal and economic capital. The school draws its current population from an area stretching from Port Louis in the northwest to Trou d'Eau Douce in the east.



### Our Curriculum

IPS is an IBPYP school where teaching and learning takes place within a constructivist context and where students build new knowledge upon previous knowledge. Teachers use inquiry to lead students to ask questions, investigate themes, draw conclusions, and, as exploration continues, to revisit those conclusions. A cycle of exploration of questions leads to more questions and deeper understanding. Teachers follow Scope and Sequence learning documents based on the English National Curriculum in Languages, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies laid out in learning phases that seek conceptual understandings, learning outcomes, and benchmarks. Specialists teachers in French, Music, PE, Art and Design Technology teach to specific curriculums for their subject areas.

To view the complete IPS Scope and Sequence learning Outcome and Benchmarks

## Our Special features

- ❖ IPS is a fully authorised IB PYP World School that follows a constructivist inquiry approach to teaching and learning.
- ❖ IPS is accredited by the Council of International Schools
- ❖ IPS uses Scope and Sequence learning documents based on the National Curriculum for England and Wales in Languages, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies that are laid out in learning phases, and seek conceptual understandings, learning outcomes, and benchmarks.
- ❖ IPS uses a balanced approach to assessment.
- ❖ IPS offers single subject specialist teachers for French, Music, PE, Drama, Art /Design and Technology.
- ❖ IPS is fully accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS).
- ❖ IPS begins the school year in late August and continues through to the end of June.
- ❖ IPS uses the Australian Centre for Educational Research (ACER) International School Assessments (ISA) in Years 4 to 6.
- ❖ IPS offers a full day Nursery programme.

please click through to the following link <http://www.ips-mu.com/ips-curriculum/>

## Units of Inquiry

The Units of Inquiry are structured around important concepts and provide a context in which students can gain understanding and, at the same time, acquire essential knowledge, skills and attitudes.

**Units of Inquiry:** (organized around six themes)

**Who we are**

**Where we are in place and time**

**How we express ourselves**

**How the world works**

**How we organise ourselves**

**Sharing the planet**

## Assessment

IPS uses a balanced approach to assessment that includes in-class assessments, year level assessments, external benchmark assessments such as Numicon in Mathematics and the Developmental Reading Assessment. In Years 4-6 students sit an annual standardized assessment known as the International Schools Assessment.



## The School and Its Students

Our student body of approximately 450 children from Nursery (3yrs) to Year 6 (11 yrs) come from many different cultural and social backgrounds.

English is the teaching language of the school. Those students who start school at IPS with little or no English will require support in learning English. Those identified will be given English as an Additional Language (EAL) teaching support. At IPS we recognise that children may experience some form of learning challenge or learning difficulty at some stage during their time in primary school. We provide learning support for children with mild special educational needs based on a teacher referral through our Learning Support (LS) Department.

We encourage our students to develop and practice leadership skills as well as empathy and respect for all others. Each year, children in Years 3 to 6 elect

class representatives who together form the *IPS Student Council*.

❖ IPS offers two levels of French language in Years 1-3 and three levels in Years 4-6.

❖ IPS provides support for students with mild special learning needs through our Learning Support Department.

❖ IPS provides support for students with little or no English.

❖ IPS brings its curriculum to life through field trips so students are able to experience local sights and sounds, meet local people, experience local history and culture and experience the geography of the island first hand.

❖ IPS offers Extra-Curricular activities from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and from 12:15 pm until 1:15 pm on Wednesdays.

❖ IPS employs a full time, qualified and experienced school nurse who is present at school during regular school hours.

❖ IPS campus and parking areas are monitored by CCTV and a security guard mans the main entrance when school is in session.

❖ IPS does not offer a bus service.

❖ IPS does not have a canteen though students can order a packed lunch the Northfields International High School which is just across the road from IPS. Orders are collected by IPS support staff and distributed at IPS.

Selected senior students in Year 6 take on the roles of *Prefects and Monitors*. These students are supported in developing their leadership skills throughout their final year at IPS.



A variety of extra-curricular activities are organised by IPS. Activities are offered from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and from 12:15 pm until 1:15 pm on Wednesdays.

The majority of our students live in the north of the island and the school is well connected to the major road systems in the north. Many of our students are brought to school and collected at the end of the day by their parents or by family drivers. We have a parking lot for parent use conveniently situated next to the campus.

Our facilities include

- Two purpose-built classroom blocks
- A research centre,
- A well-stocked library,
- An art studio
- French language classrooms,
- A learning support teaching centre
- A gymnasium
- Sports fields and playgrounds
- Northfields Sports Club swimming pool
- An outdoor amphitheatre
- A medical room.
- 120 student iPads
- WiFi internet access.



## Communication

At IPS we communicate with our community in a variety of ways that include the:

- IPS Parent Handbook
- BLOOMZ - Class information portal at all year levels
- Weekly Infobyte to families via BLOOMZ
- Managebac
- IPS Facebook
- Emergency SMS
- Monthly Parent Coffee Mornings
- IPS Website
- Parent meetings
- Parent surveys
- Student Communication Books

## In Brief

### Early Years

Nursery 3-4 years old

Reception 4-5 years old

**Coordinator: Ms. Lucy Grieg**

### Lower Primary

Year 1 5-6 years old

Year 2 6-7 years old

**Coordinator: Ms. Lucy Grieg**

### Upper Primary

Year 3 7-8 years old

Year 4 8-9 years old

Year 5 9-10 years old

Year 6 10-11 years old

**Coordinator: Mrs. L Ramgolam**

## Contact Us

*Mrs Vanessa Juliette*

### School Secretary

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*Mr. Bruce Ashton*

### Head of School

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*Mrs. Nicky Bigaignon*

### Deputy Head of School

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*Mrs. Catherine Legrand*

### Admission Officer

[admissions@ips-mu.com](mailto:admissions@ips-mu.com)

*Mrs. Hemlata Seesurn*

### Bursar / Business Manager

[bursar@ips-mu.com](mailto:bursar@ips-mu.com)

*Mrs. Heidi Ashton*

### PYP / Curriculum Coordinator

[pypcoordinator@ips-mu.com](mailto:pypcoordinator@ips-mu.com)

[www.ips-mu.com](http://www.ips-mu.com)

- ❑ Class teachers email
- ❑ Goal Setting and Settling In Conferences (October)
- ❑ Student report card (Dec, June)
- ❑ Student Led Conferences (March)
- ❑ Annual Board of Governors AGM

## The Parent Association (PA) at IPS

The PA Committee is comprised of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and a number of supporting members. In addition, the PA encourages parents to come forward as PA Class Representatives.

The members of the Parent Association elect a PA Committee each year. This committee is very active in organising a number of community events through the year.

## Board of Governors

The IPS Association is administered by a Board of Governors, elected from the membership of the IPS Association. The term of office for Governors is 24 months and re-election is possible. Currently, the IPS Board of Governors consists of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and 5 additional Board Members. The Head of School and Parent Association President are invited members. The Board meets once a month when school is in session. Board operations are governed by the IPS Bylaws and by the policies contained in the Board Policy Manual. Governance of the School is exercised by the Board of Governors who delegate the authority for the execution of school policies and the day to day management of the School to the Head of School.



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